Media Release



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Creative students win \$3,000 for safety for P&Cs

The creativity of students at three regional NSW schools has won their Parents and Citizens' Association \$1,000 for safety improvements under Essential Energy's 'Be a Safety Star' school poster competition.

General Manager Safety, HR and Environment, David Nardi, said Essential Energy had been overwhelmed with the volume of entries received for this year's competition.

"The students were asked to design posters with important electrical safety messages as part of this year's Electricity Safety Week," David said.

"A total of 884 entries were received from 43 schools across regional, rural and remote NSW – an enormous 350 per cent increase on 2016 entries."

Electricity Safety Week is presented by Essential Energy to educate students about electrical hazards and how to avoid them. The poster competition encourages students to demonstrate what they have learnt by emphasising electrical safety messages in creative and innovative ways.

"The lucky poster competition winners in 2017 are from Hallidays Point Public School (Kinder to Year 2 category), Illabo Public School (Year 3 to 4 category) and Lake Albert Public School (Year 5 to 6 category)," David said.

Each of the schools' Parents and Citizens' Association committees will receive \$1,000 from Essential Energy to use on safety improvements at their school.

The winning entries came from Bronte Kippax (Hallidays Point – Year 2), Tom Day (Ilabo – Year 4) and Susannah Priest (Lake Albert – Year 6).

"Their designs captured valuable lessons about electricity safety such as warning people to stay away from fallen powerlines and keep electrical appliances away from water, and advising machinery operators to be aware of powerlines when working near the electricity network," David added.

To view the winning poster competition entries, go to <u>essentialenergy.com.au/postercomp</u>. For education resources on electricity safety, visit <u>essentialenergy.com.au/education</u>.

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Essential Energy is the operator of one of Australia's largest electricity networks spanning 95 per cent of New South Wales' land mass. Owned by the New South Wales Government, Essential Energy also provides water and sewerage services to customers in far western New South Wales.