



MINSITER FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, JACINTA ALLAN, ANNOUNCES COGENERATION FACILITY FOR TATURA

Jacinta Allan, Minister for Rural and Regional Development, visited the Unilever Australasia factory at Tatura on Wednesday 28th October, to announce that the company will receive a grant from the Regional Infrastructure Development Fund to assist in the construction of a co-generation plant.

Unilever has been working to determine the best co-generation model for the factory and will now build a 1.1 megawatt co-generation plant which will simultaneously generate both electricity and heat through the use of natural gas and thermal energy.

The new plant will contribute significant environmental benefits to the local Tatura area, with an expected reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the factory of more than 44% and a substantial decline in energy lost between power generation and its use at the factory. The plant will also allow the factory to operate almost entirely independently of the local power grid, and as such, significantly reduce the load on the Tatura power grid.

The Minister's announcement confirmed that the government grant will fund 50% of the cost of construction. The construction of the plant in will be finished by the end of 2010, and will reinforce Unilever's reputation as an environmentally conscious and innovative company.