



PRESS RELEASE

2pm, Tuesday 6 October, 2015

As at noon on Tuesday 6th October, there are less than 100 customers still to have their electricity supply reconnected as a result of the severe wind storms experienced over Sunday and Monday.

PowerNet chief executive, Jason Franklin said the PowerNet faults and technical teams had been working constantly since Sunday to reconnect the affected customers.

“Just 100 customers on PowerNet’s managed networks are still without supply, we are working to get these people reconnected as soon as possible. This is down from the 11,000 customers who were without power on Sunday evening,” Mr Franklin said.

The Southland Met Service has issued another severe weather warning for the next 24 hour period. There are severe winds expected again, although forecast not to be quite as strong as last experiences on Sunday. PowerNet is prepared for any potential power interruptions and network disturbances that may result.

“We have all available resources ready if Southland and Otago receive the expected gale force winds. The stormy conditions which Southland and Otago have experienced over the last two days have not been experienced in over 20 years. These conditions have stretched our resources, however the focus is to ensure our network customers are reconnected as safely and quickly as possible,” Mr Franklin said.

“We are grateful for the patience and understanding customers have shown over recent days. In addition, the PowerNet and Otago Power Services teams have been doing a fantastic job in very trying conditions,” he said.

PowerNet is the fifth largest network management company and manages five 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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Contact

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