



District Council of Coober Pedy Newsletter

Welcome to the Opal Capital of the World

October 2019

To our valued customers,

NOTICE OF POWER INTERRUPTION

DAY: Tuesday night – Wednesday morning
(5hr interruption)
DATE: 30th October 2019
TIME: 12:00AM (midnight) – 5:00AM

AREAS AFFECTED: ALL CUSTOMERS AFFECTED

PURPOSE: Power Station Maintenance

We apologise for the inconvenience but the interruption is necessary for Coober Pedy's electricity generation operator EDL to perform maintenance on critical UPS support equipment at Coober Pedy Power Station.

The timing of the interruption has been selected to minimise disturbance to business' and residents. District Council of Coober Pedy will liaise with SAPOL to ensure a police presence throughout the town as a deterrent to criminal behavior.

As the interruption is only for a short while, perishable food should remain in the refrigerator or freezer with the lid or door closed. Open the lid or door only if absolutely necessary, it is wise also to switch off appliances not normally in continuous use. This helps in the reinstatement of supply and is a safety precaution to prevent, for example, a radiator coming on again without your knowledge.

If you intend to do any work on your electrical installation during the interruption, remember that power could return at any stage during the times listed above, so please notify your contractor. For safety reasons, please notify us if you intend using a portable generator, which is not permanently installed and wired so that it cannot back feed into our wires during the interruption. Such use poses a potentially dangerous situation, both to you and our lines persons.

Thank you,
DCCP Electricity Supply

Please do not hesitate to contact the Electricity Distribution Manager for more information
Ph: (08) 8672 4631
Mob: 0407 617 301
Email: mgrava@cpcouncil.sa.gov.au



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From Tim Jackson, Administrator

Dear Citizen,

Congratulations

Congratulations to all involved, particularly the volunteers, in welcoming the World Solar Challenge cars to Coober Pedy this week. Feedback I received was that Coober Pedy was the most welcoming town they had visited so far.

Congratulations to all involved in supporting the two films being shot in the town and the Kanku Breakaways Conservation Park in recent weeks. Great for the local economy and profile.

Events

White Ribbon Day is scheduled for 21 November. Its objective is to heighten

awareness of the prevalence of domestic violence in our communities and what we can do about it.

A community march is proposed for Coober Pedy on 21 November. Further details will be provided in due course.

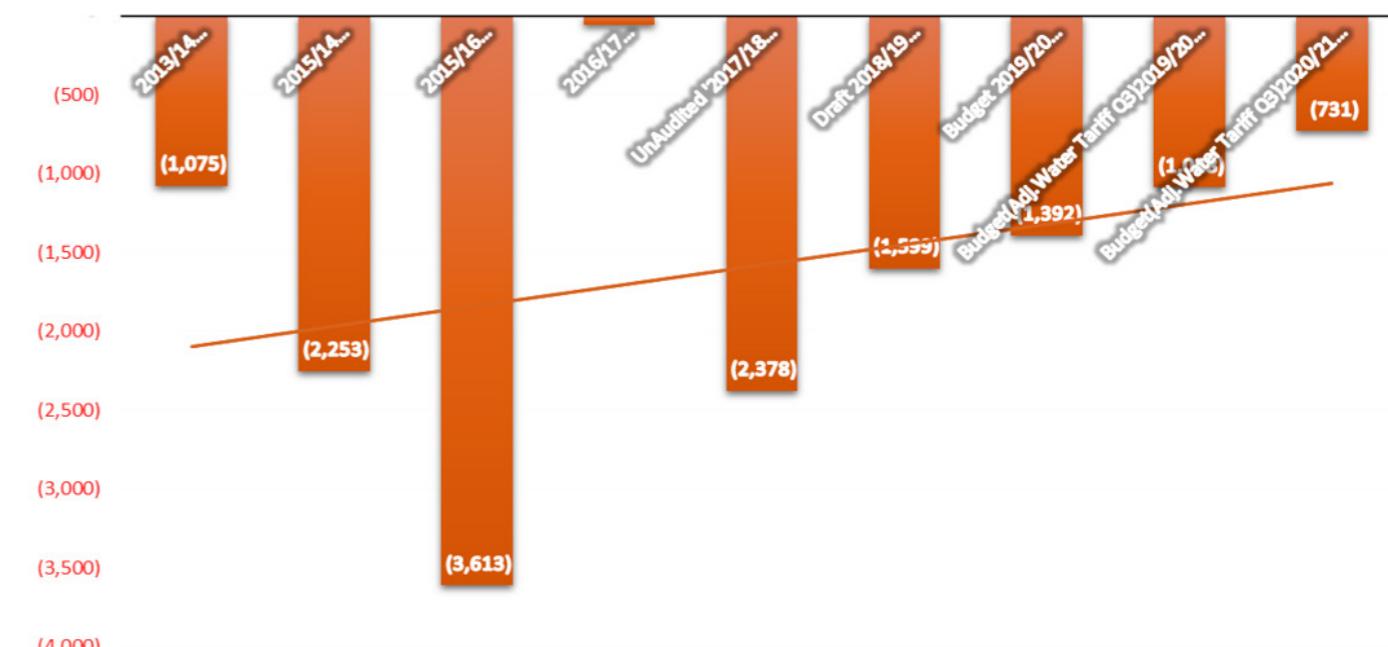
Coober Pedy Awards

Council will be reintroducing community awards next year including Citizen of the Year. These awards will recognise the significant contribution individuals and organisations make to the Coober Pedy community. More information will be provided shortly. In the meantime we encourage you to give some thought to possible nominations.

New CEO

Hopefully you may have had an

OPERATING DEFICIT





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Citizen Polls

By the time you receive this newsletter the results should be known.

The poll is a key tool in restoring public trust and confidence in Council as they give the power to determine significant local issues back to electors.

As stated previously Council will be bound by the decision of electors with the exception of the possible extension of the period of administration which is a decision for the Governor.

If the term of the Administrator is extended, there will be in all probability be further polls on significant community issues.

Oversight

Adequate oversight is imperative in organisations. The lack of adequate oversight is the principal reason the Council is in such poor shape. Adequate oversight require systems and processes that can provide information that can be independently assessed and views formed.

This is why Council has an Audit Committee made up of appropriately skilled and independent people. This Committee will continue to strengthen as we prepare for the return of an elected Council.

It is also important that there is oversight by the community. Groups like the Concerned Residents Group are part of this oversight. It is important also that

you take an interest, and hence oversight, in what Council is doing.

Water Pricing Equity

The price of water may increase significantly from 1 January 2020 to approximately three times Adelaide prices. It is currently approximately double Adelaide prices.

This is an inequitable situation. It is an essential service!

Council has commenced a community campaign to achieve water pricing equity. All members of the Legislative Council have been written to, a petition is being organised for tabling in Parliament and a deputation comprised of the Federal and State Members and the Administrator will be sought to the Water Minister.

The State Government is being called on to provide an interim subsidy to provide relief to Coober Pedy water consumers while a long term solution is worked out.

Please take the time to sign the petition or to write a letter or email to the Premier. We will provide further details how to do this.

Coober Pedy Q&A

Coober Pedy Q&A is a new addition to our commitment to keep you informed. It is about being as transparent as possible. It will be distributed on a regular basis in electronic and paper form. Updates will be on our website

Photos below from the World Solar Challenge 'Pit Stop' in Coober



www.cooberpedy.sa.gov.au



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Water Tariffs

At its meeting last week, Council proposed to increase water charges by an average of 36 per cent. This has been necessary to (i) eliminate operating losses, (ii) provide funds for future upgrades and enhancements, and (iii) to make an economic return on the value of the infrastructure.

The proposed tariff structure will consist of a fixed charge plus a variable charge based on water

consumption. The variable charge will have three tiers:

1. The lowest tier is designed to provide affordable water to those on limited incomes;
2. The middle tier is designed to (i) meet the cost of providing water, (ii) provide funds for upgrades in the future, and (iii) make an economic return on the investment; and
3. The highest tier is designed to discourage excessive water use

as an environmental protection initiative.

The tariff structure will align with that used by SA Water so that, if and when a subsidy is granted in the future, Coober Pedy water prices will be exactly the same as those in metropolitan areas of the State.

Council will shortly write to water customers inviting submissions on the proposed water rate increases. The submission period will be open for at least three weeks.

		SA Water Rates	Current DCCP Rates		New Model - SA Water Structure
Service Charge	\$301.60, plus 17.25c per \$'000 for commercial only	Vacant Land Residential	\$179 \$225	301.60, plus 17.25c per \$'000 for commercial only	
	Commercial low use	\$444			
	Commercial high use	\$843			
Usage Charge	Residential	All	All		
	1 to 120 kL	\$2.392	1 to 50 kL	\$4.98	1 to 120 kL
	120 to 520 kL	\$3.413	51 to 300 kL	\$6.66	120 to 520 kL
	520 kL plus	\$3.699	301 kL plus	\$7.82	520 kL plus
	Commercial	\$3.413	Same as residential	Commercial	\$11.620

		SA Water Rates	Current DCCP Rates	New Model - SA Water Structure
Income	\$ 1,158,796.79	\$ 1,835,429.62	\$ 2,470,861.89	
	Average Charge	\$717.08	\$1,135.79	\$1,479.79
	Average Residential Charge (above \$0)	\$572.20	\$797.44	\$1,179.74
	Average Commercial Charge (above \$0)	\$2,027.62	\$4,189.90	\$5,549.40
	Residential first quartile	\$482.22	\$629.60	\$896.77
	Residential second quartile	\$546.06	\$786.23	\$1,110.97
	Residential third quartile	\$586.41	\$830.88	\$1,256.08
Percentage Usage Charge		51%	76%	78%
Percentage Commercial		21%	26%	27%



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