

Date: 7 January 2010

Subject: Snowy Hydro donates \$5000 to the Tumut Rural Fire Service

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Snowy Hydro has donated \$5,000 to the Tumut Rural Fire Service (RFS) at Talbingo on Tuesday 6th January 2010.

Snowy Hydro and the Tumut Region RFS have a long standing relationship through Local Emergency Management Committees, Bushfire Management Committees, and regional brigades.

Following the devastating Victorian Bushfires last year and with the 2003 Snowy Mountains Bushfires still fresh in the minds of many, Snowy Hydro has undertaken a significant review of bushfire protection zones around Scheme assets in the Snowy Mountains.

This review aimed to determine what vegetation clearance is required around Scheme assets and included an assessment on the best type of building structures.

Tumut RFS Inspector and Community Safety Officer, Mr Peter Jones, was extensively involved in this major review along with NPWS and Snowy Hydro personnel.

Snowy Hydro Area Manager Mr Maarten van der Stap said "This support from the Tumut RFS has been invaluable in ensuring that Scheme assets, and in particular the Cabramurra Township have been well prepared for the 2009/2010 bushfire season and beyond. Mr van der Stap added, "Peter Jones' advice and direction was critical in getting this job done and it's terrific to work with local experts on such an important task like this".

Tumut RFS Inspector Mr Peter Jones said "Snowy Hydro has been a long term supporter of the RFS in this region and we were happy to assist them in this review.

Mr Jones added "We thank Snowy Hydro for this \$5,000 donation and it will go towards helping the Tumut RFS cadets with equipment, training and travel to compete in a national RFS competition."

Photo Caption: L-R: Peter Jones, Tumut RFS Inspector and Community Safety Officer, Maarten van der Stap, Snowy Hydro Area Manager and Tumut RFS Cadets and Brigade members.