

Small company big power in PNG



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A SMALL local renewable-energy company with a whole lot of heart has received a visit from a special delegation.

Dorrigo's Pelena Energy, the combined enterprise of Peter Lynch and his wife, Selena Bryce, hosted the group from Papua New Guinea (PNG) who arrived to inspect micro-hydroelectric turbines, coconut oil-powered generators and freezer rooms for ice making.

Of particular interest was the micro-hydroelectric system bound for the village, Ok Tarim, which is located in a remote part of PNG.

Mr Lynch said the equipment Pelena Energy is supplying will be airlifted to the village by helicopter from the nearest road. The project will mean electricity can be generated from water flowing in a small river next to the village of Ok Tarim.

"The main benefits of the electricity will be the supply of quality lighting to houses and streetlights, operation of the health clinic and schools and income opportunities," Mr Lynch said.

One of the members of the



RENEWABLE ENERGY: Tony Carbry, Joseph Bariamu, Peter Lynch, Boka Kondra and Don Manoa.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

delegation was Boka Kondra, a member of parliament representing the electorate of North Fly.

The giant Ok Tedi mine, which caused immense environmental and social issues, is located within his electorate.

"The visit this week by such an

important overseas delegation clearly demonstrates that Australia's nearest neighbours are seeking a path of sustainability and renewable energy is key to their future."

Pelena Energy also has projects under way in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and elsewhere in PNG.