



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, 11 March 2015

PowerNet's three networks have been subjected to severe wind conditions resulting in power interruptions and network disturbance in the region.

PowerNet Chief Executive, Jason Franklin said the high winds experienced in Southland and Otago had affected in excess of 5,600 connected customers over the three PowerNet managed networks.

"As at 8am today we have 150 customers who are without supply over the Southland and Otago regions, we have staff and contractors working to restore supply to the remaining customers," Mr Franklin said.

This severe weather front has triggered trees, roofing iron, debris and general rubbish to connect with our electricity lines causing significant interruptions to power supply," he said.

If there are lines down, it is very important for people to treat these lines as live at all times, keep clear and contact us on 0800 808 587.

"The safe restoration of power supply is our priority at this point, but restoration is subject to weather conditions," he said.

"We are aware of the importance of power supply to our customers and thank them for their patience," Mr Franklin said.

PowerNet is the fifth largest network management company and manages the electricity networks in the lower South Island.

The three affected networks were The Power Company, Electricity Invercargill and OtagoNet which together have approximately 70,000 connected customers.

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