snowy hydro Limited
renewable energy

m e d i a r e l e a s e

Date: **30th June 2010**
Subject: **JOUNAMA SMALL HYDRO POWER STATION OPENS**

Today, Snowy Hydro Limited officially opened its first significant new power station asset to be built since completion of the Snowy Mountains Scheme in 1974. The $30 million Jounama Small Hydro Power Station at Talbingo will produce up to 14.4 MW of renewable electricity. Over a 12 month period the power station produces 55 000 mega watt hours – enough to power more than 6000 homes. This is done by utilising water that would otherwise have passed unharnessed through the Jounama Dam's spillway.

CEO and Managing Director, Snowy Hydro Limited, Mr Terry Charlton said: "It's projects like this that represent Snowy Hydro's ability to adapt in a changing electricity market through innovation, continuous improvement and looking for new opportunities to increase the generating capacity of the Snowy Scheme today.

"The success of Snowy Hydro in the National Electricity Market to date has allowed us to earn sufficient income to undertake projects like the Jounama Small Hydro Power Station. It's a positive outcome for the company, local community and energy users who support renewable energy."

More than 350 people worked on the Jounama project – a mix of Snowy Hydro employees and contractors from both the local area and further afield.

Major works included a 30m high, 13m diameter silo that was built on the downstream side of Jounama Dam to house the turbine generator and associated control systems.

To accommodate the new hydro power station, the existing river diversion tunnel was modified, which involved teams of divers working 30m under water for a six-month period to open up the intake of the river diversion tunnel. Under the dam wall the original 500 tonne concrete plug was removed to allow a new 4m diameter, 60m long steel pipeline to be installed to carry water to the power station.

The Kaplan turbine installed in the Jounama station is the first of its kind for the Snowy Scheme. The station connects to the electricity grid via an 11kV transmission line which extends from the station to a new switch yard, which connects to the 66kV Talbingo-Tumut transmission line via 700m of upgraded lines.

For more information on the project visit the Snowy Hydro website at www.snowyhydro.com.au

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