

## Media Release

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# The Rock students put ‘green thumbs’ to work at Uranquinty

Students from The Rock Central School have learnt how to become ‘trainee power station operators’ following their visit to Origin Energy’s Uranquinty Power Station today.

110 students from Kindergarten through to Year 6 toured Origin’s gas fired Uranquinty Power Station, which supplies reliable, clean, safe electricity to homes along Australia’s eastern seaboard.

Students learnt about electricity generation at the Uranquinty plant as well as renewable energy technologies such as solar and wind. As Australia’s number one green energy retailer, Origin is committed to promoting sustainability to students and the local communities in which they operate.

As well as getting students thinking about where power comes from, the visit gave the students the chance to get their hands dirty by planting locally native trees and shrubs around the power station.

The tree planting celebrates National Tree Day and The Rock Central School helped out at Uranquinty by learning how to plant and care for more than 200 native trees. The avenue of trees they planted will grow into a green corridor and provide food and habitat for native wildlife.

Origin staff cooked up a lunchtime barbecue at the new Uranquinty multipurpose centre to reward the hardworking students.

Community Relations Advisor for the Origin’s Uranquinty Power Station, Mrs Lisa Glastonbury said Origin is committed to communicating important environmental messages to students. Mrs Glastonbury said “this is a wonderful opportunity for the students to learn about how electricity is generated; make a contribution to the natural environment and have lots of fun at the same time.”

“Engaging students in a series of fun, hands on activities at the power station will reinforce their environmental learning and get them thinking about how they can save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions at home,” said Mrs Glastonbury.

“This is the first step that Origin is taking at Uranquinty in developing a program of educational tours for school groups in the region” she said.

Ms Ellen Brasier, Principal of The Rock Central School, said the power station visit was very exciting and educational for the students. “Our students had been preparing for the visit by learning about electricity generation and working on some questions to ask about the operation of the power station”, she said.



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**About Origin Energy**

Origin Energy is Australasia's leading integrated energy company focused on gas and oil exploration and production, power generation and energy retailing.

Listed in the ASX top 20 the company has approximately 4,000 employees, is a leading producer of gas in eastern Australia, is the largest owner and developer of gas-fired electricity generation in Australia and is a leading wholesaler and retailer of energy. The company services more than 3.5 million electricity, natural gas and LPG customers across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. Origin's strategic positioning and portfolio of assets provide flexibility, stability and significant opportunities for growth in the ever changing energy industry. Through Australia Pacific LNG, its 50:50 incorporated joint venture with ConocoPhillips, Origin is developing one of Australia's largest CSG to LNG projects based on Australia's largest 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](http://www.originenergy.com.au)