

# Media Release

9 September 2020



## Record schools join Electricity Safety Week's 10<sup>th</sup> year

Record numbers of schools across rural, regional and remote NSW have rushed to join in Essential Energy's annual Electricity Safety Week activities and competitions, which teach students how to be safe around electricity.

97% of schools across Essential Energy's footprint have registered for the program which includes lesson booklets with activities, electricity safety posters, stickers, and great schoolroom prizes including high bounce balls and circuit kits.

Rachel Hussell, Head of Communications said "This year, for the first time, we're asking children in grades 4 to 6 to enter our ad competition by sending us a 30-second video or radio ad highlighting one or more important electricity safety messages. Children in grades k-1 and 2-3 can also enter our safety message colouring-in competition once more."

Each winner will receive a great robot activity prize kit for themselves, as well as \$1,000 for their school P&C association.

"Electricity Safety Week is an excellent opportunity to raise awareness about potential electrical hazards in a way that is interesting and engaging for children," Rachel said.

Essential Energy has worked closely with the Department of Education to ensure that the supplied lesson booklet aligns with the school curriculum. We've also developed resources like posters, scenarios, visuals and discussions, that are engaging for all students and applicable to real-life situations, reminding everyone of the dangers associated with powerlines and electrical appliances.

"Electricity safety week runs from 7-11 September 2020 and competition entries close Friday 25 September, so don't miss out on your chance to win," Rachel added.

For further information about the competition and Essential Energy's electricity safety teaching resources, visit: [essentialenergy.com.au/education](http://essentialenergy.com.au/education).

### FACT FILE:

- Essential Energy builds, operates and maintains one of Australia's largest electricity distribution networks, servicing 865,000 customers across regional, rural and remote NSW.
- Our footprint covers 95 percent of NSW, traversing 737,000 square kilometres of landmass with 183,612 km of powerline, 163,417 of those in designated bushfire zones.
- The network services more than 865,000 customers with approximately 4.6 customers to each kilometre of powerline, which is almost one-tenth the customer density compared with our counterparts in NSW.
- Essential Energy's footprint also includes 1.38 million power poles, equating to 1.6 power poles per customer.
- Essential Energy is proud to be the 2019 winner of the Australian Apprentices – Employer Award.

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