

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW COLYER ROAD SUBSTATION BRINGS INCREASED CAPACITY AND RELIABILITY TO THE AWARUA AREA

An increase in electricity demand in the Awarua area has resulted this week in the commissioning of a new substation on The Power Company Limited network. The Colyer Road Substation was built to meet this demand and provide greater security of supply for the Awarua consumers.

PowerNet manages The Power Company network as well as other electricity networks in the lower South Island.

PowerNet chief executive Jason Franklin said the expansion at the Open Country Dairy plant coupled with the proposed industrial park at Awarua highlighted the need to build the new substation.

“The existing Awarua Substation site was deemed unsuitable for an upgrade due to its size, but it will remain and continue to supply the smaller surrounding industries,” Mr Franklin said.

The project took 18 months from the early conceptual design stage to the completion of the construction stage and was commissioned on August 6 at a cost of approximately \$9 million. In conjunction with the commissioning of the new Colyer Road Substation, signification protection and communication systems have been upgraded for the Bluff, Seaward Bush and new Colyer Road Substations, significantly improving the ability for fast clearance of network faults.

“We have built the substation with a firm capacity of 12MVA, it houses indoor 33kV and 11kV switchgear and two 6/12MVA outdoor transformers, but the design of the substation allows for future growth,” Mr Franklin said.

“PowerNet has an ongoing commitment to ensure customers on The Power Company network receive a safe, efficient and reliable electricity supply. The capital investment for the network is between \$20-\$30 million per annum, with a significant proportion of that spend dedicated to new and upgraded network assets in Southland and West Otago Region,” Mr Franklin said.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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Attached:

PowerNet Fact Sheet and photograph

