



# The Hon Chris Hartcher

## Minister for Resources and Energy

### Special Minister of State

### Minister for the Central Coast

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## STATEMENT

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Monday 27 August 2012

### APPRENTICES TO POWER NSW

An extra 139 new apprentices will start their training next year across the NSW electricity network with more than half expected to learn their trade throughout rural and regional NSW, Energy Minister Chris Hartcher announced today.

The new recruits will start work with the State's three electricity network business – Ausgrid, Endeavour and Essential Energy as apprentice line workers, cable jointers and substation technicians.

Mr Hartcher said the three network businesses were now recruiting for the new roles which included applications, exams, and interviews to help select the brightest bunch of new trainees.

"These new recruits will learn their trade as they work, ensuring they stay safe while maintaining a reliable and efficient electricity network for the people of NSW," Mr Hartcher said.

"They will become the next generation of frontline workers, learning from some of the best and most experienced power workers in the country.

"More than half of these new apprentices will be based in regional and rural NSW, helping to support local communities and local economies."

The apprentice class of 2013 will learn their trade in both the classroom and on the job training throughout NSW. They will be spread across the State including:

11 on the North Coast	17 in the North West	15 in the Hunter	6 in Central and Far West
30 in Western Sydney	35 in Silverwater	9 in the South East	16 in Southern NSW

Mr Hartcher also said that the three electricity networks expected **to employ a total of 1,200 graduating apprentices over the next four years.**

"The NSW Government is delivering on its promise to reduce duplication, drive efficiencies and reduce costs at our electricity network businesses, helping to fund rebates for families and low income households," Mr Hartcher said.

"Our commitment to employing graduating and new apprentices shows that this Government is also delivering on its promise to create jobs in regional NSW and protect frontline positions across the three electricity networks."