

ABB power transmission project wins national environmental award in Australia

Murraylink is world longest's underground high-voltage connection

Zurich, Switzerland, October 16, 2002 – A recently completed, high profile power project in Australia, using ABB technology, has been awarded a prestigious environmental award.

The Murraylink project – the world's longest underground high-voltage interconnection at 177 kilometers – won the 2002 Case EARTH Award for Environmental Excellence for best practice and innovation in the environmental management of civil construction projects. The award was presented by the Civil Contractors Federation of Australia.

The underground interconnection, using ABB's HVDC (high-voltage direct current) Light™ technology, won as a result of the environmental management and measures taken to minimize environmental impact during its construction.

“This national award shows that a high level of environmental care is possible in large infrastructure projects,” said Richard Siudek, executive vice president and head of ABB's Utilities division. “This is a first for such a power project and underscores the environmental benefits of the HVDC Light technology.”

The Murraylink project will transfer 220-megawatts of power between the states of Victoria and South Australia. Underground cable was chosen instead of overhead transmission lines to reduce visual and environmental impact, and to protect against Australia's traditional causes of power outages such as lightning, wild life or bush fires.

Murraylink Transmission Company Pty., a subsidiary of TransÉnergie, the transmission division of Hydro-Québec, Canada, developed and operates the interconnection. ABB was responsible for the design, installation and commissioning of the complete HVDC Light transmission system, with the local contractor PIHA Pty Ltd carrying out the cable laying.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve performance while lowering environmental impacts. The ABB Group of companies



operates in more than 100 countries and employs about 150,000 people worldwide.

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