

Catastrophic fire danger and the power to switch off supply

Earlier this month we cut power to Port Lincoln and surrounding areas as a preventative measure to reduce the risk of a fire start during the escalating bushfire conditions. It's not a decision taken lightly.
Frank Crisci, Manager Emergency Management explained what goes into reaching a decision like this.

"We had a situation where the fire conditions were worsening. There were very strong and strengthening winds and the fire danger conditions were escalating," said Frank. "Our focus is protecting lives and property."

Read the full story here.



Pictured above: Daniel (left) and Brad preparing to inspect assets following the Mt Compass fires in February 2019.

Network tariffs for 2019/20

Earlier this month, we submitted our Annual Pricing Proposal (APP) to the Australian Energy Regulator for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020. On average, in 2019/20, distribution charges will rise by $46 for residential customers and $179 for small to medium-sized business customers (20MWh per annum). The increase reflects revenue and price-path decisions made by the Regulator in 2015 and includes a catch-up

for a shortfall in revenue collected in 2018/19 (due to lower than forecast energy consumption) and finalisation of payments under the Regulator's reliability incentive scheme for the 2015-20 period.

We understand the concerns customers have expressed about this type of price increase and to assist, we have proposed a flatter price path in our 2020-25 Regulatory Proposal that avoids year-on-year pricing volatility for customers. We hope this approach, if approved by the Regulator, will result in a more acceptable outcome for customers.

From 2020-21, distribution charges are proposed to fall by an average of $40 for residential customers and $111 for small to medium-sized business customers (20MWh per annum), reflecting SA Power Networks' plans for managing the network for the next five-year period (2020-25). You can read more here.

AER Public Forum

During the morning of Thursday 4 April, the AER hosted a public forum on our 2020-25 Regulatory Proposal at the Stamford Hotel. There was good attendance at the forum, with presentations given by Warwick Anderson from the Australian Energy Regulator (providing a summary of our 2020-25 Regulatory Proposal), Doug Schmidt of SA Power Networks, Mark Byrne from Total Environment Centre, Kelvin Trimper on behalf of the SA Power Networks Customer Consultative Panel, Mark Henley from Uniting Communities, and Louise Benjamin and Mark Grenning from the AER's Consumer Challenge Panel.

Stakeholders have until 16 May to provide their feedback on our Proposal to the AER – you can find out more here. If there are elements of the 2020-25 Regulatory Proposal that you support, we encourage you to give the AER that feedback.

Working with our community



Sam Jacobs (Sammy D Ambassador) pictured above with SANFL junior players

SA Power Networks is proud to launch a new partnership with the Sammy D Foundation by sponsoring a targeted prevention program that will tackle the issue of violence in sport.

Throughout the next 18 months, the Sammy D Foundation will present its educational Bullying and Violence Prevention Program to 12,800 SANFL young people and their families in a bid to change attitudes toward aggressive behaviour on and off the field.

You can find more information about the Sammy D Foundation here.

Stillness of motion



Our Angle Park and Marleston depots featured in a photo shoot earlier in the year, by renowned Adelaide photographer Chris Herzfeld. Featuring professional dancers, our infrastructure provided an interesting backdrop for a series of photos that were included in Chris' Adelaide Fringe exhibition 'Stillness of Motion'. You can find out more about this artist here.

Happy Easter

Happy Easter to everyone from the team at SA Power Networks. We hope you enjoy the long weekend and if travelling, stay safe on our roads.

- the Stakeholder Engagement Team

If you have any questions about this newsletter or want to provide additional feedback, please email us on talkingpower@sapowernetworks.com.au and we will contact you. Click to view the full grievance policy.

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