

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

17<sup>th</sup> June 2008

### **ERH POWER SHUTDOWN**

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A new steriliser will be installed in the operating theatre suite at Echuca Regional Health commencing Monday 23 June. As a result, from 23 to 25 June only emergency surgery will be performed as necessary with normal services resuming on Thursday 26 June.

Surgeons and patients who were scheduled for elective surgery on these days have been notified and rescheduled.

Also during this week, the opportunity is being taken to undertake major maintenance and upgrade works on the power supply connections and switchboard systems at Echuca Regional Health. This includes new connections to the old operating theatres to enable relocation of the CT scanner and nuclear medicine service operated by Murray Valley Imaging to be brought into the main hospital building. This will involve a total shut down of all power supplies, including the emergency generator for four hours on Tuesday 24 June from 10 am to 2 pm.

During the power shut down limited essential services will be supported by a number of portable generators that will enable any emergency surgery to be performed and the emergency department to continue to receive patients. Plans are in place to manage without heating and lighting throughout the facility. Plans are in place to provide a BBQ lunch for Glanville residents and salads and sandwiches for hospital patients and staff.

Limited telephone connections will operate within the facility and external callers can only contact the health service on the normal hospital number of 5485 5000.

X-ray and pathology services will not be available for walk in patients, who should check any appointments in advance for a revised date.

Echuca Regional Health's Regional Engineering Services Manager Mark Hooper is confident that the works will be completed in the allocated timeframe on the Tuesday.

The public should be confident that any urgent health issues will continue to be provided for during these alterations.