

# MEDIA RELEASE

7 December 2023

## LIGHTING COUNCIL AUSTRALIA WELCOMES NEW SOUTH WALES SMART STREET LIGHTING UPGRADE

Lighting Council Australia welcomes the news that the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) and 29 local councils are working alongside Ausgrid to implement Australia's biggest smart street lighting upgrade.

As the street lighting service provider to the councils, Ausgrid over the next three years will deploy more than 62,000 streetlights on main roads across regional NSW that use energy efficient LED technology.

This comes after the metropolitan area of Sydney has already been upgraded with over 200,000 street lights. With this next rollout scheduled to be complete in 2026 the number of new LED lights deployed will be over 240,000, making these upgrades the largest deployment of LEDs in Australia to date.

"The wider Australian lighting industry welcomes the proposed upgrades to rural New South Wales roads and streets" said Lighting Council Australia Environment and Public Affairs Manager, Mr Will Houtsma. "This comes at a time when LED technology is the most dominant type of lighting product on the market. LEDs are more energy efficient, have longer life spans, are more durable and more environmentally friendly than traditional lighting products such as halogen globes" said Mr Houtsma.

As a result of the upgrades, it is expected that the total energy consumption of Ausgrid-managed streetlights will decrease by 62% in 2026. A major benefit of these new LED streetlights will be their potential for smart controls including off-peak dimming. If implemented, this new technology could further increase energy efficiency of streetlights while also preventing excessive light pollution to our natural flora and fauna.

Above all, these upgrades will increase the safety of NSW major roads and highways. This is something sorely needed, not only in the state, but across Australia as a country.

"It is high time that street lighting in both metro and rural areas are upgraded to this new technology, and we welcome the work Ausgrid, the SSROC and the local councils are doing in this area." Mr Houtsma commented.

**ENDS**

**For all media enquiries, please contact:**  
**Will Houtsma – Lighting Council Australia, Environment and Public Affairs Manager**  
**0412 858 958**  
[whoutsma@lightingcouncil.com.au](mailto:whoutsma@lightingcouncil.com.au).

To view the media release by SSROC please click [here](#).