



For personal use only

To	Company Announcements Office	Facsimile	1300 135 638
Company	ASX Limited	Date	21 August 2012
From	Helen Hardy	Pages	3
Subject	ORIGIN ENERGY BOOSTS VICTORIA PEAKING CAPACITY WITH COMPLETION OF 550 MW MORTLAKE POWER STATION		

Please find attached a release on the above subject.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen Hardy".

Helen Hardy
Company Secretary

02 8345 5023 - helen.hardy@originenergy.com.au



ASX/Media Release

21 August 2012

Origin boosts Victoria peaking capacity with completion of 550 MW Mortlake Power Station

Origin Energy Limited (Origin) today announced that the second unit at its Mortlake Power Station in Victoria has completed final commissioning, signalling the formal completion of the 550 MW development.

Mortlake is the largest gas-fired power station in Victoria and represents an investment of \$810 million¹ by Origin, including the associated pipeline. It is a peaking power station located near Mortlake in South-western Victoria, and will help meet demand for electricity in eastern Australia.

Origin Chief Executive Officer Energy Markets, Mr Frank Calabria said, "Completion of the Mortlake Power Station strengthens and adds further flexibility to Origin's power generation portfolio.

"Mortlake represents a significant investment by Origin in Victoria, created hundreds of regional jobs in South-western Victoria during construction and will support a number of ongoing jobs in the local community.

"Mortlake is a highly efficient peaking power station that will help meet Victoria's electricity demand," Mr Calabria said.

The Mortlake Power Station development also included the construction of an 83 km underground natural gas transmission pipeline. Mortlake is powered by natural gas sourced from Origin's gas reserves in the Port Campbell area and processed at Origin's Otway Gas Plant.

The first of Mortlake's two units was successfully completed in January 2012. The completion of the second unit takes Origin's total generation capacity to 5,900 MW of owned and contracted rights.

Origin will now commence recording revenues and earnings from the power station.

Gas-fired peaking power stations are important for meeting demand for electricity, as they have the ability to be turned on remotely at approximately five minutes notice.

Origin has designed Mortlake power station to provide flexibility to respond to future market conditions. The site has approval to expand its current capacity in the future, and could be converted to a highly efficient low carbon emissions combined cycle baseload plant if market conditions warrant it.

¹ Excluding capitalised interest.



For further information please contact:

Media

Annelis Allen
Senior Manager, Corporate Communication
Ph: +61 2 8345 5119
Mobile: +61 428 967 166

Investors

Kylie Springall
Group Manager, Investor Relations
Ph: +61 2 8345 5288
Mobile: +61 400 477 393

About Origin Energy

Origin Energy (ASX: ORG) is the leading Australian integrated energy company focused on gas and oil exploration and production, power generation and energy retailing. A member of the S&P/ASX 20 index, the company has around 5,600 employees and is a leading producer of gas in eastern Australia. Origin is Australia's largest energy retailer servicing 4.4 million electricity, natural gas and LPG customer accounts and has one of the country's largest and most flexible generation portfolios with more than 5,900 MW of capacity, through either owned generation or contracted rights. Origin's strategic positioning and portfolio of assets provide flexibility, stability and significant opportunities for growth across the energy industry. Through Australia Pacific LNG, its incorporated joint venture with ConocoPhillips and Sinopec, Origin is developing one of Australia's largest CSG to LNG projects based on Australia's largest 2P CSG reserves base.

In New Zealand, Origin is the major shareholder in Contact Energy, the country's leading integrated energy company, operating geothermal, thermal and hydro generation facilities and servicing electricity, gas and LPG customers across both the North and South islands. Origin also operates several oil and gas projects in New Zealand and is one of the largest holders of petroleum exploration acreage in the country.

Origin has a strong focus on ensuring the sustainability of its operations, is the largest green energy retailer in Australia and has significant investments in renewable energy technologies.

For more information go to www.originenergy.com.au .

For personal use only