

16 May 2016

MEDIA ALERT:

Fleet of donated electricity vehicles depart Brisbane to fast-track Fiji electricity reconstruction

WHEN: Tuesday 17 May, 2016

TIME: 10am

WHERE: The grassed space opposite the **AAT (Australian Amalgamated Terminals), Berth 1-3, Port Drive, Port of Brisbane.**

Photo, video and interview opportunities

Australian energy networks and the Fiji High Commissioner will send off seven (7) heavy vehicles to repair the electricity network devastated by Tropical Cyclone Winston.

A consortium of Australian energy networks, including Energex and Ergon Energy, have contributed crane borers and elevated work platforms to be loaded onto a ship for dispatch to Fiji. A further \$270,000 in tools and equipment is also being sent.

The donation is part of a partnership with the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to accelerate the Fiji Electricity Authority's reconstruction of its electricity network in Fiji.

It will allow works to be completed months earlier following the cyclone, in which over 27,800 power poles were affected and up to 90% of the network was damaged.

Interviewees:

Mr Shane King MP, the Member for Kallangur, representing the Queensland Energy Minister, Mark Bailey

Mr John Bradley, Chief Executive Officer, Energy Networks Association

His Excellency Mr Yogesh Punja, Fiji High Commissioner

Mr Paul Walshe, Director Marketing and Corporate Affairs, ActewAGL

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The Energy Networks Association is the peak national body representing Australia's electricity transmission and distribution networks and gas distribution networks on economic, technical, environmental and safety regulation, and national energy policy issues. ENA members provide energy to virtually every household and business in Australia.