

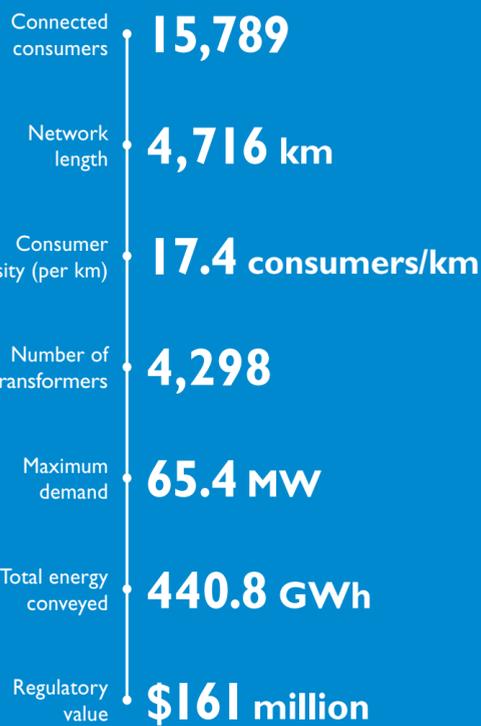
Who is OtagoNet?

OtagoNet is the major electricity network services provider for most of rural Otago. We're owned by two lower South Island-based electricity lines companies, The Power Company Ltd (TPCL) and Electricity Invercargill Ltd (EIL).



Our network covers almost all of Otago - from Central Otago to Chaslans in Southland, and inland from the Blue Mountains in West Otago to Shag Point on Otago's east coast. OtagoNet owns the electricity network assets including power poles, power lines, underground power cables, transformers and substations. The company contracts PowerNet to manage, construct and maintain its network. Duncan Fea is chair of the governing committee, with Doug Fraser, Don Nicolson and Ross Smith as committee members.

Continuing to improve the safety, reliability and security of electricity supply and ensuring a robust infrastructure that supports regional growth, are key drivers for OtagoNet's future work programmes.



Making our Community Safer

The Maniototo Health Centre, based in Ranfurly is the latest community recipient of OtagoNet's donation of an automated external defibrillator (AED). In conjunction with the AED donation, health centre and staff also received free first-aid training (level 1).

The AED donations and first-aid training are part of PowerNet's extensive sponsorship with St John. Now in its fourth year, the programme includes first-aid training to communities and schools across the south and has a goal of a first-aid trained responder in every home.



L/R: Jim Matheson (PowerNet field services manager), Michelle Henderson (PowerNet chief operating officer), Glenis Crutchley (St John Ranfurly station manager), David Steele (PowerNet depot supervisor) and Geoff Foster (Maniototo Health Services manager).

Redevelopment for PowerNet's Balclutha Site

PowerNet continues to strengthen its presence in South Otago with a substantial redevelopment of its facilities in Balclutha.

The PowerNet and OtagoNet boards recently approved a business case to build a new PowerNet workshop and administration building at their Charlotte Street site. PowerNet employs around 65 people at the site.



A 3D concept of the PowerNet site development.

Growth in Central Otago

The OtagoNet network in Central Otago continues to grow rapidly. In September last year, it reached the milestone of 1,000 installation connection points.

The network is reticulated on the Frankton Flats area and extends across the Shotover River to supply the Shotover Country subdivision. It also brings electricity to the Hilton Queenstown Resort and Spa and is extending south to supply the new Hanley's Farm subdivision. A new embedded network in Wanaka is now also part of the OtagoNet network.

The growth is set to continue as electricity infrastructure is installed to service the Queenstown Country Club retirement village, the Hanley Downs subdivision and the Northlake subdivision in Wanaka.

Project Updates

Cabling and installation work, including installation of the main supply cable, has finished for Stage 1 of the Hanley's Farm development, a 561 ha development on the outskirts of Queenstown. The network was livened at the end of March.



In a first for PowerNet, a mole plough was used to install the main supply cable and telecommunications cable for the Hanley's Farm development. The cabling followed a 2.5km line from the Hilton Hotel area, along SH6 and through private farmland to Hanley's Farm. Pulled by a large bulldozer, the mole ploughs 1.2metre blade dug a 900metre deep trench, laying the cabling simultaneously. The 15cm gap left in the earth was then restored by a roller.

Power Issues?

We're always working to improve the reliability of our network. This means we're having far fewer power outages but occasionally they still happen.

Check www.powernet.co.nz to view or report outages. Alternatively, phone our System Control team on 0800 808 587.

If you have any concerns about our service please call us on 03 211 1899 and we will be pleased to help - we have a free internal complaints process. If we are unable to resolve your concern you can contact the free and independent Utilities Disputes Limited on 0800 22 33 40 (www.utilitiesdisputes.co.nz)

"This is a significant investment in a purpose-built facility that will serve our staff well and provide an excellent base for effective service delivery throughout the region," says PowerNet chief executive Jason Franklin.

The new facilities will also give PowerNet the flexibility and capability to continue operating at the site in a major disaster, and to run its southern operational headquarters from Balclutha if required.

It's anticipated the development will get underway around September this year and be completed around April 2019. Tenders will be called for in the coming months.

The Shotover Country subdivision Stage 8D is finished and livened. The installation and cabling work on Stage 15 which began in March will be completed around the middle of 2018.

At Remarkables Park, with the extension of Red Oaks Drive to Mountain Ash Drive, significant network infrastructure is being installed to supply future apartment blocks. This includes installing a new transformer and extending the main 22kV cable down to Mountain Ash Drive to connect new switchgear. The extension of this cable also provides the capacity for future connections. This current phase of work is anticipated to be finished in spring 2018.



Pictured in the foreground is a 300kVA distribution transformer.

Installation work is well underway at the Queenstown Country Club where cabling, transformers and switchgear are being installed to supply apartments that will be part of the complex. This work is likely to be finished by the middle of 2018.

Over in Wanaka, cabling and installation work continues at the 220ha Northlake development. The development is part of the embedded network that links to the Aurora network. Work on Stages 1 to 3 is finished and continues for Stages 4 to 9.

In East Otago

In East Otago, we're still working hard on regular infrastructure maintenance, so we can deliver a safe and efficient electricity supply to households and businesses. Our field staff have been out and about inspecting low conductor lines and replacing them where they are sagging. Our regular pole replacement programme continues.

Power Issues?

Call  PowerNet on
0800 808 587

