MEDIA RELEASE

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Commissioning fires up on Callide Oxyfuel Project

The first stage of commissioning on the Callide Oxyfuel Project is underway with the Callide A Power Station 'firing up' for the first time since construction started in March 2009, moving the world-class demonstration project one step closer to operation.

The Callide Oxyfuel Project aims to demonstrate how carbon capture, using oxyfuel combustion, can be combined with carbon storage to dramatically reduce emissions at a coal-fired power station.

The Callide Oxyfuel Project is retrofitting oxyfuel technology to Callide A Power Station near Biloela to enable it to generate electricity in oxy-firing mode from August 2011 and to demonstrate the capture of carbon dioxide by the end of the year.

Project Director, Dr Chris Spero, said the 'firing up' of the power station unit signalled the first step in a multifaceted commissioning process which will take place over the coming months.

"Commissioning will ensure the oxyfuel power plant and associated carbon dioxide capture facility is fully operational by the end of the year," Dr Spero said.

"This will be followed by a two year demonstration, and research and development program, to facilitate the commercialisation of the technology.

"Demonstration projects such as the Callide Oxyfuel Project are essential for testing leading edge technology for future application at a commercial scale."

The Callide Oxyfuel Project is one of only a handful of coal-fired low emissions projects to move beyond concept into construction.

"More than 60 staff and contractors have worked over 250,000 man hours onsite receiving and installing the equipment as part of the construction phase of the project," Dr Spero said.

The Callide Oxyfuel Project is a joint venture between CS Energy, the Australian Coal Association, Xstrata Coal, Schlumberger, and Japanese participants, JPower, Mitsui and IHI Corporation. The project has also received financial support from the Australian, Queensland and Japanese governments.

For more information on the project, visit www.callideoxyfuel.com.au

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