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2014

# BYRON BAY

RAILROAD  
COMPANY LTD

17th May 2017

Dear neighbours and friends

The conversion of the Byron Bay train from diesel to solar power is underway now in Lithgow, where the heritage train has lived for the past 14 years.

Once the train has arrived in Byron Bay in the coming months, driver training and test runs will occur. The two platforms and train storage shed were completed last month including the installation of a 30kW solar system on the roof of the storage shed. Track work was completed earlier this year.

Byron Bay Railroad Company had approval to run the train as a diesel service two years ago, however in December the decision was made to fast track the solar conversion. Solar and battery storage capacity and technology has been rapidly advancing over the last few years, enabling the conversion to take place prior to the train's first service. Changing from diesel to solar power requires a modification to the existing accreditation from the National Rail Safety Regulator. The timing for achieving this modification is unknown unfortunately, given that this is the first solar powered train using complex new technology.

In the meantime the solar conversion is progressing well. The solar panels are all fitted to the roof of the train and the main electric drive frame has been built. The two traction motors and gearbox arrive in Lithgow this week. Parts have come from Italy, Korea, the US and China.

Thank you for your patience while we work toward delivering this train service. Please contact us with any questions or feedback on 02 6685 6561 or [enquiries@byronbaytrain.com.au](mailto:enquiries@byronbaytrain.com.au)

And please visit [www.byronbaytrain.com.au](http://www.byronbaytrain.com.au) for further information about the service.

Yours sincerely

The Byron Bay Railroad Company team



*The Byron Bay train undergoing the solar conversion at Lithgow State Mine Railway*