



Media release 1.07.04

The hour of the power tower arrives

The Strand Wind Project has taken life with an eight metre high wind turbine in position on the city's premier attraction.

Townsville City Council is using the landmark structure to help promote its ambitions for a sustainable community said Mayor Tony Mooney.

"The Strand Wind Project is a great symbol of our efforts to maintain a high standard of living through sustainable development," Cr Mooney said.

"It promotes community awareness and understanding of renewable energy and also complements the Strand's tourism value."

Council has entered into partnership with Ergon Energy to present the interpretative side of the project.

Ergon Energy's \$10,000 sponsorship will go towards linking the turbine to both the electricity grid and to interpretative computers which will feature electricity generation and weather details in real time displays.

The system's educative value is further enhanced by a data exchange arrangement with Townsville State High School's Centre of Excellence - Renewable Energy Program.

The turbine is calculated to feed around 16 kilowatt hours per day into the mains grid, or enough electricity to run an energy efficient Townsville home.

The cost of the Strand Wind Project is around \$60,000 with the 4.4m wind rotor valued at \$49,500, the interpretive centre at \$14,500 and installation, including the four metre tower, making up the difference.

Media information: The wind turbine is located near the Surf Life Saving Club at the rock pool cnr Howitt St and The Strand. Cr Mooney and Ergon Energy General Manager of Operations John Crosby are available for comment today (1 July) at 12.30 p.m. Media Liaison Robert Dark is on 0417 623 156. Ergon Energy Manager Corporate Communications Mark Timmerman is on 0408 065 088.