

NEWS RELEASE

Expert removal of “Munmorah Mural” Underway

Generator Property Management oversees removal of ceramic tile mural at Munmorah Power Station

Thursday, 2 November 2017– In overseeing the demolition of the former Munmorah Power Station, an important relic is now being carefully removed from the site. A professional stonemason is now detaching the ‘Munmorah Mural’, from a single skin brick wall, which had pride of place in the lobby of the Power Station.

Artist and architect Gino Volpato created the 9.1-metre long and 2.4-metre high artwork from more than 800 hand made ceramic tiles in 1966, when the power station was being built. It depicts the electricity generation process.

Stephen Saladine, Managing Director of Generator Property Management said, “ We have ensured that Liberty Industrial, (the demolition contractor) has engaged the best expertise available to undertake this important removal. An experienced stonemason is carrying out the task using his skills in architectural ceramics to delicately attempt to remove the artwork in small sections. Each section will then be carefully packed to prevent damage, catalogued and marked and stored in an appropriate way to enable future extraction and reinstatement if someone could utilise the artwork.”

The tiles have unfortunately deteriorated over time and the nature of the single skin brick wall has meant there is no workable alternative than disassembling the work piece by piece.

“The brick wall is braced in place by roof beams spanning the foyer and is inherently unstable. It is cracked in many places and assessment indicates it would fall to pieces if stressed, probably breaking tiles in the process.”

“GPM has a 3D scan of the artwork and pictures taken to enable assessment by parties interested in reinstating the artwork in a suitable heritage or other location. GPM intends to request expressions of interest from interested parties once the artwork has been successfully removed and stored,” added Stephen.

Once the removal process has been completed, GPM has a secure facility to store the artwork segments and will be monitoring the storage to ensure no further deterioration occurs.

The removal of the mural is expected to be completed by Christmas 2017, subject to any possible complications encountered during the removal process.

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Additional Munmorah Power Station information

- The Mural is a stylised depiction of the power generation process, from the mining of the coal to the community using the electricity
- Generator Property Management and Liberty Industrial have been working with SafeWork NSW and the site meets all relevant State and Local Government requirements

Available for Interview

Generator Property Management Managing Director Stephen Saladine is available for interview; please contact Brooke Simmons at Pursuit Communications 0407 780 710 or brooke@pursuitcommunications.com.au to coordinate.