



# East Perth Power Station

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## East Perth Power Station

## FACT SHEET #1

### History

- 1913 The State Government announces it will build a power station “to generate all the electricity needed in the Perth Metropolitan area.” East Perth is chosen because coal can easily be delivered by rail and the enormous quantities of cooling water required by the condensing plant can be drawn from the Swan River.
- 1913 Construction commences.
- 1916 Construction is completed at a total cost of £538,000.
- 1916-1917 Power generation commences when Unit #1 goes on line on 3 December 1916. Units #2 and #3 begin generating power in March and April 1917 for a total generating capacity of 12 megawatts.
- 1922 Unit #4, a 7.5-megawatt generator, is added. Demand for power begins to increase rapidly. More generation is required.
- 1925 Unit #5, of 12.5-megawatt capacity, begins generating power.
- 1929 Total power generation from East Perth Power Station is 32-megawatts. The estimated capital value of the power station is £1 million.
- 1932 WA Government announces it will privatise power generation and seeks purchasers for the East Perth Power Station from the private sector. The idea is abandoned later that year, due to lack of interest.
- 1935 -1938 'B' Station was constructed around a massive new 25-megawatt turbo generator. 'B' Station almost doubled the capacity of the East Perth Power Station.
- 1956 A new 30-megawatt generating unit (Unit #7) is commissioned.
- 1968 East Perth Power Station converts to oil (from coal).
- 1974 East Perth Power Station returns to coal firing.
- 1981 After 68 years of continual service, East Perth Power Station closed down on the 23 December 1981. More advanced and cheaper methods of electricity generation make East Perth redundant.
- 2003 (Nov) WA Government approves funding to save the heritage-listed buildings that comprise the East Perth Power Station complex.
- 2004 (July) EPRA commences stabilising and site clean up at the East Perth Power Station.
- 2005 Stabilisation works continued.
- 2006 (March) EPRA completes stabilisation works at the East Perth Power Station.
- 2008 (Feb) The State Government announces the WA Museum will be relocated to the Power Station building and EPRA recommences planning for the surrounding site.
- 2009 (Feb) The State Government announces that the WA Museum will continue to be located in the Perth Cultural Centre. Future uses for the East Perth Power



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Station building will be determined as part of the ongoing master planning process for the site.

Today

Master Planning to establish a framework for future land use is currently being finalised and EPRA is investigating option for the final use of the Power Station building.



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## FACT SHEET #2

### Site Clean-up and Building Stabilisation Works

- EPRA's East Perth Power Station works occurred in two phases:
  1. **Forward Works:**

Forward works started on 5 July 2004 and continued until October 2004. Forward works ensured the site was safe prior to building stabilisation works. They included the clean-up of broken glass, years of pigeon droppings and other debris from the interior of buildings, safety 'knock offs' to remove loose glass and concrete and the demolition of some minor buildings of no heritage significance.
  2. **Stabilisation Works:**

Stabilisation Works commenced in November 2004 and were completed in March 2006. The works included the removal of asbestos roofs and replacement with new sheeting, demolition of ancillary structures / outbuildings, repair of concrete walls, repair and reglazing of windows, repair of steel structures and painting of the exterior.
- Floodlights were installed along the east, south and west facades of the building with all feature lighting completed by April 2006.



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## FACT SHEET #3

### Masterplanning

- EPRA released a draft Master Plan in November 2004 for the 8.5-hectare Power Station site. The draft Master Plan advocated a civic / cultural use for the former Power Station building and residential and commercial uses on the surrounding vacant land. The draft Master Plan was subject to a three-month community consultation program.
- The consultation period closed on 28 February 2005 and approximately 170 submissions were received. The submissions overwhelmingly supported the redevelopment of the site.
- EPRA is currently finalising the Master Plan for the 8.5 hectare site with a focus on:
  - Identifying the appropriate mix of land uses for the Power Station building and surrounding land
  - Establishing a unique destination for tourists
  - Establishing a sustainable community
  - Creating an entry point and catalyst for the activation of the northern stretch of the Swan River