



Kareeya Hydro

About the power station

Kareeya Hydro, near Tully in Far North Queensland, has been providing clean, green electricity to Queenslanders since 1957. It has a capacity of 88 megawatts (MW) produced by four generators, which provide power to the National Electricity Market.

Taking its name from an Aboriginal word meaning ‘big water’, the Kareeya Hydro project originally comprised construction of Koombooloomba Dam, the Tully Falls Weir and Kareeya Hydro.

It is Kareeya Hydro’s ability to quickly start extra generators that is important in ensuring a secure, reliable power supply for distribution to consumers.

A \$30 million upgrade of the station between 2005 and 2008 extended the life of the power station by 25 years to 2050 and increased capacity, generation, efficiency and reliability.

Water supply

The catchment area of the Tully River spans approximately 260 square kilometres across one of Australia’s wettest regions.

Some of this rainfall finds its way to Koombooloomba Dam, which has a capacity of 180,000 megalitres and can hold an extra 25,000 megalitres using a water-inflated rubberised tube.

Water is released into the Tully River from the Koombooloomba Dam and flows 13 kilometres to the Tully Falls Weir, which is a regulating pond for Kareeya Hydro.

Environment

Hydro-electric power generation using the energy of moving water to drive generators is one of the cleanest and most efficient methods of producing electricity.

Kareeya Hydro does not emit any greenhouse gases and is an accredited green generator.

It returns all the water it uses for generation back to the Tully River in exactly the same pristine condition in which it entered the power station.

The power station is in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and must meet strict environmental standards.

Community

Stanwell takes an active role in the local community, supporting initiatives that promote regional development and education.

about stanwell

Stanwell Corporation Limited (Stanwell) is a diversified energy company. We own coal, gas and water assets which we use to generate electricity for the National Electricity Market (NEM), we sell electricity directly to industry customers and we trade in gas and coal.

With a generation capacity of more than 4000 megawatts, Stanwell is the largest electricity generator in Queensland. The business is able to help supply Queensland’s energy needs through coal, gas and hydro-electric generation at seven geographically dispersed sites.

statistics

Capacity	86.4 MW
Greenhouse gas savings	540,000 tonnes per year
Powered equivalent	864,000 light bulbs
Commissioned	1957

