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Ausgrid first in Australia to switch gears to sustainability

Ausgrid is the first organisation in Australia to install a fully sustainable Siemens switchgear using climate-neutral 'clean air'.

Ausgrid has installed Australia's first Siemens blue gas insulated (GIS) medium voltage switchgear at Westfield Miranda in Sydney. The switchgear reduces emissions by using climate-neutral 'clean air' instead of sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆).

SF₆ is a man-made potent greenhouse gas with 23,000 times the impact of CO₂ on global warming. Switching to clean air will reduce reliance on SF₆ without compromising performance or economic feasibility.

Ausgrid Sustainability Manager, Craig Wilson said clean air technology presents an exciting opportunity to end the use of this potent greenhouse gas as we 'electrify everything' to address climate change.

"Making the switch to climate-neutral clean air is a significant milestone for Ausgrid. Without technological innovation, Ausgrid's use of SF₆ was set to increase. The installation of Siemens' blue GIS switchgear, which uses carbon-neutral ambient air, means Ausgrid can reduce reliance on SF₆ and potentially replace existing equipment with a cleaner solution".

"Ausgrid's vision is to provide power for a resilient, affordable and net zero future for our communities, country and planet. We are committed to reducing our emissions by 50% by 2030 and reaching net zero emissions by 2045. Technological innovation is helping us achieve these targets," said Mr Wilson.

CEO of Siemens Australia and New Zealand, Peter Halliday said, "The electricity grids in Australia play a pivotal role in the nation's journey to net zero. The current and future challenges can only be met through innovative technology. It's great to see Ausgrid among the first in Australia to install our blue GIS switchgear."

For more information on Ausgrid's sustainability performance, visit www.ausgrid.com.au/sustainability.

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