

MEDIA RELEASE

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East Gippsland Water scoops award for environmentally-focused purchasing

East Gippsland Water has scooped a leading industry award for its efforts to cut the carbon footprint of its business by buying environmentally sustainable goods and services.

The Corporation entered the inaugural Strategic Purchasing Procurement Excellence Awards, finishing first in the Sustainable Procurement category, as judged by leading figures in the local government and public sectors.

Last year East Gippsland Water launched sustainability and greenhouse gas strategies, refining the way it measures its carbon footprint and implementing a number of initiatives. A new finance and procurement system has helped cut its impact on the environment through smarter purchasing. For example, it has been replacing old and worn pumps at its many pump stations with new energy-efficient models and has been switching to solar energy to power wastewater treatment processes and solar hot water heating systems.

Water saving measures such as lining and covering open water storages are not only reducing water consumption, but saving energy by reducing the frequency at which water is pumped from rivers.

Said East Gippsland Water's Managing Director, Les Mathieson: "We're delighted to win this award, which recognises the hard work and commitment put in by our staff, contractors and suppliers to reduce the carbon footprint of our operations.



"Embracing sustainability and thinking green makes sound business sense. It not only benefits the environment, it saves money and boosts the reputation of East Gippsland Water. The expectations of our customers and regulators are that we provide value for money, ensure the long-term viability of our business and protect the environment."

On hand to receive the Sustainable Procurement Award for East Gippsland Water were Finance Officer Sarah Young and Sustainability & Environment Manager Elaine Mowat.

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