



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**POWER COMPANY PROJECT INCREASES CAPACITY AND RELIABILITY IN GROWING AREA**

An upgrade of the Kennington substation from a single transformer to two new 33/11 kV transformers will provide capacity and supply security for future growth in an area already seeing industrial expansion, PowerNet network investment manager Tod Trotman said.

“The load on the Kennington substation has crept up over the years, with the sawmill, venison plant, farms and homes, and now a drilling company out there too,” he said. “Our original plan to upgrade the single transformer has been adjusted to allow for this and future growth in the area.”

Mr Trotman said having three feeders from the substation where there was only one previously meant security of supply for the businesses concerned, as well as homes and farms serviced from the Kennington substation.

“The distribution network has been reconfigured to provide two new 11kV feeders so the customers supplied from the substation are now split into three. This provides separation between the rural supplies and the commercial/urban supplies off the substation, and limits the number of customers affected by an incident such as lines coming down in an accident or bad weather. In addition, some overhead lines have been moved underground to enhance the reliability of supply,” he said.

The existing Kennington substation was 40 years old.

“A new 11 kV indoor switchboard has been installed, in a new prefabricated switchroom. This will provide better reliability than the previous outdoor switchgear. This switchroom also includes up to date features such as the latest in digital protection relays, communications gear and GPS clock synchronisation, which all contribute to a more reliable and robust power supply to the supplied customers,” Mr Trotman said.

“The end result is a high quality, modern substation that should serve the needs of the Kennington area for many years to come.”

The substation build and installation is well under way, with a completion date of the end of March.

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For more information please contact:

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One of the two new 33/11kV transformers being lifted into place at the Kennington Substation.