

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

Date: 9th July 2010

Subject: Year 12 Students undertake Snowy Hydro Young Driver Training Program

Year 12 students from Tumut High School recently completed the Snowy Hydro Young Driver Training Program. The program, which focuses on the unique road conditions of the Snowy Mountains, includes both theory and practical sessions designed to improve the attitude and driving behaviours of young people.

The practical sessions are held with a specially designed 'skid car'. The skid car is a Subaru Forrester with a custom designed hydraulic skid frame which allows students, under direction and control of expert driver trainer, David Knowles, to experience what causes a car to lose control in a simulated skid situation. This improves the level of awareness of young drivers and demonstrates how easy it is to lose control in certain conditions.

Managing Director, Snowy Hydro Limited, Mr Terry Charlton said "The Snowy Hydro Young Driver Training Program has been running locally for over 8 years. Its part of our long standing commitment to young people in our local area and is consistent with our company's focus on health and safety."

"We are all too familiar with disturbing news headlines about young people killed or injured in car accidents. Through Snowy Hydro's ongoing success in the National Electricity Market, we are able to make a significant financial investment in the local community such as this program. If our program saves a life or prevents one crash, then it is money well spent. I congratulate and thank local high schools for partnering with us and in sharing our vision of improving road safety through driver education for students."

Deputy Principal of Tumut High School, David Deitz said "The Snowy Hydro Young Driver Training program was outstanding. The hands on experience and professional instruction that was made available to all students will have a significant positive impact upon the safe driving habits of these young drivers."

The Snowy Hydro Young Driver Training Program is run in conjunction with the Australian Driving Institute and local high schools and this year more than 250 students participated across the region, including more than 70 from Tumut High School. Snowy Hydro also thanks Tumut Shire Council for their valued and continued support to this program through use of the Tumut Aerodrome.

Photo: (L to R) Danielle Hardwick, Taylor Gorman, Shannon Ferguson, Breanna Neville, Angie Gilchrist and Caitlin Day.