



MEDIA RELEASE

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Future of WA energy generation starts with young, South-West talent

Four new apprentices have launched their careers in electricity generation, embarking on an exciting path of training and development at Synergy's Muja Power Station near Collie.

The apprentices hail from around WA's South-West and will complete their four-year program in the fields of electrical and mechanical engineering.

Synergy's new apprentices for 2020 are:

- Jed Wilkosz – Electrical Apprentice
- Rohan Bam – Electrical Apprentice
- Blake Stingel – Mechanical Apprentice; and
- Aaron Dexter – Mechanical Apprentice

All four apprentices will be supported in their career development, and will be given both on and off-the-job training as part of the program.

Each apprentice will also be allocated a mentor from their first day at Muja Power Station, to assist them as they develop the necessary skills to work safely and productively in such a complex environment.

Synergy CEO Jason Waters said the Muja apprenticeship program was extremely important for the future of the organisation.

"Our apprenticeship program provides great opportunities to young local people to develop the skills and capabilities necessary for long and successful careers either within Synergy or in the wider community," Mr Waters said.

Entry Level Programs Coordinator Sarah Lewis manages the Muja apprenticeship program and said she is incredibly proud of the tradespeople these young apprentices have become.

"Synergy believes this program is vitally important and beneficial to both the local community and to our business," Mrs Lewis said.

"The development which our apprentices receive is of a very high standard, and we are extremely proud of the quality of tradespeople that emerge at the end of four years at Muja."

Current graduates of the four-year program are Synergy's electrical apprentices Corey Gulvin and Bianca Benton from Collie, who in addition to their apprenticeships, have both completed their Certificate IV in Engineering (Instrumentation).

Both Corey and Bianca will continue their careers at Muja Power Station as tradespeople into 2020.



Since 2015, Synergy has employed 20 apprentices, with 16 of them coming from the Collie region.

The four other apprentices have originated from the Donnybrook and Bunbury regions.

Over the past three years Synergy's apprentices have received prestigious awards including "1st Year Apprentice of the Year", "3rd Year Apprentice of the Year", "Excellence in Certificate III in Engineering (Mechanical)" and "Apprentice of the Year – Engineering".

Synergy has also sponsored and supported the Engineering Trades and workplace learning program with the Collie Senior High School since 2007.

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About Synergy

As Western Australia's leading energy generator and retailer, Synergy is an essential and trusted provider of electricity and gas. Utilising our diverse energy generation portfolio, Synergy supplies reliable and affordable energy to more than one million residential and business customers.

Synergy owns and operates electricity generating assets, including thermal power stations, spanning from Kalbarri in the north, out to Kalgoorlie in the east and down to Albany in the south – an electricity network known as the South West Interconnected System (SWIS).

Owned by the Government of Western Australia, Synergy proudly supports the people of Western Australia and plays an active role in the communities in which we operate. Synergy's purpose is clear – to lead Western Australians to their intelligent energy future. For more information visit www.synergy.net.au.