

Wairarapa region

Our 10-year work plan in your region

October 2026

POWERCO

Who are we?

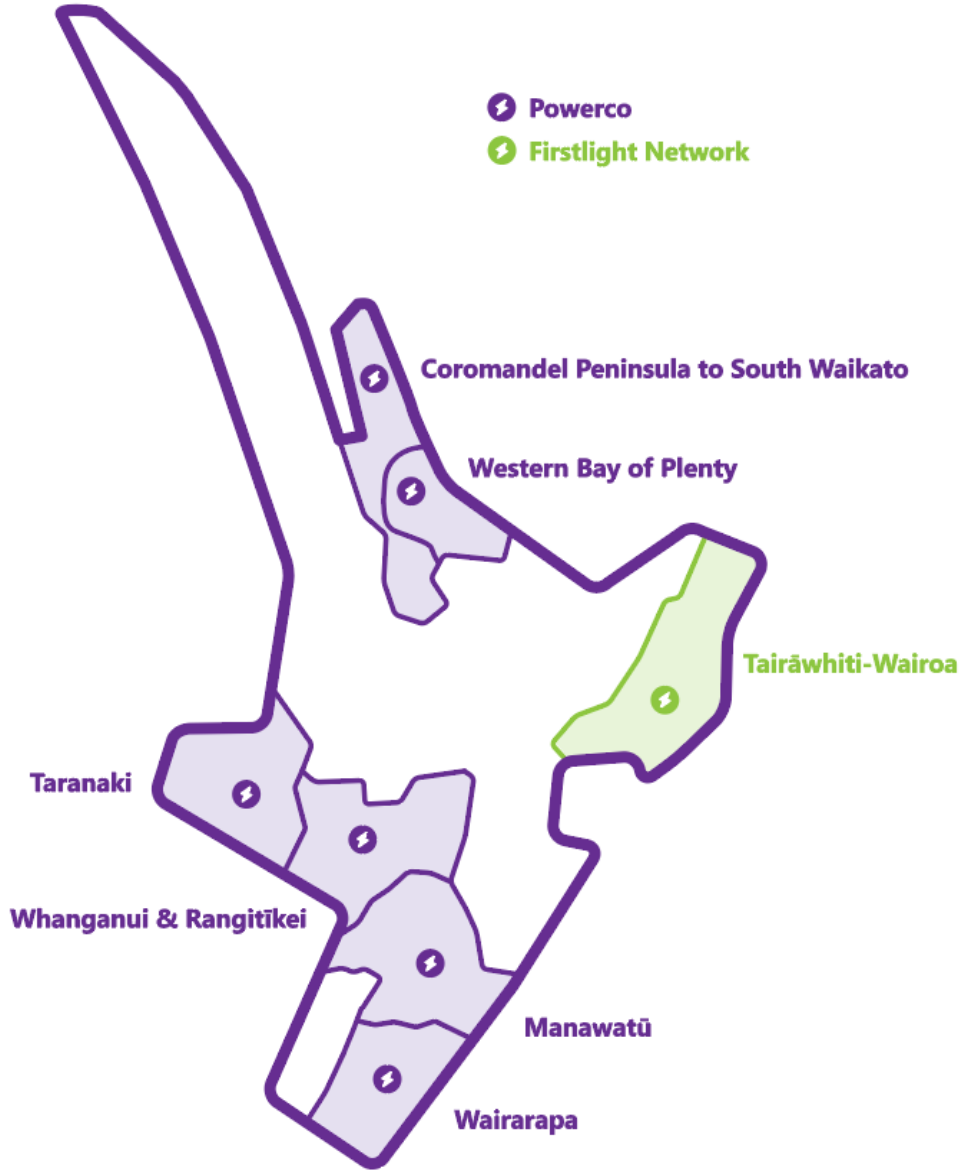
We keep the energy flowing to more than one million people across the North Island of New Zealand. We are the country's largest dual-energy distributor by network length.

33,273

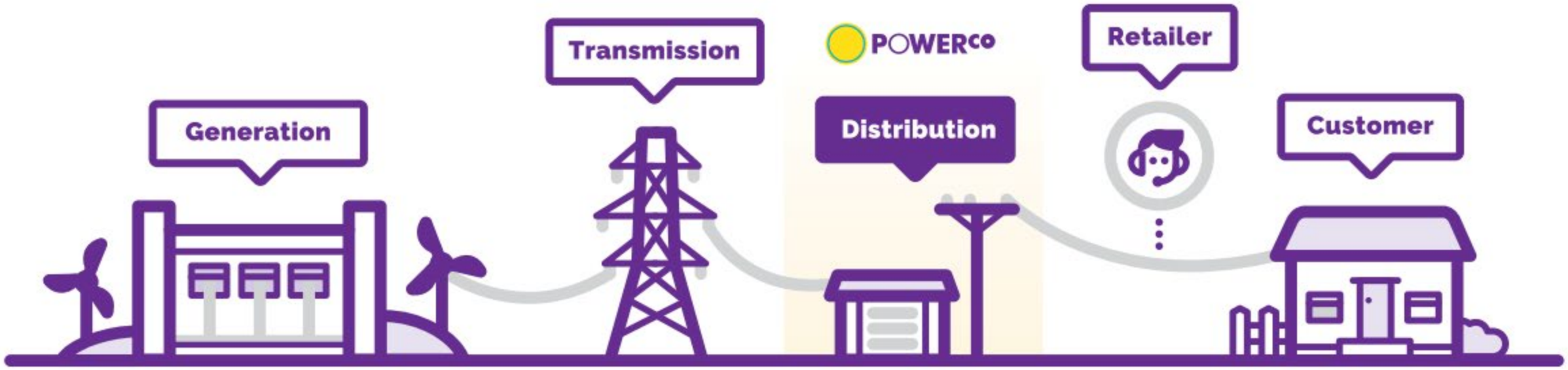
Kilometres of lines and cables make up our electricity network.

390,700

Homes and businesses and industries are connected to our network.



Electricity supply chain



Our people

We live and work in the communities we operate in.

We have around 650 people who work across our network, in offices in New Plymouth, Tauranga, Wellington, Palmerston North, Whanganui, Masterton, Te Aroha, Gisborne and Wairoa.

Our contractors

Coromandel to South Waikato	
Primary	Downer
Secondary	Northpower
Customer Delivery	NPE-Tech, Horizon
Maintenance inspections	Gen-Net

Tauranga & Mt Maunganui	
Primary	Northpower
Secondary	Unison
Customer Delivery	NPE-Tech, Horizon
Maintenance inspections	Gen-Net

Manawatu & Wairarapa	
Primary	Northpower
Secondary	Horizon
Customer Delivery	NPE-Tech, ScanPower
Maintenance inspections	Gen-Net

Tairawhiti - Wairoa	
AC Electrical Services	Horizon
Country to Coast Power	Unison Contracting Services
Power Connections Ltd	
ScanPower Ltd	

Taranaki, Whanganui & Rangitikei	
Primary	Downer
Secondary	Northpower
Customer Delivery	NPE-Tech & Obertech
Maintenance inspections	Gen-Net

Our strategic framework



Our context – what we balance

Energy affordability - we need to get the best value from our networks and control costs that get passed on to our customers.

The timing of electrification is uncertain. Consumption has reduced over the last three years on our network and is flat across Aotearoa. While we still need to invest to enable electrification we need to balance this with affordability.

Distributed generation is rising quickly as the cost of solar decreases and more utility scale players enter the market.

Gas supply is uncertain, but biogas is emerging as a credible replacement.

EDB consolidation is likely as changing technology and investment needs out pressure on costs and customer and regulatory expectations continue to rise.

Aotearoa is still in an infrastructure deficit and the need for capital investment and deliver expertise is events not just in energy infrastructure, but other types of infrastructure like fibre and water metering.



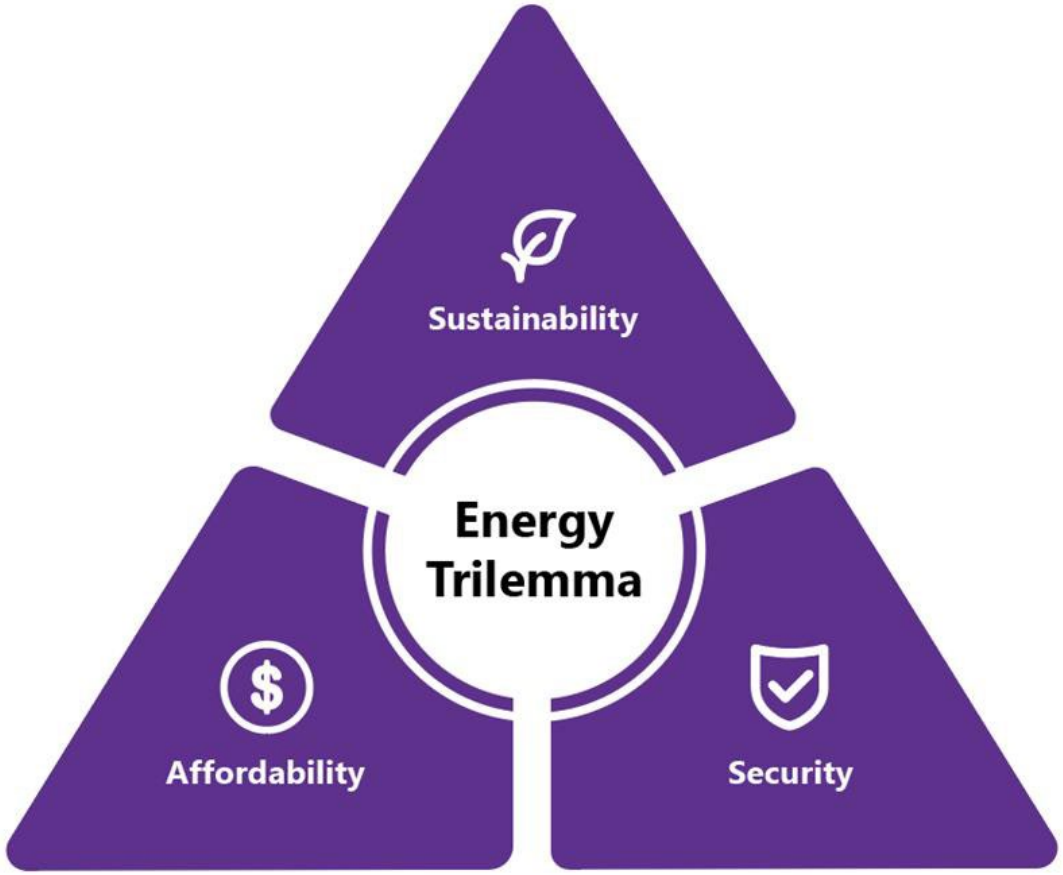
The energy trilemma

The energy trilemma is the challenge of balancing three important goals in the energy system:

Affordability – keeping energy costs fair and manageable for households, businesses and industry.

Security and reliability – making sure energy supply is dependable, resilient and available when people need it.

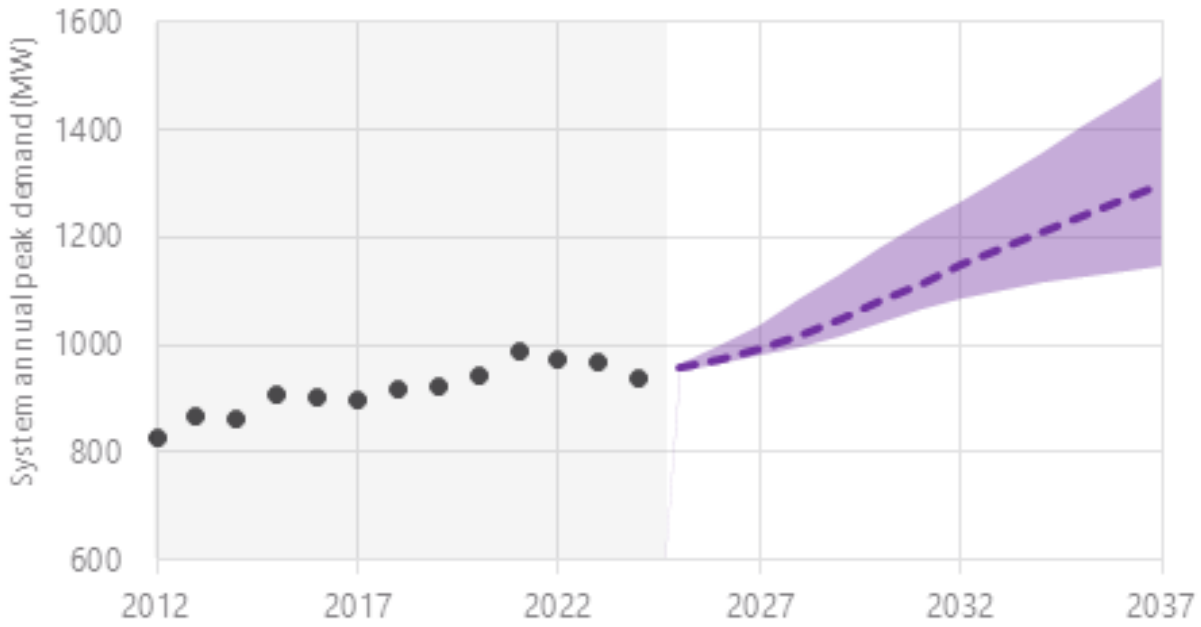
Sustainability – reducing emissions and supporting the transition to lower-carbon energy.



Balancing these conflicting demands is not easy, but it’s our core business

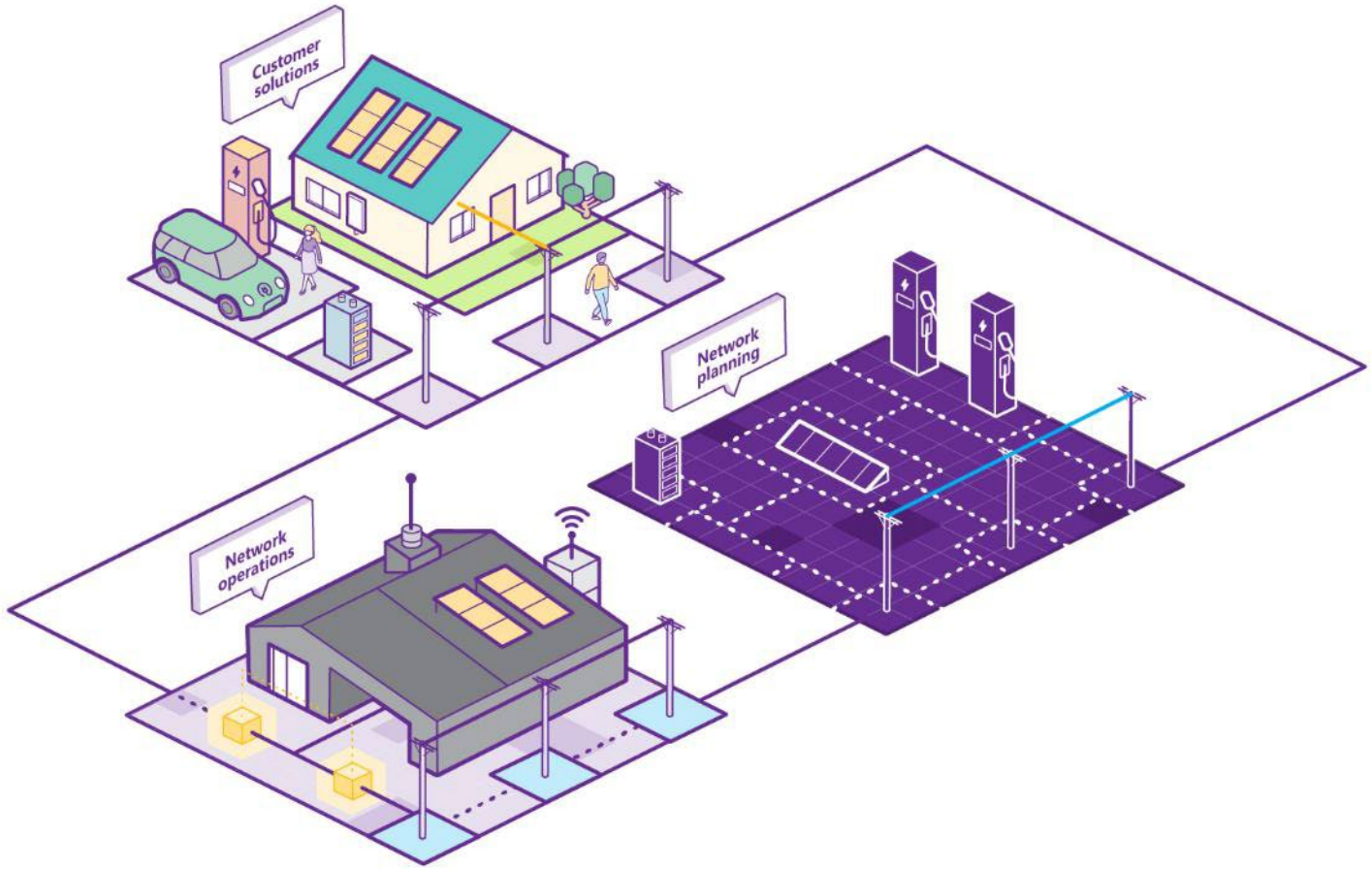
We’re predicted to use more electricity than ever before

- Electrification of industrial heat processes (eg milk plant conversion from coal-fired boiler to high pressure electrode boiler)
- Transition to EVs
- Data processing (AI)
- Switching from natural gas to electricity



The evolution of our electricity network - DSO

As demand for electricity grows and new technology emerges, the way we plan and operate our network is evolving to meet our customers' changing needs.



Wairarapa network area

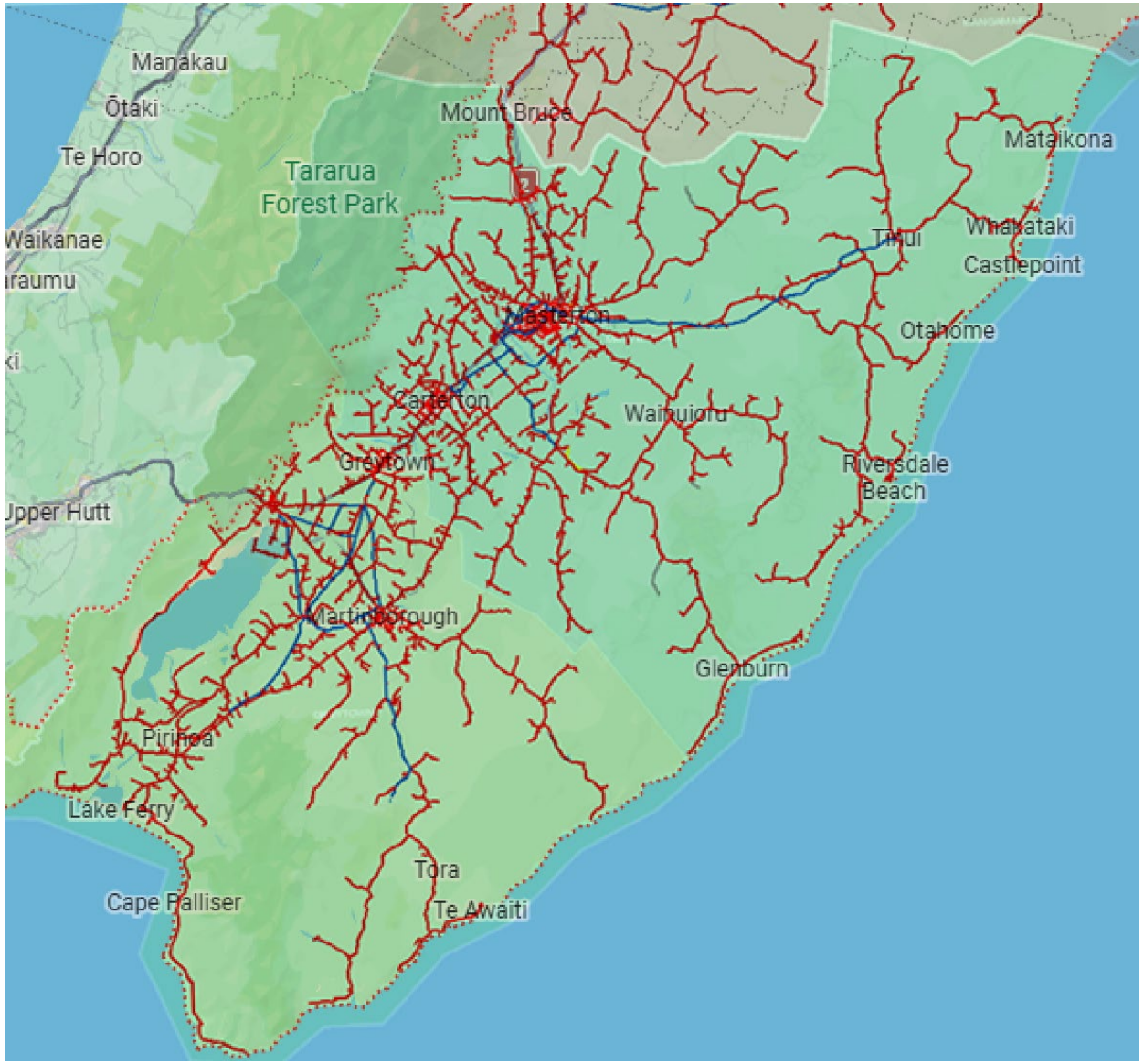
Planning areas: Wairarapa.

Geographic area: Masterton, Carterton, Greytown, Featherston, Martinborough and the surrounding rural communities.

Electricity demand: Agriculture, horticulture, viticulture, food processing and local industry are key drivers of electricity demand across the region.

Network: Predominantly overhead subtransmission and distribution lines supplying a mix of urban centres, rural communities and farming areas.

Challenges: The region includes extensive rural and hill country areas where weather events and difficult terrain can impact network access and restoration times. Maintaining resilience across a geographically dispersed network remains a key focus.



Wairarapa network area

2,800 km
Overhead line

600 km
Underground cable

9%*
Of total Powerco assets

2,488
Faults responded to in last 12months

57%
Of network vegetated

28,800
Residential & small commercial connections

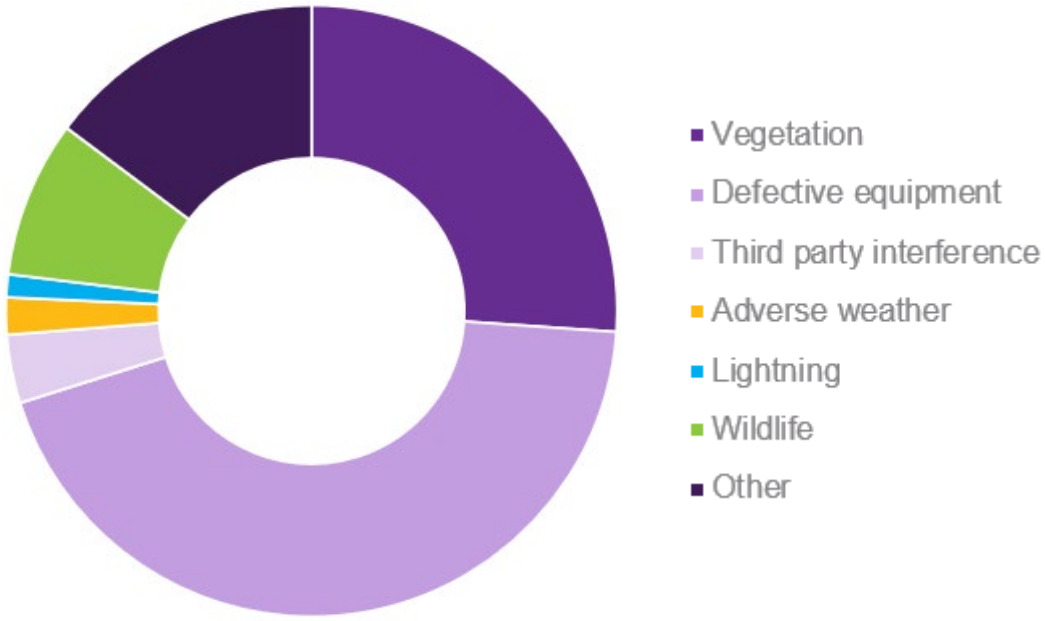
121
Medium to Large Commercial and industrial connections

7%*
Of total Powerco connections

1,700
DG connections

*Includes Taha Rāwhiti (Firstlight network)

What causes outages in the Wairarapa region on our HV network?



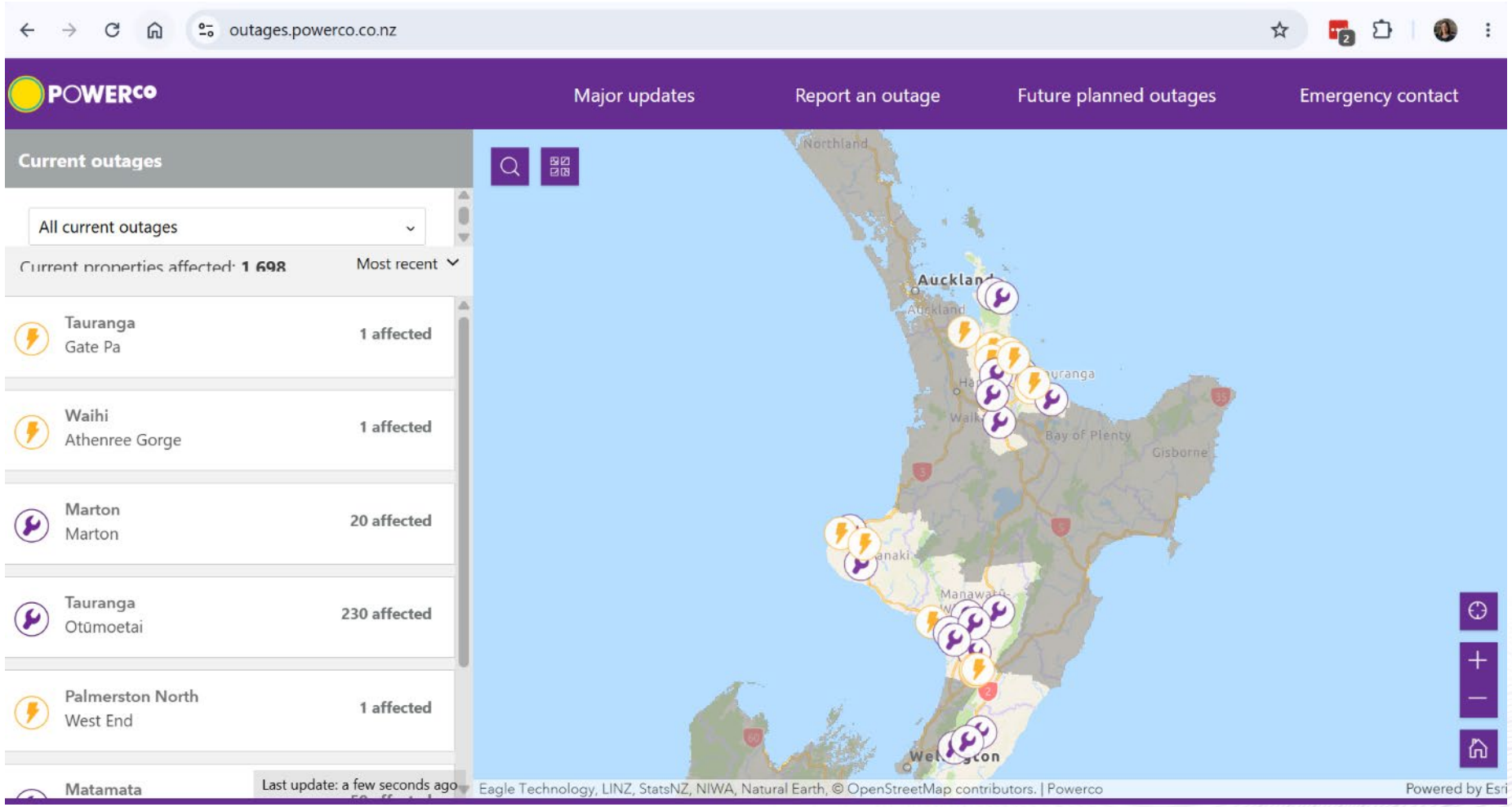
Vegetation accounted for **26%** of outages last year in Wairarapa. Out-of-zone trees and wind-blown debris accounted for nearly 90% of those outages.

Defective equipment is largely caused by overhead equipment failure or line clash – this is reflective of the large and remote overhead network in the area

Third party damage – 50% is vehicle damage

What you can find on our website

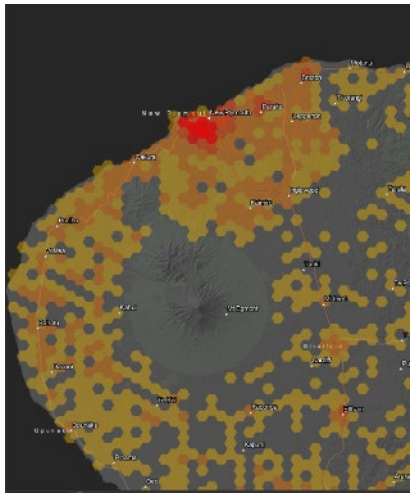
From outage information to capacity maps and what we're doing in your community, find it on our website



Our planning process

Renewals

We use our asset data including faults information to identify segments of the network that are at risk. We then plan for the renewal of these assets.

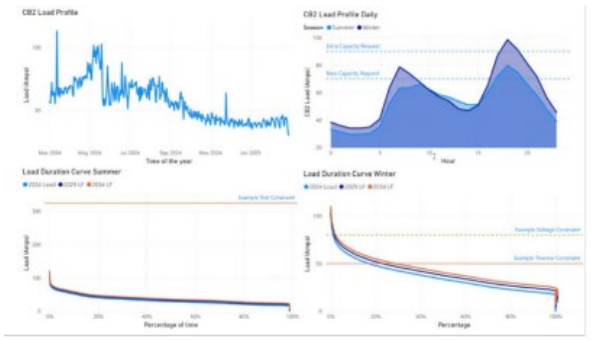


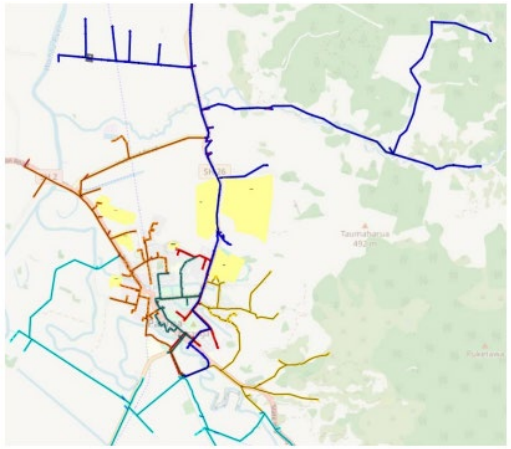
	C1	C2	C3	C4	Count
H1	255	526	34	29	844
H2	435	1,383	174	65	2,057
H3	965	1,769	271	170	3,175
H4	862	1,674	126	102	2,764
H5	9,411	2,516	919	1,564	14,410
Count	11,928	7,868	1,524	1,930	23,250

Example of a risk matrix and map showing the highest risk vs lowest risk assets.

Growth

We use a range of inputs (such as population growth) to generate different growth scenarios. We then use these scenarios to plan where growth is likely to occur so that we can upgrade assets if required.



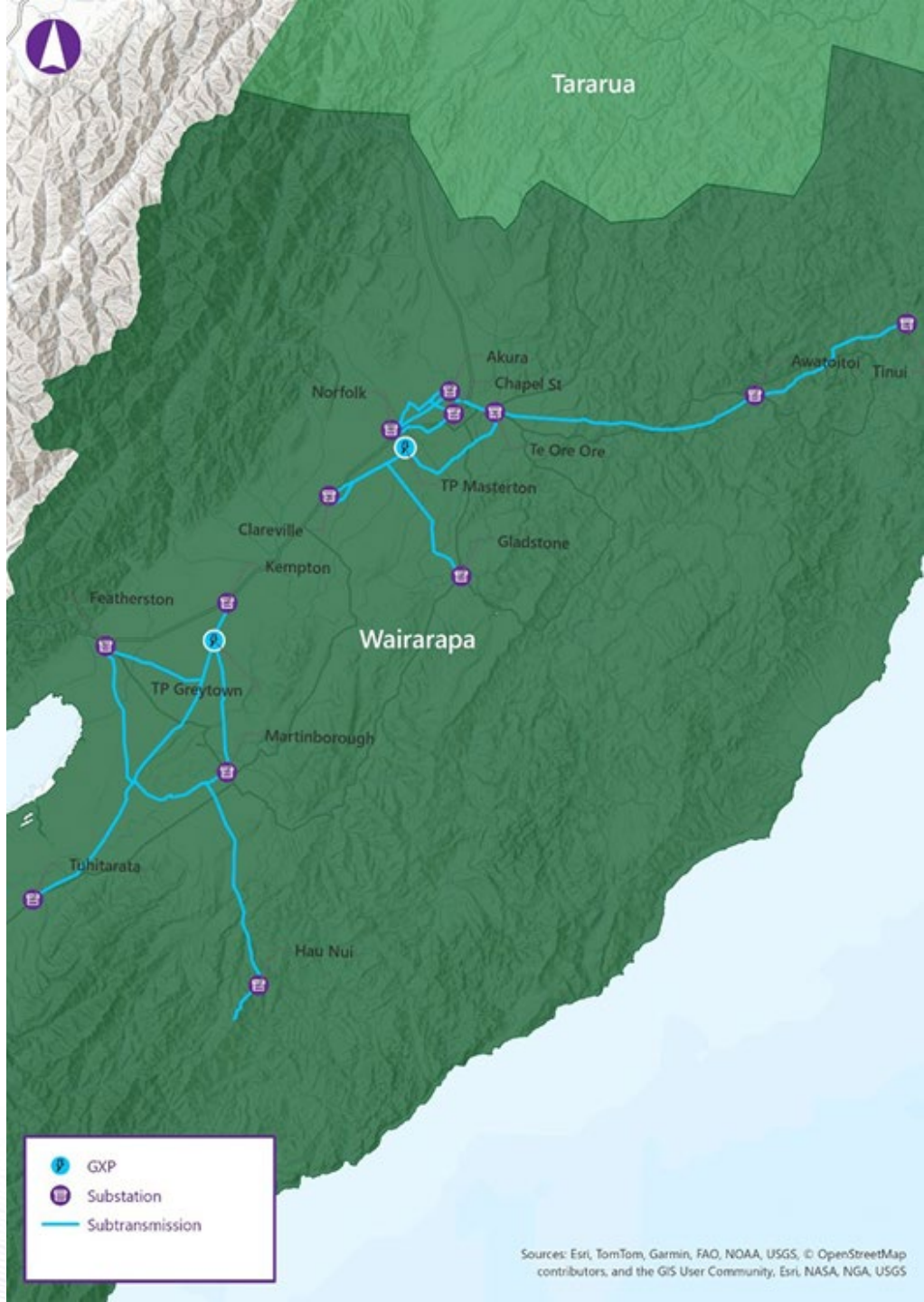


Forecast demand growth

Wairarapa Demand Forecast (MVA)

Substation	2026	2028	2031	2036
Akura	12.4	12.5	12.7	13.0
Awatoitoi	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
Chapel St	12.1	12.3	12.7	13.3
Clareville	10.0	10.2	10.5	11.0
Featherston	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5
Gladstone	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6
Hau Nui	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Kempton	5.4	5.5	5.8	6.2
Martinborough	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.5
Norfolk	8.8	11.8	12.1	12.7
Te Ore Ore	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.5
Tīnui	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Tuhitarata	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.4

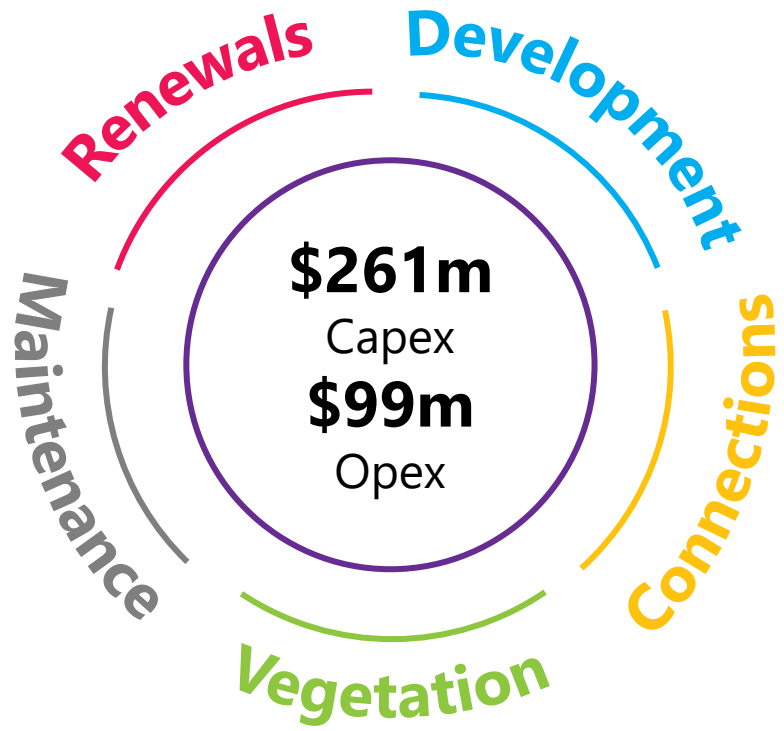
From Powerco's 2026 Asset Management Plan



Our work in the Wairarapa region in the next 10 years

$165m
~230 planned projects
in next 5 years

$31m



$38m*

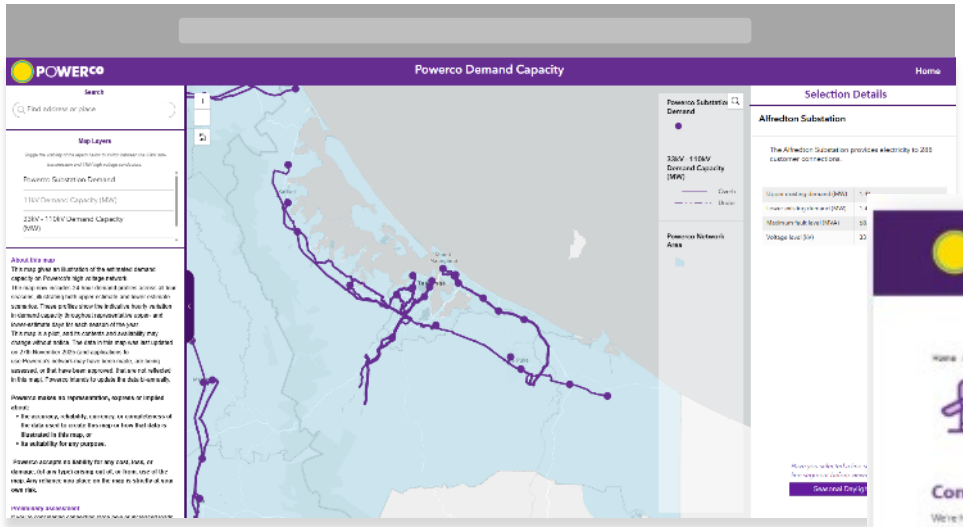
$78m
10% increase in demand
86 planned projects

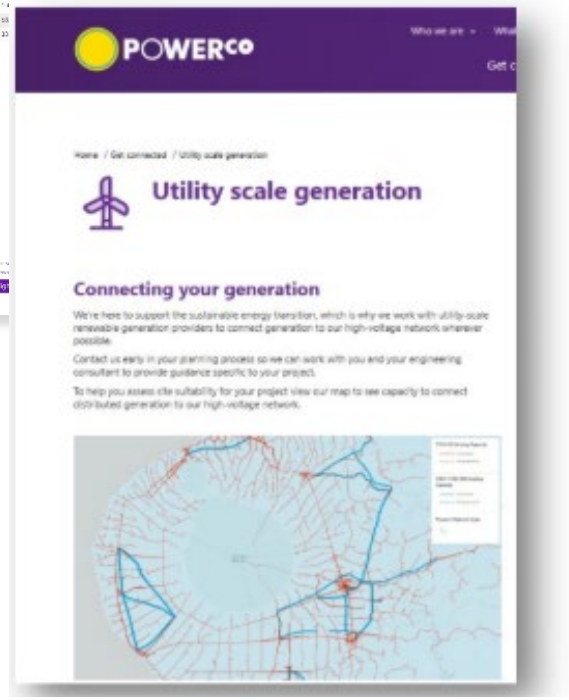
5 USDG active applications with
~150 MW hosting capacity
ICP count expected increase by 6%

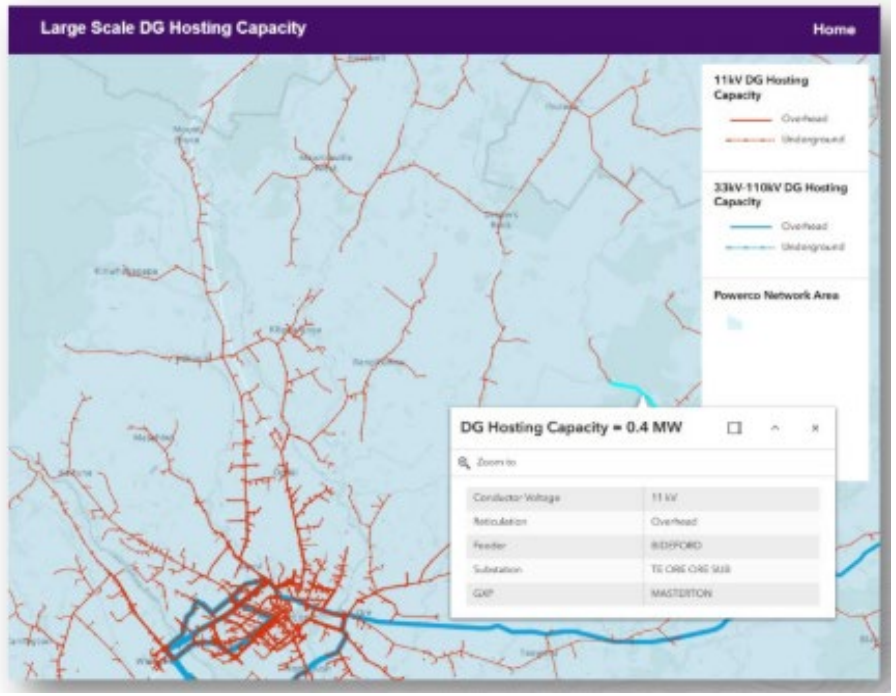
* This figure is likely to change due to new tree regulation and a move to risk based vegetation management

NB: All figures subject to change

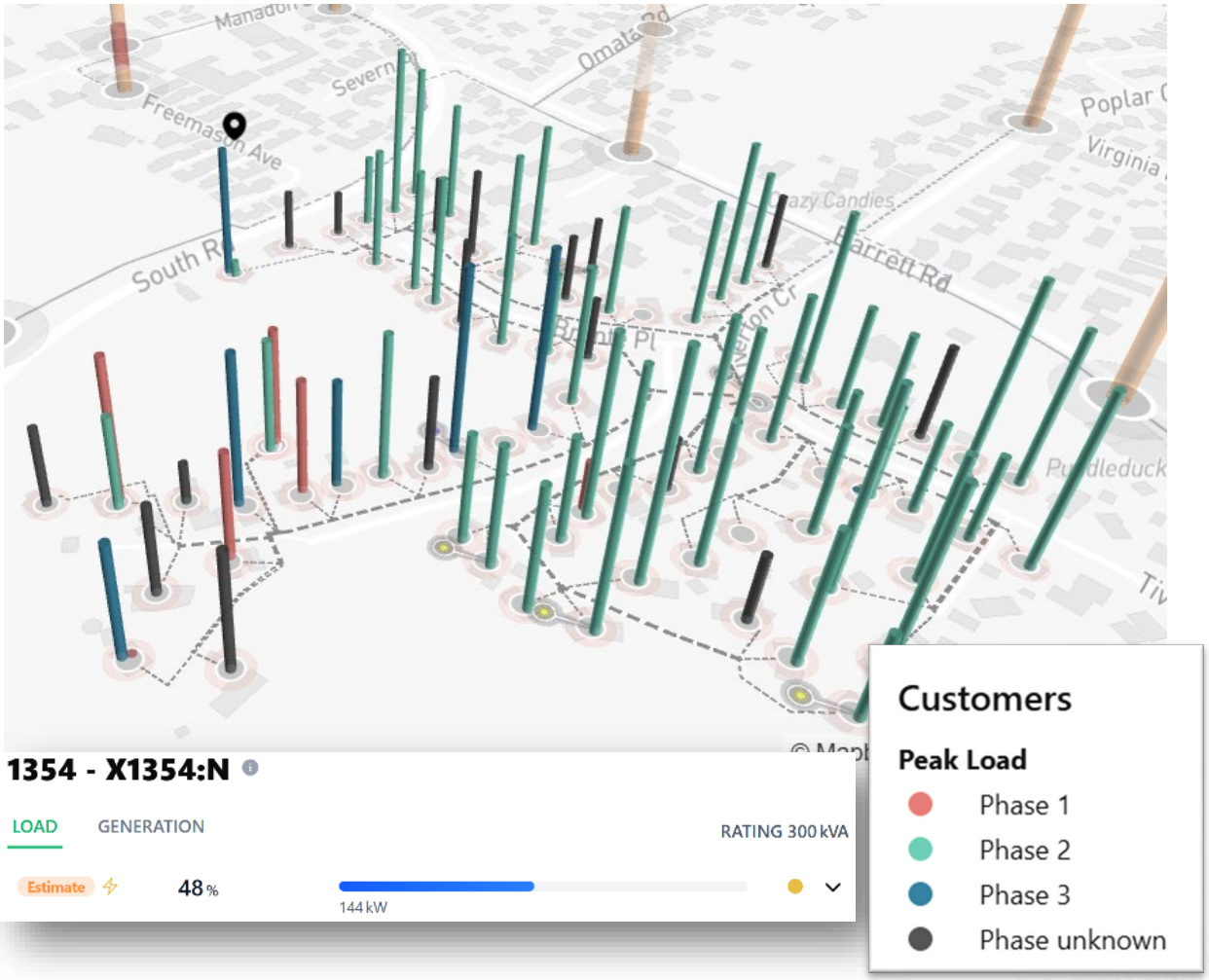
High voltage demand capacity and utility scale generation







Future ready – gridsight providing analytical power to our low voltage network



99% of our customers connect to our low voltage networks, but we can only “see” what’s happening on 10% of it.

Now with our low voltage metering data and Gridsight platform we can monitor:

- Voltage issues
- Rooftop solar loading
- The impact of batteries and EV charging on our network
- Identify safety risks before they happen

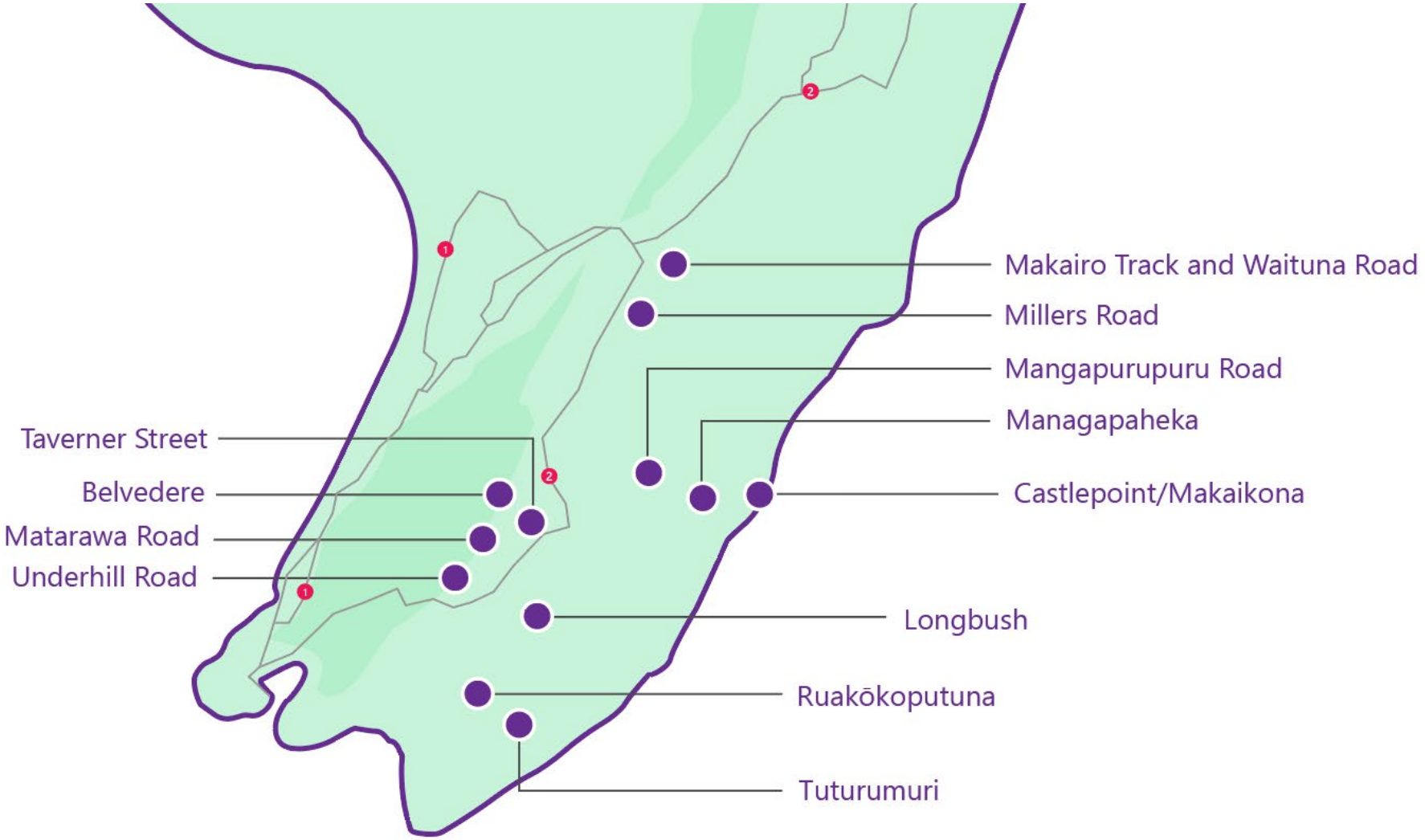
PowerHubs - keeping isolated communities connected

A PowerHub is a backup power solution that helps keep a community building, such as a hall or marae, running if there’s a lengthy outage on our electricity network.



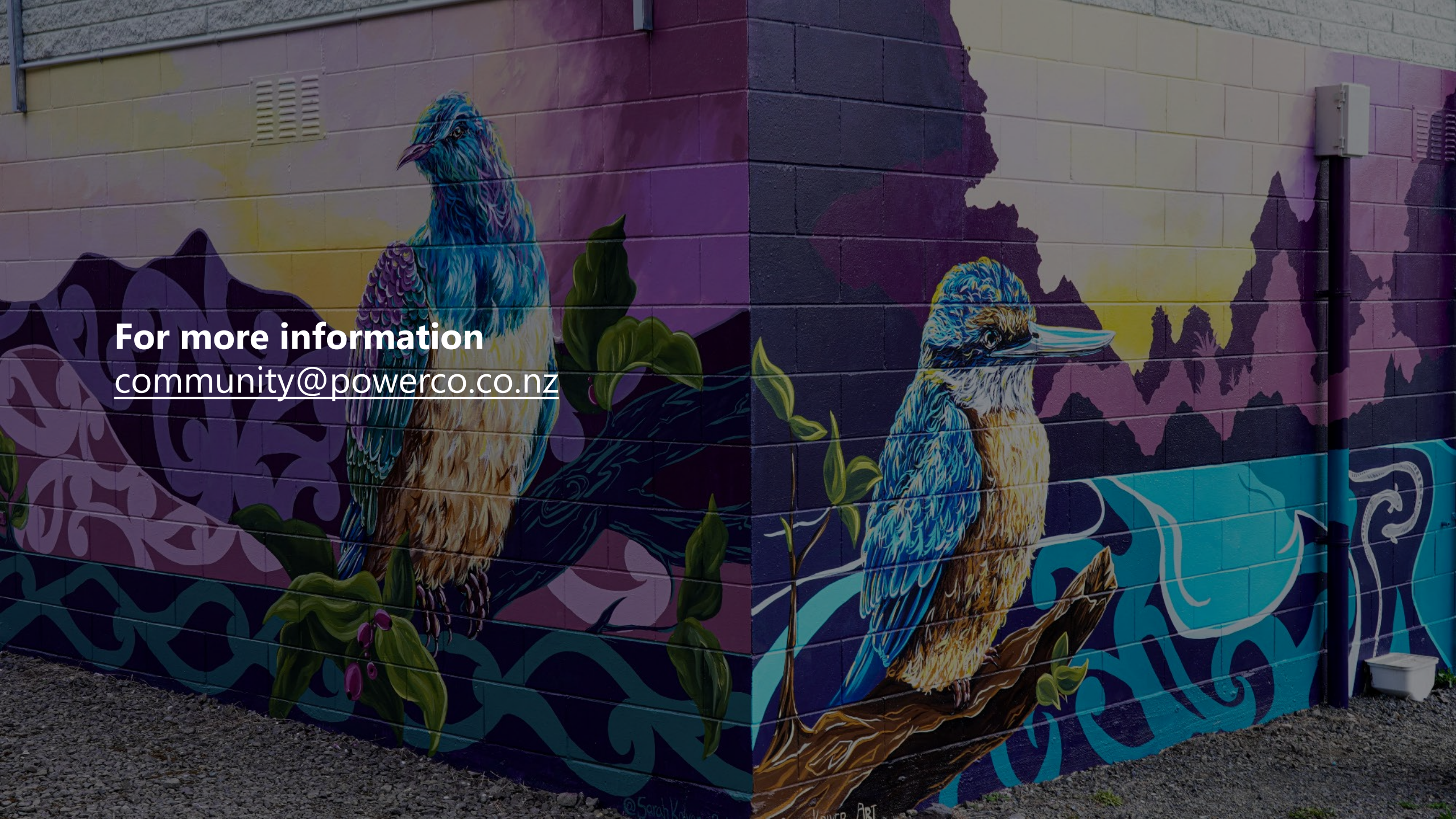


Resilience and reliability work taking place this spring/summer (includes Tararua)



Ngā mihi nui
He pātai?



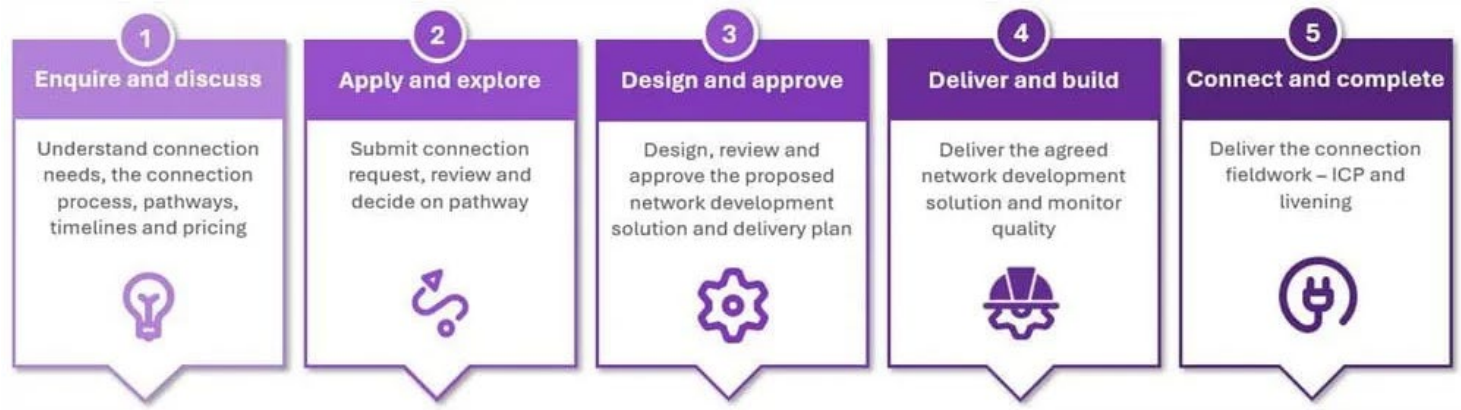


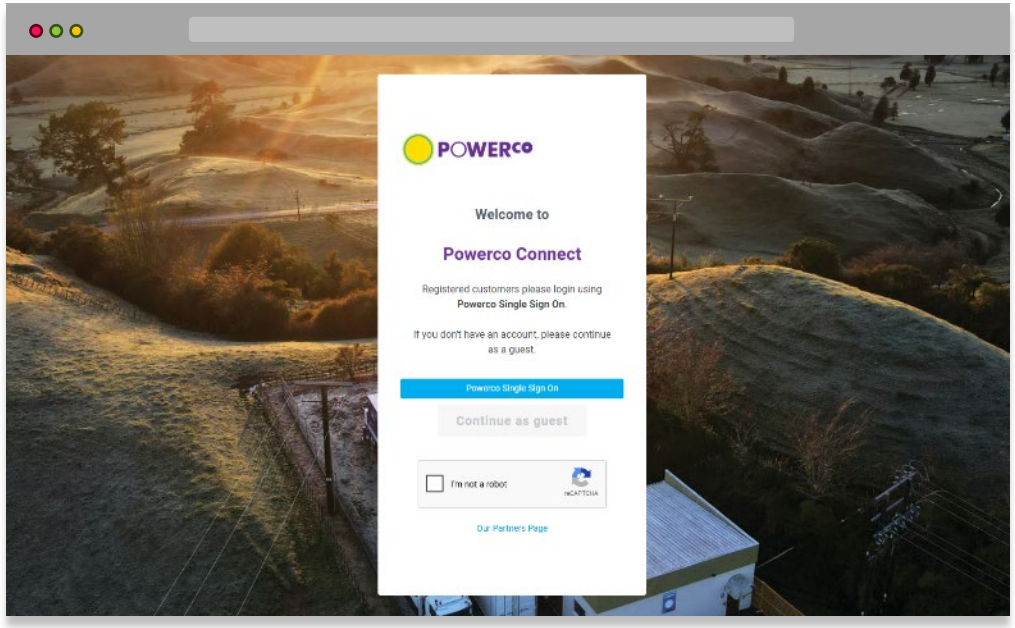
For more information
community@powerco.co.nz


POWERCO

Connecting to our network

Customers, and agents working on behalf of customers, can use Powerco Connect to manage their connection and modification requests.

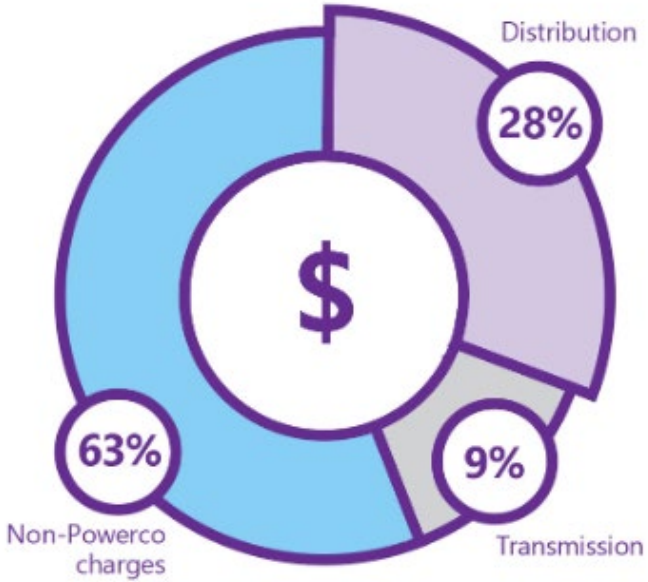


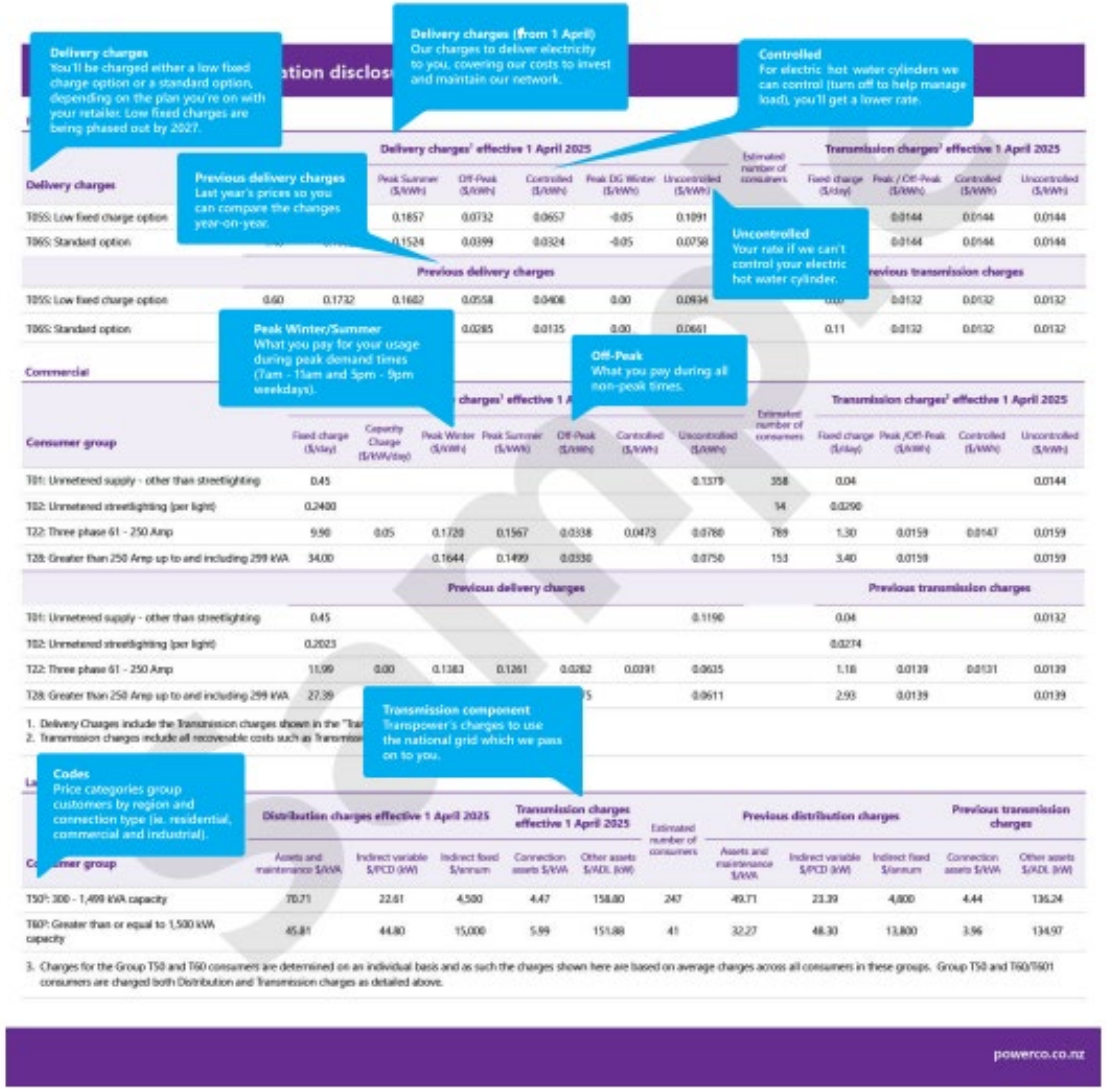


How network investment is funded

We're regulated by the Commerce Commission to ensure we deliver reliable electricity supply at a fair price. It sets how much revenue we can earn through our customer charges, and limits for the length and frequency of outages that we must come under

Average residential electricity bill



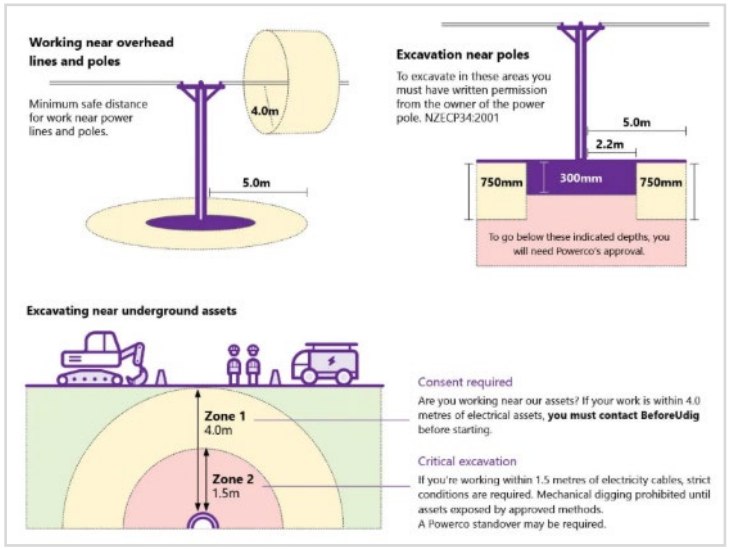


Keeping safe

Our work is not confined to an industrial site – we need to ensure our network assets are safe for people and safe for those who interact with it.







Fallen lines

- All fallen lines should be treated as live
- Keep yourself, other people and animals at least 10m away from the line
- Stay away from trees or cars touching lines
- Do not try to rescue people or animals trapped by lines until they have been made safe

Trees and power lines aren't a good mix

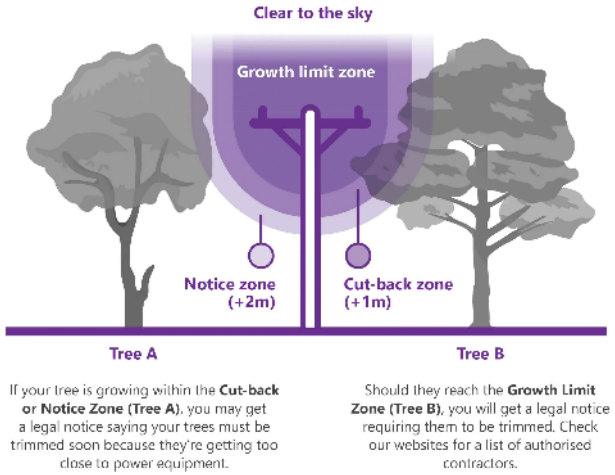
Vegetation is responsible for **one in five** outages on our network.

We have cyclic, risk, and hazard tree vegetation management programmes.

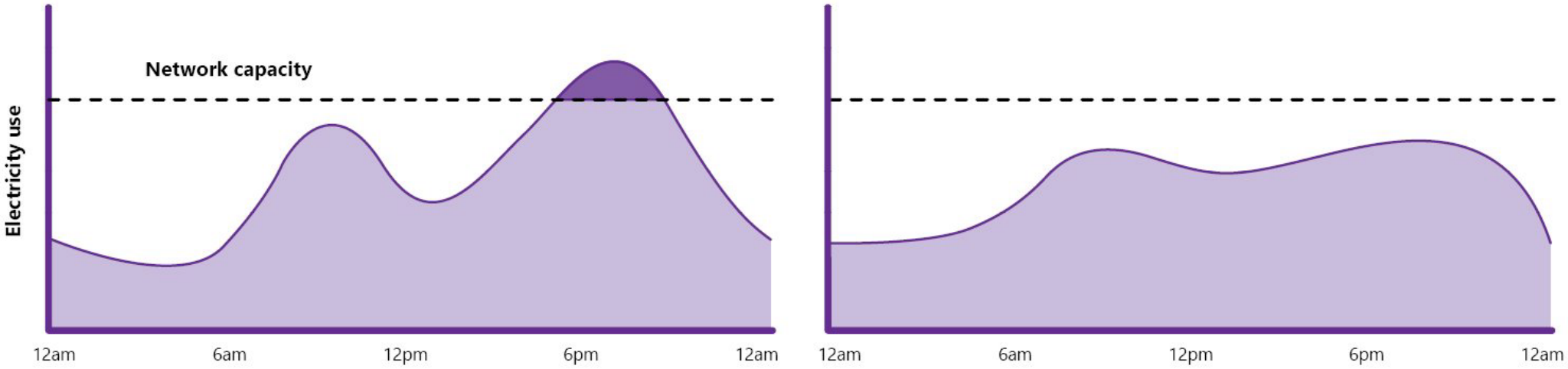
We use satellite technology and analytics to help us identify and prioritise which trees to cut and when, according to our abilities under the Electricity (Hazard from Trees) Regulations 2003.

These regulations define tree owner and electricity infrastructure owner responsibilities for managing trees within specific proximity to the electricity network. Trees covered by the regulations are called ‘in-zone’ trees. All other trees are ‘out-of-zone’ trees – Powerco does not have authority to manage these trees.

Who are tree owners? Individuals, trusts, commercial entities, iwi, government and others.



Flexibility - using what we have more efficiently





Te ū ki te Māori a Powerco

Our commitment to Māori



Powerco's commitment to Māori

Our Board-endorsed framework for strengthening our relationships with Māori.

Te Raa

Our pathway for engagement with tāngata whenua

Our stakeholder engagement principles

Kōrero	Wānanga	Kaupapa	Mahi tahi
Principle: Kanohi ki te kanohi	Principle: Mana motuhake	Principle: Whanaaungatanga	Principle: Kotahitanga

Ngā Tikanga - Our way

Proud to be here	Better together	Working smarter	Future focused

How we connect with our customers

Our stakeholder engagement principles

Kōrero	Wānanga	Kaupapa	Mahi tahi
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Ngā Tikanga - Our way

Proud to be here	Better together	Working smarter	Future focused

- Community Engagement team
- Community hui, like this one
- Stakeholder events
- Customer Forums
- CAG - Customer Advisory Group
- Community Fund
- Powerco Pānui - our stakeholder newsletter

Our disclosures and publications

Find our recent publications including:

- **Asset Management Plan and summary** which detail our investment plans for our assets and our regional development plans for the next 10 years
- **Integrated Report** which describes our performance against our targets for the year ending 31 March 2026



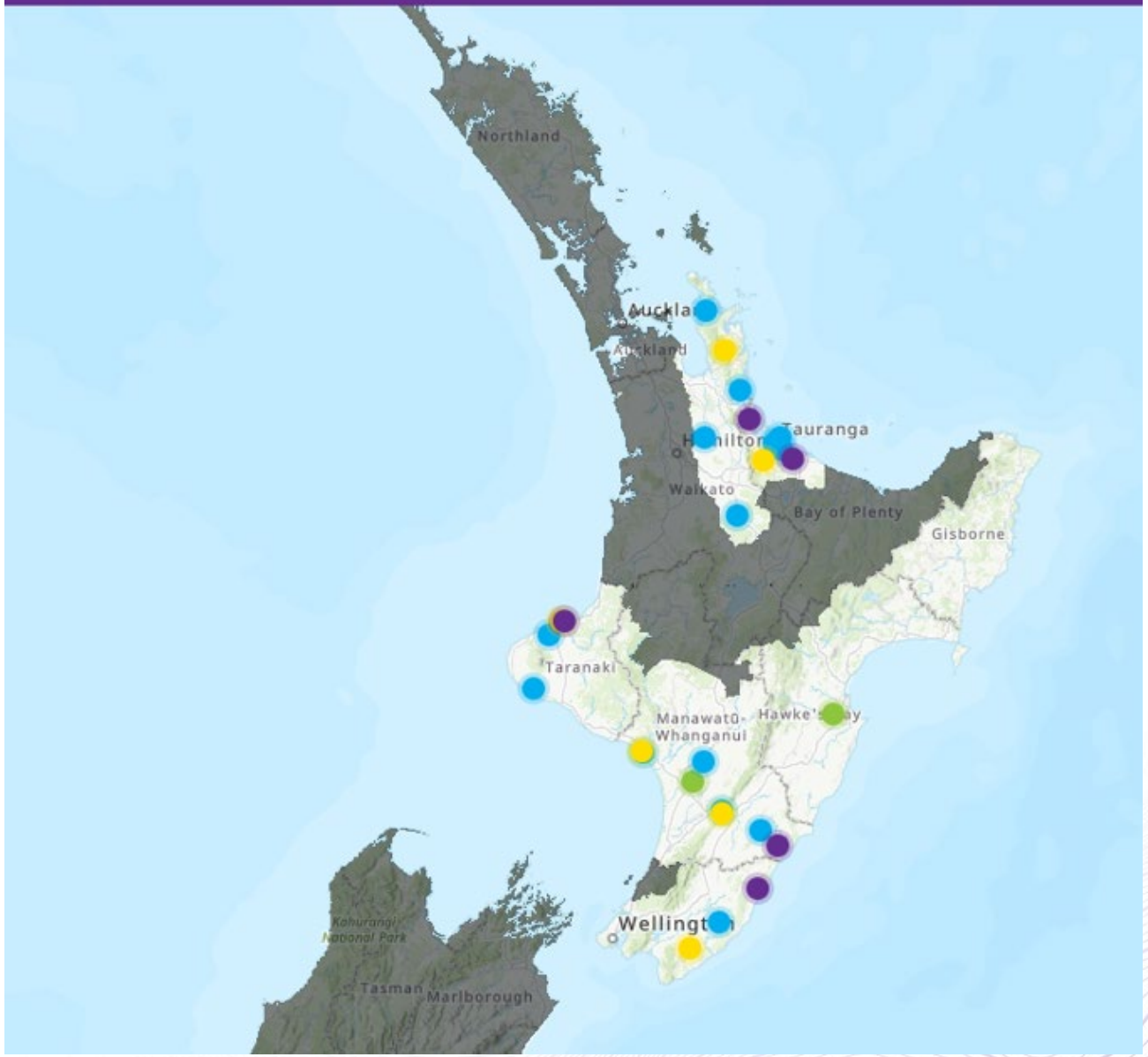


Community investment map

Find information about where we're investing in our networks in your area.

Also find some of our community engagement (where we collaborate with communities for feedback on network decisions) and community partnership/sponsorship activities.

Investment map



Types of work at Powerco

Planned projects

Growth: Enabling increased electricity use
Security: Improving the resilience of our network
Renewals: Replacing aging or worn-out equipment
Customer initiated: Work requested by customers, eg new subdivisions

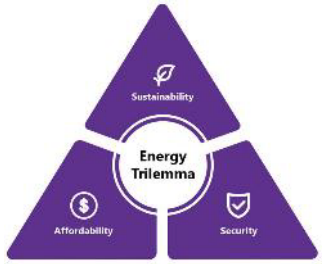
Scheduled routine work

Maintenance: Regular servicing of equipment
Inspections: Checking for damage, condition assessments
Defect: Fixing damaged equipment
Vegetation: Trimming trees to protect lines from damage

Reactive work (unplanned)

Outages: Fixing equipment that has broken
Storm events: Reconnecting lines to get the power back on
Third-party damage: Car crashes, underground line strike

Our process for developing project areas



We use a structured process to identify needs, assess options, engage stakeholders and deliver projects safely to meet our asset management objectives and the needs of the communities we serve.

KEY ENGAGEMENT POINT

KEY ENGAGEMENT POINT

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Need identified	**Options assessed**	**Prioritised**	**Community consultation**	**Design and pricing**	**Project approval**	**Construction**	**Project complete**

Focus for community and stakeholder engagement

Understand local issues and opportunities	Understand community preferences before selecting a solution	Explain why and how projects are being prioritised	Refine project scope and mitigate impacts	Validate detailed impact assessment	Work with community to prepare for delivery	Minimise disruption, monitor impacts	Complete feedback loop with customers and community

Throughout the lifecycle we apply asset management principles including risk assessment, value optimisation, stakeholder engagement, governance review and prudent investment decision-making.