



# The power and *the glory*

## CIPS Procurement Excellence Platinum

***“I'd like to congratulate Western Power and all its employees for this achievement, this international certification reinforces the benefits of the McGowan Government's decision not to privatise the corporation.***

***The people of Western Australia can be assured that their energy business is achieving world-best practice.”***

**Hon Bill Johnston MLA**

**Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy; Industrial Relations**

Western Power is the first company in Australasia, and only the fifteenth in the world, to achieve CIPS Procurement Excellence accreditation at Platinum level. Find out what led the organisation to take on the challenge and what they achieved along the way.



Highest level of  
achievement



Identifies process  
efficiencies



Raised profile



# Why choose the *CIPS Procurement Excellence Program?*

Determined to elevate its supply chain to help meet current and future challenges, Western Power chose to start a CIPS Procurement Excellence Program, hoping to effect transformational change while maximising procurement's value to the business and raising the profile of the team.

After first achieving Procurement Excellence Standard accreditation, the organisation went on to reach Platinum, the highest level possible, demonstrating world-class procurement that is part of the lifeblood of the organisation.

A key enabler for Western Power's accreditation is the way that procurement is positioned to lead and influence. In fact, it has been re-branded 'Commercial' signifying that the team operates more broadly than a typical procurement function and influences extensively across the supply chain.

The team is also well resourced with some great talent, who are supported to continue to develop their knowledge and skills. This has no doubt helped to build relationships with stakeholders and contributed to their excellent reputation.



***“We all share the rare accolade of achieving the Platinum certification from CIPS. We’re the first in Australasia and one of only 15 companies worldwide to receive this certification.***

***CIPS recognition highlights the work and dedication from our team in creating a robust, efficient and deeply embedded set of procurement standards.”***

*Sarah Greenough, Head of Commercial at Western Power*

## ***About Western Power***

Western Power is a state-owned corporation which owns and operates the electricity network in the South West of WA (Western Australia).

Like many energy companies, Western Power faces legislative pressures from government to reduce costs for consumers without compromising on safety or reliability. This is set against a backdrop of rapid technological change and rising customer expectations, such as a greater demand for ethical and sustainable business practices.

Competition in the WA market is often low and therefore suppliers may be attracted to higher margin work in other sectors. This is managed through the Commercial Function's strong supplier relationships and robust frameworks.

## ***The Benefits***

- **Process improvements** in areas including change management and supplier relationship management
- **Improved staff morale** from the sense of achievement and appreciation gained
- **Enhanced profile of the Commercial Function** which has encouraged other business units to involve the team in change initiatives and to provide ongoing support
- **Improved company reputation**, for example, Western Australia's Energy Minister issued a press release that gained national attention
- **Numerous agile procurement opportunities** were identified, particularly for emerging technology where speed to market is key