

Central Tablelands Water - Media Release

12 October 2023

CTW embracing renewable energy opportunities

Central Tablelands Water (CTW) has recently commissioned two renewable energy projects throughout its water supply network to help reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and energy costs.

CTW as an associate member of the Central NSW Joint Organisation (CNSWJO) participated in a procurement process for the supply and installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems for the Carcoar Water Treatment Plant and Canomodine Pump Station sites.

The process of converting sunlight into electricity using PV systems produces zero greenhouse gas emissions. Excess electricity can then be directed into the grid, or it can be stored in a rechargeable battery for later use.

The Chairman of CTW, Cr David Somervaille said, “The Board resolved in June 2022 to endorse a staged approach to the implementation of renewable energy at strategic CTW sites. These sites were recommended through an independent Solar PV and Battery System Optimisation Report. It is now very pleasing to see that CTW is well on its way to delivering on the staged approach.”

Gavin Rhodes, General Manager at CTW said, “Early results from the renewable energy projects at the Carcoar Water Treatment Plant and Canomodine Pump Station are making a positive impact from an environmental and financial perspective. We have managed to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and our electricity charges by utilising solar to pump during the day without incurring significant peak rates by otherwise importing electricity from the grid. Previously we had to do a lot of pumping at night during off-peak times to keep our electricity costs down.”



(Photo: CTW's Canomodine Pump Station solar PV site)



(Photo: CTW's Carcoar Water Filtration Plant solar PV site)

Mr Rhodes added, "It is also pleasing to acknowledge the grants from both NSW Safe & Secure and NSW Restart funding schemes for the construction of a new 12 Megalitre (ML) Clear Water Tank at Carcoar Water Treatment Plant. The new solar site and the new Clear Water Tank will complement each other by allowing CTW to run the plant longer during the day, at the time when our operators are onsite ensuring the plant is operating at its optimum performance."



(Photo: New 12 Megalitre Clear Water Tank under construction)

"As we have just come out of winter, we are excited by the prospects of what more sunlight filled days will bring during spring and summer for our solar generation, Mr Rhodes said."

The new 12 Megalitre Clear Water Tank is due to be commissioned in December 2023.

CTW is a water supply authority constituted under NSW Local Government legislation. First proclaimed in 1944 the county embraces the Shires of Blayney, Cabonne and Weddin providing drinking water to these communities. CTW currently has approximately 6,000 water connections and provides potable water to 15,000 consumers in 14 towns and villages.