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Essential Energy crushing costs in recycling efforts

Essential Energy is doing its part to reduce waste and recycle by implementing several initiatives aimed at re-using assets and saving on disposal costs.

As National Recycling Week (13-19 November 2017) begins, General Manager Network Services, Luke Jenner, said Essential Energy had committed to the destruction of old paper records that have exceeded their retention date.

“If placed end to end, our current storage boxes extend almost 22 kilometres in length,” Luke said. “Thousands of records have been shredded and pulped so far and more have been identified as eligible for destruction.”

Essential Energy is continually pursuing new and innovative ways to recycle, reduce waste and seek opportunities for the re-use of assets.

“Last year, we donated surplus solar panels to the Solar Energy Industry Association (SEIA) for use in overseas volunteer aid work in Vanuatu for villages and communities affected by Cyclone Pam in 2015,” Luke said.

“An employee behind the SEIA aid project initiative has also coordinated listing of excess equipment for auction with GraysOnline – saving on disposal costs for Essential Energy. Past auctions have included mobile plant and machinery, office equipment, mercury streetlighting lamps and general workshop tools.”

In conjunction with Clean Up Australia Day, Essential Energy held its inaugural clean-up week at all depots and offices with several locations donating office furniture and other surplus items to local charities and schools.

In September, Essential Energy donated 13 pre-loved, well-maintained industrial drills to Armidale’s BackTrack AgLands program for use in a fencing project.

“Across our regions, where assets are no longer productive, they are often relocated from other areas, re-purposed and re-used,” Luke said.

“We will continue to support projects that can return such significant benefits for the business and provide a clean, sustainable environment for our future.”

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