AVIVA WELCOMES MID WEST ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Aviva Corporation (ASX:AVA, BSE:Aviva) has welcomed the State Government’s Budget commitment to build a $295million 330kV transmission line between Perth and Geraldton.

Aviva’s Chief Executive Officer Lindsay Reed said the Coolimba power station will enhance the capacity of the new transmission line to provide much needed extra power to both the local region and the SWIS network.

Aviva is currently developing the Coolimba Power Project, a $1billion investment based on a 400MW coal fired power station 20km south of Eneabba, which will be key to unlocking the considerable economic potential of the Mid West region by powering local development.

“New generation in the Mid West, like the Coolimba Power Project, maximizes the long-term value of the 330 kV transmission line investment,” Mr Reed said.

The Mid West region of WA is experiencing rapid growth. It is estimated that there are $6.5billion worth of projects under development in the region – all these projects need power.

“Coolimba will add value to the 330kV investment by providing much needed base load energy for local resource projects and providing balance for the whole SWIS network.” Mr Reed said.

“Coolimba will set Eneabba up as an energy hub in the Mid West, balancing Collie in the State’s South West and Kwinana in the metropolitan area.”

Development of the North Perth Coal Basin for base load power was the number one recommendation of the Energy for Minerals Development in the South West Coastal Region of WA Study, citing local generation of power as critical to the development of iron ore processing initiatives in the Mid West.

Mr Reed said Coolimba will provide a competitive source of power for the State, and would incorporate world leading technology for reducing emissions of carbon, nitrous oxides, and sulphur.

“We expect Coolimba to contribute at least 600 jobs during construction, and in the long term, it will host 100 permanent jobs for locally housed employees when commercial operation commences in 2012.”
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ABOUT AVIVA
Aviva is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and the Botswana Stock Exchange with its head office in Perth. The company is growing a portfolio of energy assets. Aviva’s most advanced asset is the Coolimba Power Project in Western Australia.

Aviva is earning a 90% interest in the Mmamantswe project in Botswana, where it is has outlined a 1.3 billion tonne coal resource. The project is well positioned, being on the South African border and adjacent to key infrastructure including, highway, railway, and high voltage transmission lines.

ABOUT COOLIMBA
The Coolimba Power Project is based on based on a 400MW base load power station near Eneabba, in the Mid West region of WA. The project is ideally located in the northern half of the SWIS power grid to take advantage of demand growth both in the SWIS and from new resource projects in the Mid West Region. The location has the advantage of low cost fuel, available water, adjacent infrastructure, existing mining lease and freehold land. Coolimba Power will also incorporate the latest carbon capture technology. The project name is derived from the coastal region west of Eneabba, which is known as the Coolimba coast. Coolimba is an Aboriginal word which is said to mean “place by water”.