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Long-term Power Reliability Arrives in Alice

The much-anticipated arrival of 10 new generation engines at Territory Generation's Owen Springs Power Station this week heralds a new era for power reliability in the region.

The new high-efficiency natural gas-fired generation units will be used to provide improved power generation reliability and will achieve community, economic and environmental benefits for Central Australia.

The 10 new 4.1MW GE Jenbacher engines have been shipped direct from Austria and replace the capacity of the ageing Ron Goodin Power Station.

"Ron Goodin Power Station's engines are up to 50 years of age which is well over industry standard, as well as being inefficient and extremely costly to maintain," T-Gen CEO Tim Duignan said.

"Territory Generation has an obligation to maintain and operate reliable and efficient power stations. Aged plant needs replacing now, and this project is creating opportunities for Centralians by maximising local employment and contracts."

The investment of more than \$75 million also realises a number of major environmental benefits as the engines operate with reduced carbon emissions and fuel consumption, as well as less noise and odours. Importantly, the new engines also have the capacity to better support a future transition to renewable energy.

"Reliability of base-load power is a major issue in Australia at the moment and these new engines are an important step to ensuring that reliability in a controlled transition to renewables," Mr Duignan said.

"This is good news for families and businesses in Central Australia that not only will they benefit from more reliable power, it also supports emerging and renewable technologies. We're committed to a renewable future at T-Gen and as part of that, we are continuing to explore viable technological options for renewable energy generation as well as energy storage."

The expansion of Owen Springs Power Station will be complete by end of 2017 and will enable the decommissioning and ultimate rehabilitation and reuse of the Ron Goodin Power Station site.

To date, the project has provided a local economic stimulus through 49 direct construction jobs, as well as multiple contracts and flow-on benefits. Subcontracts awarded to local businesses are as follows:

- site set-up and installation incl plumbing and electrical
- rental of construction offices, fencing & amenities
- power station workshop supply and installation
- installation of main gas pipeline
- construction labour and services
- surveyor services
- miscellaneous hardware equipment
- site vehicles from local dealer
- miscellaneous equipment hire
- local supply of bulk fill and other materials

Ends

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Media note: Vision opportunity exist for the arrival of engines on Friday morning at 11am - a special wide-load truck will be travelling return from south Stuart Hwy to north Stuart Hwy (through Gap Rd). Installation footage available on request.