

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW HEDGEHOPE SUBSTATION BRINGS INCREASED CAPACITY AND RELIABILITY TO THE REGION

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

PowerNet chief executive Jason Franklin said electricity demand growth in the area, and expected future demand, is due to the increase of dairy conversions.

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

The substation took 18 months to construct and was commissioned on March 19 at cost approximately \$3 million.

“The design of the substation allows for future growth. The substation capacity is 5MVA and we have allowed for future expansion of the substation if required. It is currently running at 11kV, but should the network change to 22kV it can operate at that voltage with minimal work required,” Mr Franklin said.

Prior to the new substation the power delivery to the region was from Winton, Kennington and Mataura. “We also needed to build a new 66kV spur line from Winton to Hedgehope to supply the substation,” he said.

“Building the substation at this location has enabled load to be reduced at the Winton Substation, which was running close to full capacity,” Mr Franklin said.

The Power Company is committed to ensuring customers have capacity and security of supply. The capital investment programme for The Power Company 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,” Mr Franklin said.



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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

Jason Franklin
PowerNet Chief Executive
027 214 5309

Technical Notes:

The substation houses a single CG Pauwels 66/11kV transformer which is capable of operating at 66/22kV. The ABB switchgear consists of one incoming circuit breaker and three 11kV feeders supplying the Pebbly Hills, Waitane and Spring Hills regions.

Attached:

PowerNet Fact Sheet and photograph