



PRESS RELEASE

2pm, Monday 5 October, 2015

PowerNet's three networks were subjected to storm conditions over a 24 hour period resulted in an increase in power interruptions and network disturbance.

PowerNet Chief Executive, Jason Franklin said over the past 24 hours there had been an excess of 11,000 connected customers interrupted on the PowerNet managed networks.

"At the peak of the adverse weather over Sunday evening we experienced significant outages resulting in over 11,000 customers being without power. However, as at 2pm Monday we have less than 2,000 customers still to be restored," Mr Franklin said.

"Our field and technical staff are working to get electricity supply restored to these remaining customers, and we have called upon extra staff to assist. Safely restoring supply is our priority at this point, but restoration of supply is subject to weather conditions," he said.

More adverse weather is forecast, but the severity has been downgraded.

"We are aware of the importance of power supply to our customers and we thank them for their patience"

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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