

MEDIA RELEASE

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PUBLIC WORKS ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS WINNERS

An innovative Resource Recovery Centre has won the Capital Project Award for the Wellington Shire Council at the Annual Public Works Engineering Excellence Awards held by the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia, Victoria Division. The new Kilmany Resource Recovery Facility is already generating greater than 40% recovery of waste disposed at the facility having significant environmental and financial benefits for the residents of Wellington Shire. A key feature is the “walking floor” component, a slow moving variable rate steel conveyor allowing for detailed sorting and removal from the waste stream of material prior to the residual waste being transported via skip bins to the landfill. The project has sparked interest in using these engineering concepts in other regional centres.

Reduced costs as well as better health outcomes are amongst benefits expected for the residents of Darebin City Council as it transitions to a lower energy future. Development of an innovative Adaptation Strategy for Climate Change and Peak Oil won Darebin City Council the 2010 IPWEA Vic Innovation/Service Delivery Award for Excellence. The plan’s innovation lies in the combining of adaptation strategies for both climate change and peak oil across the organisation and externally, including significant engagement and education. The development of this plan puts Darebin at the forefront of the industry in identifying and planning for risks in relation to both Climate Change and Peak Oil.

Shire of Campaspe has engaged with its community to establish a star-rating system for its local road network that defines service levels and prioritises maintenance tasks. An article explaining the challenges, methodology, community engagement process, star rating model and cost of service published in the Public Works Engineering Journal won Jon Aujard, the Assets and Planning Executive Manager at the Shire of Campaspe, the Best Journal Paper Award at the IPWEA Vic Awards for Excellence.

IPWEA Vic President, Mark Varmalis, says “the 2010 IPWEA Vic Awards for Excellence provide an opportunity to recognise excellence in the innovation, development, construction and management of public works projects and services. The Awards celebrate the success of individuals and teams and winners”.

Winners were announced at the Gala Dinner held on Thursday 13 May at Sofitel Hotel Ballroom, Collins St, Melbourne. IPWEA National President, John Truman, presented the awards together with IPWEA Vic President, Mark Varmalis. Finalists in the three categories available for award in 2010 had been revealed in the lead up to the announcement of the winners through the dedicated Awards for Excellence website so it was with great excitement that the IPWEA Vic President announced the three winners:

- Wellington Shire Council team the winner in the Capital Project Award for the Kilmany Resource Recovery Centre
- Darebin City Council team the winner in the Innovation/Service Delivery Award Category for the Darebin Climate Change and Peak Oil Adaptation Plan
- Jon Aujard from Shire of Campaspe the winner in the Best Journal Paper Category for his published paper relating to Levels of Service for Roads.

The winners each received a trophy and framed certificate. Details of all finalists and award winners can be found at <http://www.ipwea.com/awards2010/>

IPWEA vic is an association of public works professionals which connects, informs, represents and leads public works professionals. IPWEA vic strives to enhance the quality of life in Victorian communities through excellence in public works and services.

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