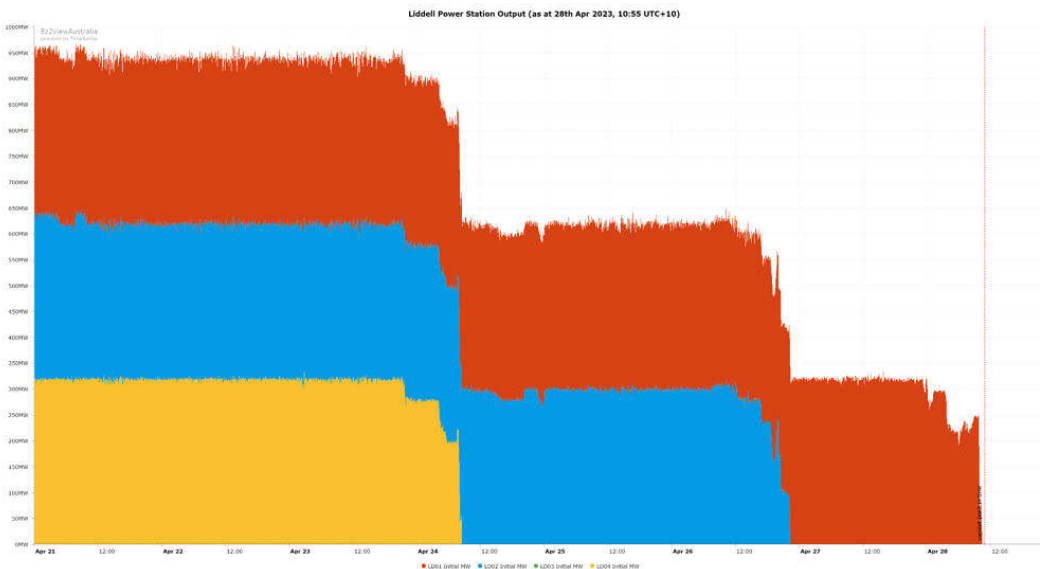


# That's all folks: the last unit of Liddell Power Station closes

Posted by **DAN LEE**    Friday, April 28 2023    Topic: **Closure of Liddell, Energy Transition**

Australia's oldest utility-scale generator, Liddell Power Station, has shut off its last remaining unit this morning after nearly 52 years of operations. At roughly 10:30am AEST, Liddell Unit 1 finally ramped down its output to 0MW which marks the full retirement of the power station, a process that was announced just over seven years ago

We've been covering [the closure of Liddell](#) here on WattClarity, starting with [Unit 3 roughly one year ago](#), and followed by [Unit 4 on Monday](#) and [Unit 2 on Wednesday](#).



The sequential closure of Liddell's last three units this week.

Source: ez2view Trends

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Perhaps in a sign of the times, the unit's closure comes the same day that the AEMO's QED highlighted that renewable energy was driving down wholesale energy costs and an LOR2 condition was intermittently forecast for NSW tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon.

With one large coal generator now retired, the next cab off the rank is scheduled to be Origin's Eraring Power Station, which is currently slated to close (*possibly as early as*\*) in August 2025.

*\*we think it's important to reiterate that (as much as we are aware) Origin has always retained the caveat 'possibly as early as' in relation to closure expectations for Eraring Power Station. Paul noted this on 18th February 2022 in relation to the initial closure announcement the day before.*

## Media and Social Media Coverage

From a brief scan, I have come across the following articles this morning that marked the occasion:

- The ABC published *Hunter Valley's Liddell Power Station closes in end of an era for Australia's oldest coal-fired plant*;
- RenewEconomy posted *"World is changing": AGL to replace Liddell with battery, hydrogen, wind and solar* ;
- The Australian posted *'Bittersweet day' as Liddell coal plant shuts down for good*.
- but no doubt many others as well...

On Social Media there's been an inundation, but worth highlighting two ....

- On Twitter today, AGL marked the event [with this tweet](#):

declining demand  
demand response detailed  
analysis energy  
transition generator  
closure **guest**  
**author** high NEM-  
wide demand high  
prices high  
regional demand  
high  
temperatures  
minimum demand New  
South Wales NSW peak  
NEM-wide demand price  
spike price  
volatility QLD  
**Queensland**  
Semi-Scheduled  
Generation solar PV  
**South**  
**Australia** spot  
price volatility  
**summer** tight  
supply-demand  
**Victoria** wind  
farm output winter

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After almost 52 years in operation, Liddell Power Station retired from service today. The final unit was safely retired this morning by our Liddell Operations team - a historic moment for our employees and the Hunter community. Thank you to all our people who have worked there.



10:30 AM · Apr 28, 2023 · 98 Views

1 Retweet 2 Likes

- Giles Parkinson of RenewEconomy [tweeted a series of photo updates of the Liddell control room](#), where AGL CEO Damian Nicks was present. Here's one of them:



**Giles Parkinson**  
@GilesParkinson



That's it. Last unit at Liddell #coal closed, oldest generator in Australia.



10:22 AM · Apr 28, 2023 · 204 Views

2 Retweets 1 Quote 12 Likes

**Tags:** *AGL Energy Coal-Fired Power Generator Closure Liddell Power Station Power Station Closures The End Of Coal*

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#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Dan Lee**

Dan Lee first started at Global-Roam in June 2013. He has departed (and returned) for a couple of stints overseas in that time, but rejoined our team

permanently in late 2019. More recently, Dan's focus has been on growing his understanding of the market and developing his capabilities. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Sustainability program at the University of Queensland.

## RELATED ARTICLES

### PAUL MCARDLE

Friday, December 20 2019

**Not-So-Quick review of price spike in South Australian region yesterday (Thu 19th Dec) evening**

Took 2-3 times longer than planned (as there were a few different interesting observations that came out) but here is our initial – and perhaps only! – review of what happened in South Australia on Thursday 19th December 2019 (i.e. yesterday).

### PAUL MCARDLE

Thursday, February 4 2021

**AGL Energy announces \$2.6b impairment ... of which \$1.9b for legacy wind farm off-take agreements**

Today AGL Energy announces a big impairment ... with a big chunk related to long-term wind offtake agreements which AGL entered into between 2006 and 2012.

### PAUL MCARDLE

Monday, August 23 2021

**A quick look at the generator bids across Sunday 23rd August 2021 (when Solar temporarily eclipsed Coal)**

Prompted by reports elsewhere of solar PV production eclipsing coal-fired production on Sunday for a period of time, I had a quick look (including at aggregate bid volumes).

### ALLAN O'NEIL

Friday, June 10 2022

**A closer look at coal-fired generation availability**

Tweet at your own peril A quick mea culpa: after squinting at an ez2view layout early this morning I dashed off a tweet suggesting that six of AGL Energy's eleven coal-fired generation units were offline – three at Bayswater, two...

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