



Don Harwin
Minister for Resources
Minister for Energy and Utilities
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MEDIA RELEASE

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ENERGY SUPPLY POWERS THROUGH THE HEATWAVE

The NSW energy supply once again handled near unprecedented demand from consumers yesterday due to the heatwave that continues to sweep parts of the state.

For a second straight day NSW avoided residential load shedding as the network handled the highest level of electricity use for a Saturday since 2011, according to the Australian Energy Market Operator.

Demand peaked at around 13,500 megawatts (MW), about 300 MW less than originally forecast. This follows Friday's demand levels that reached approximately 14,100 MW, short of the state's record demand of 14,649MW.

Minister for Energy and Utilities Don Harwin said while the network did its job households and businesses undoubtedly played their part.

"We have got through back-to-back days of this extraordinary heatwave without any rolling blackouts thus far, I'd like to thank the community again for pitching in," Mr Harwin said.

"Through vigilance from households, businesses, industry and Government with their energy use we got through the heat without major interruption. We appreciate the patience of those who lost power for a period of time due to localised faults.

"We must also thank those working hard on our network and our generators – gas, coal, hydro, wind and solar – to ensure that all sources are contributing."

The Bureau of Meteorology expects temperatures to remain high for parts of the state today. Households and businesses are encouraged again to use energy in moderation where possible and safe to do so.

The NSW Government is 100% committed to energy security. We cannot be complacent in the face of extreme weather, and the pressing need for energy market reform. Minister Harwin will be raising this with colleagues at COAG Energy Council next week as well as announcing details of an Energy Security Taskforce.