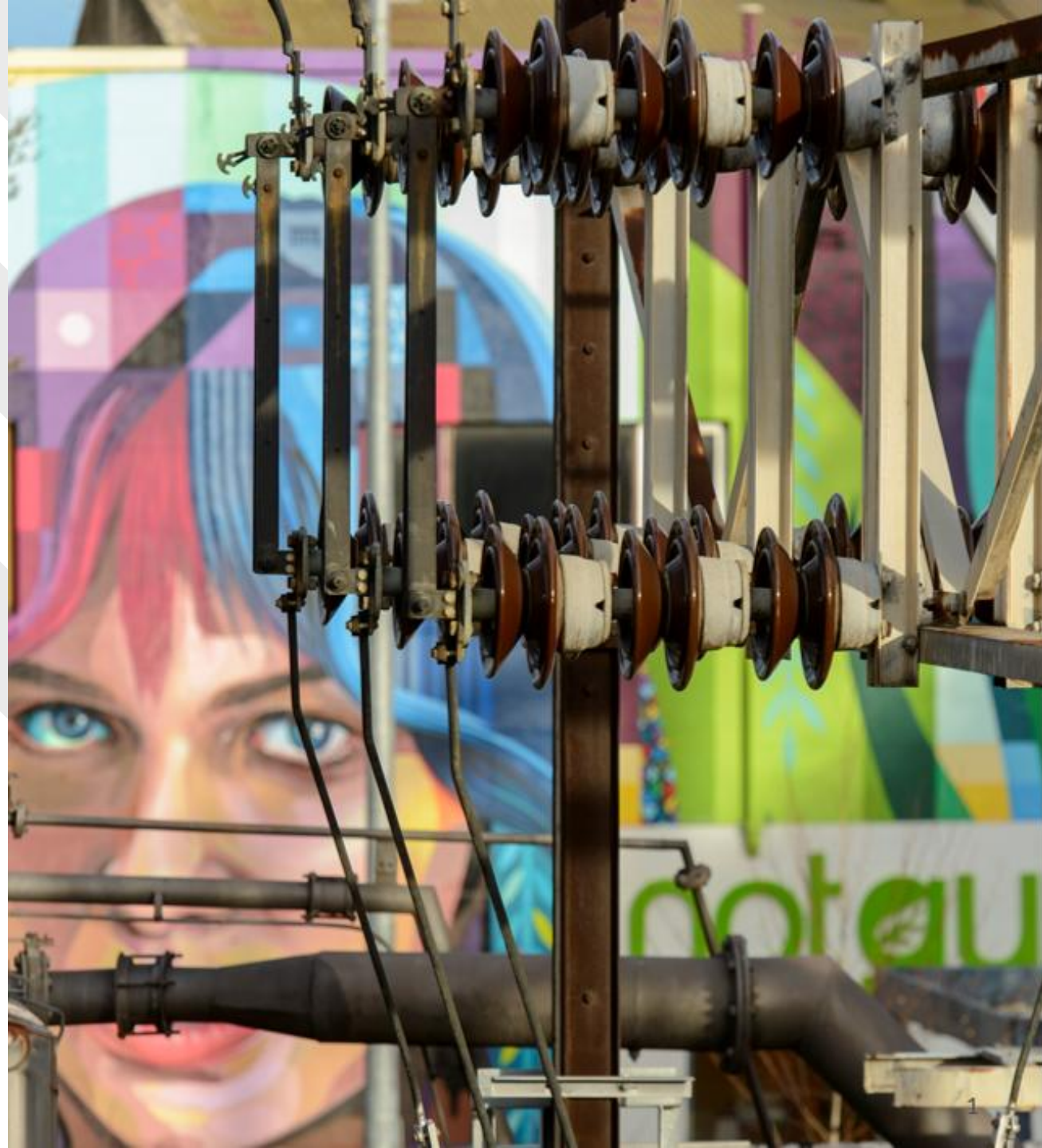


Asset Condition and Risk Advisory Group

Thursday 26 March 2026





Acknowledgement of Country

SA Power Networks acknowledges the multiple Traditional Owners of the lands that host the South Australian electricity network and their connections to land, sea, and community.

We would also like to pay our respects to all First Nations peoples past and present, acknowledging their deep connection to Country, Culture and Community.

Connection With Country, 2025 by Kelly Taylor & T'Keyah Ware

Agenda

Time	Agenda item	Presenter	Level of engagement
9.30-9.40am	1. Welcome and Introductions	Chair	Inform
9:40-10:10am	2. Insulator pollution and our response	Kym Williams/ Matt Napolitano	Inform
10:10-10.30am	3. Consultative Group Review Process and Timeline Consultative group purpose and objectives	Erin Hampton/Davis Veremu	Involve
10:30-10.50am	Morning Tea		
10.50-11.20am	4. Asset Management Objectives Revisit - Q&A session	Ali Walsh	Consult
11.20-12pm	5. Other Business	All	Involve

Welcome and Introductions

CAF update – February Meeting

Davis Veremu

9.30-9.40am (10 mins)



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CAF update

- Andrew Nance chaired his final meeting as CAF Chair. New role as Director of Planning and Forecasting at DEM.
- CEO update – safety survey, aggressive behaviour.
- Insulator Pollution
- Presentation on Network Planning
- Advisory Group Chair insights

Insulator Pollution Response Plan

Matt Napolitano/Kym Williams

9:40-10:10am (30 mins)

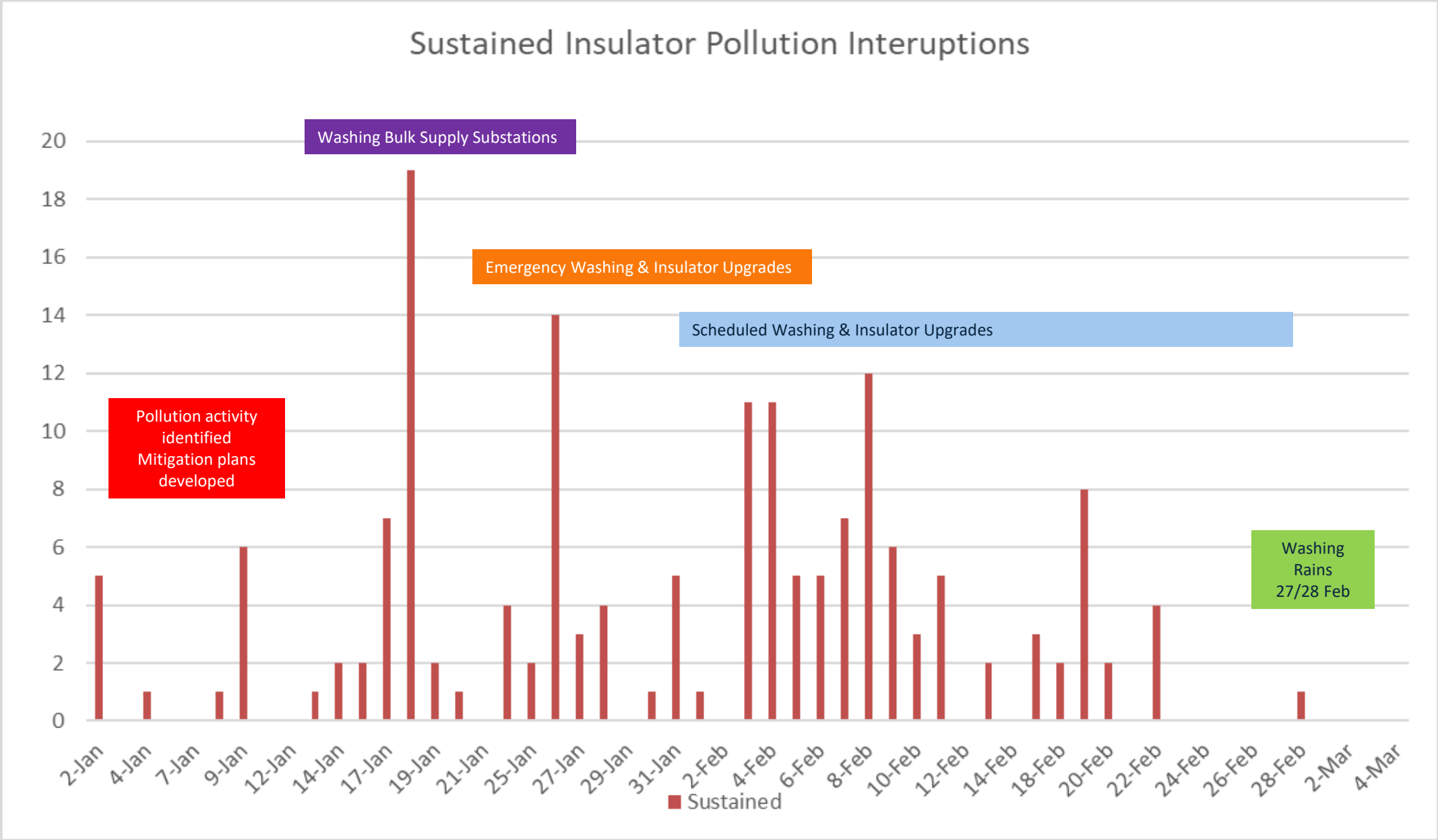


Insulator Pollution – what it is

- Insulators secure powerlines while preventing electric current from flowing into the pole and to the ground.
- Built up dust, dirt and salt – combined with dew – can create a conductive path (a “flashover”).
- This issue emerged at scale in summer 2024/25 as a weather-driven, system-wide reliability issue.
- What we believe has changed, based on current understanding:
 - Climatic changes: longer periods without rain and rising sea temperatures
 - Undetected impacts of last year’s pollution event.

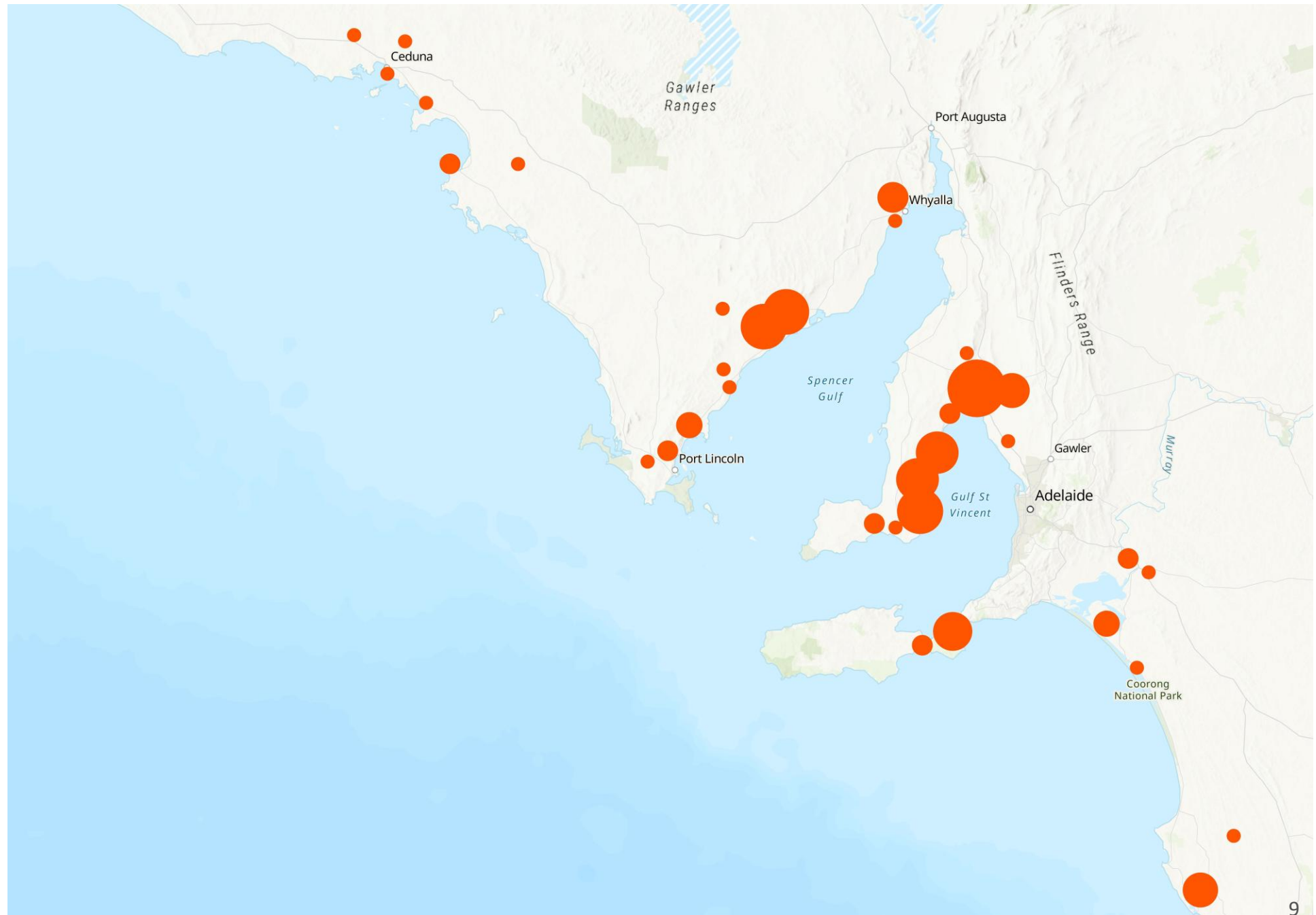


Activity timeline



What we saw

- Predominantly impacting coastal powerlines.
- **State-wide:** Approx 6,000 km of line, potentially 52,000 insulators impacted.
- Limited to 33kV and 19kV SWER lines.



Getting the power back on when it goes off

Daily network performance monitoring and weather forecasting.

Additional supply restoration crews available to respond to outages based on forecast weather conditions.

Local mobile generation deployed to provide backup supply for communities experiencing highest impact.

IMMEDIATE



Mitigation and Remediation

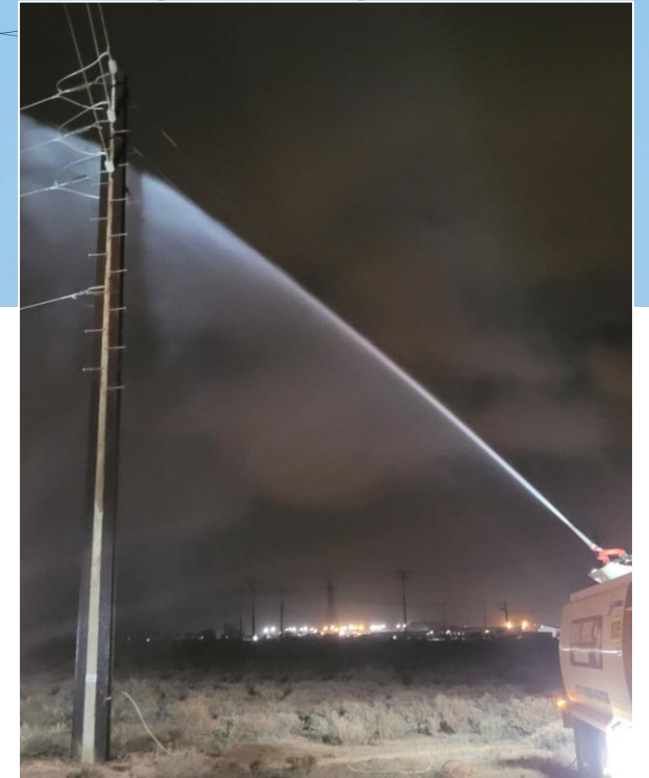
Prioritising all local crews, with additional support.

Targeted asset inspections to identify issues.

Insulator washing and targeted replacement of worst condition insulators, requiring planned interruptions.

Alternative washing methods to speed up the process.

SHORT-TERM



Mitigation and Remediation

High Voltage switches with automation

- reduces impact when flashovers do occur

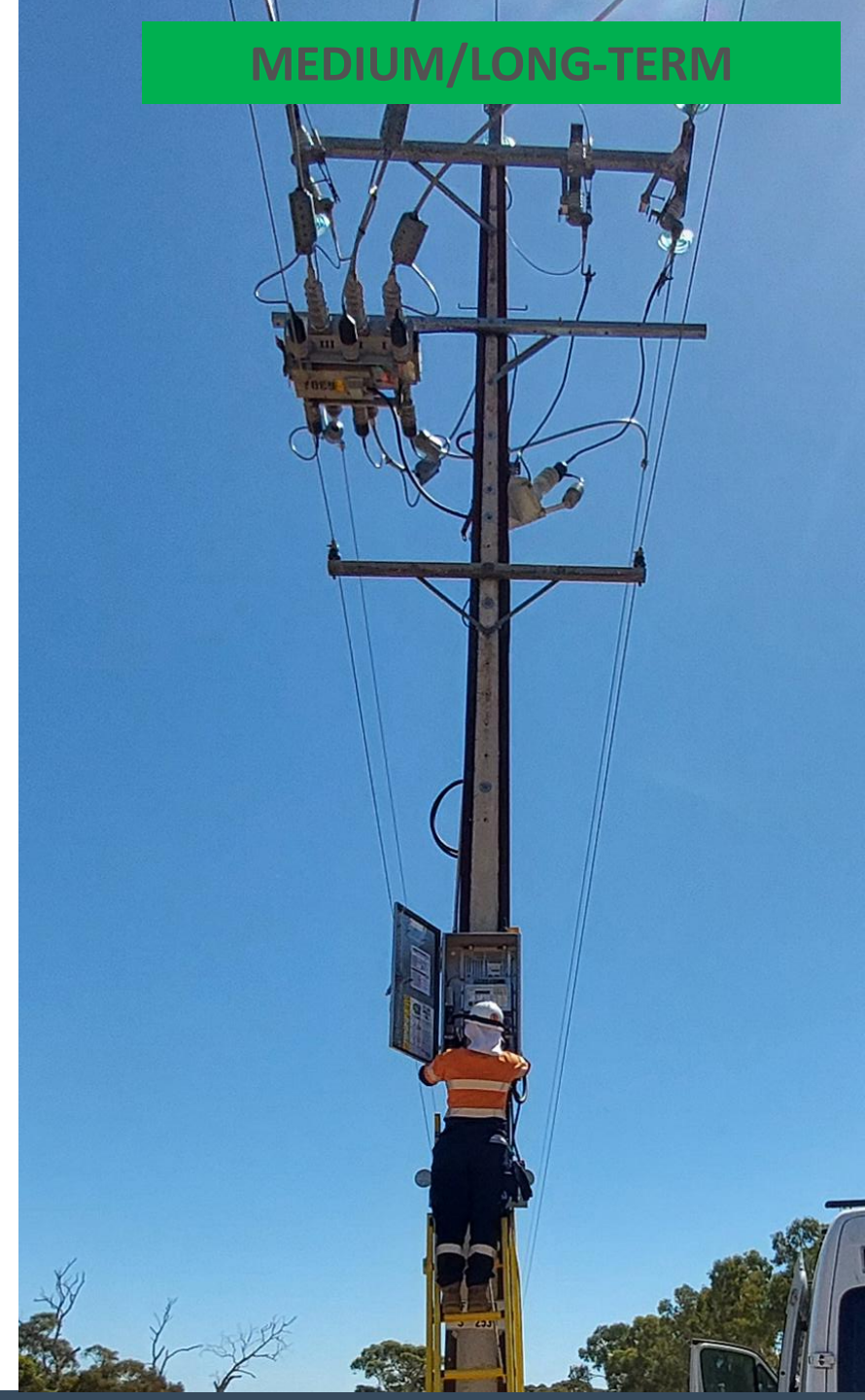
Silicone coating of insulators (TBC)

- reduces likelihood of flashover occurring

Multi-year insulator upgrade program, combined with broader network rebuild

- upgrade network with more pollution resilient insulators

MEDIUM/LONG-TERM



Keeping our impacted customers informed

We provided regular (fortnightly) updates to impacted, subscribed customers.

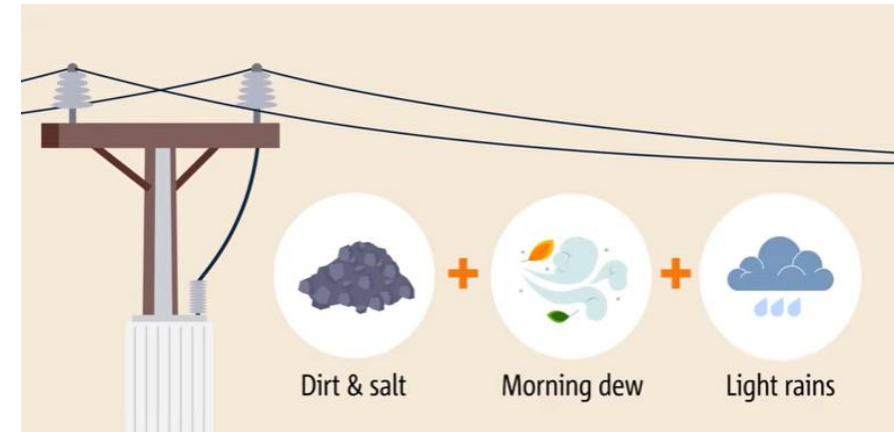
We provided further information about specific operational initiatives, via direct customer communication, social and local media and via our website - [Outages due to insulator pollution - SA Power Networks](#)

We held community meetings across impacted regions including Minlaton and Cowell with executive leaders and subject matter experts in attendance.

We have a dedicated *Insulator Pollution* web-page as a central source of information - [Insulator pollution - SA Power Networks](#). An 'Insulator Pollution Explained' video is available on our website and via YouTube - [Insulator Pollution Explained](#).

We are continuing to monitor the situation including weather conditions and potential impacts of previous pollution events.

Insulator Pollution Explainer Video



Cowell Community Meeting



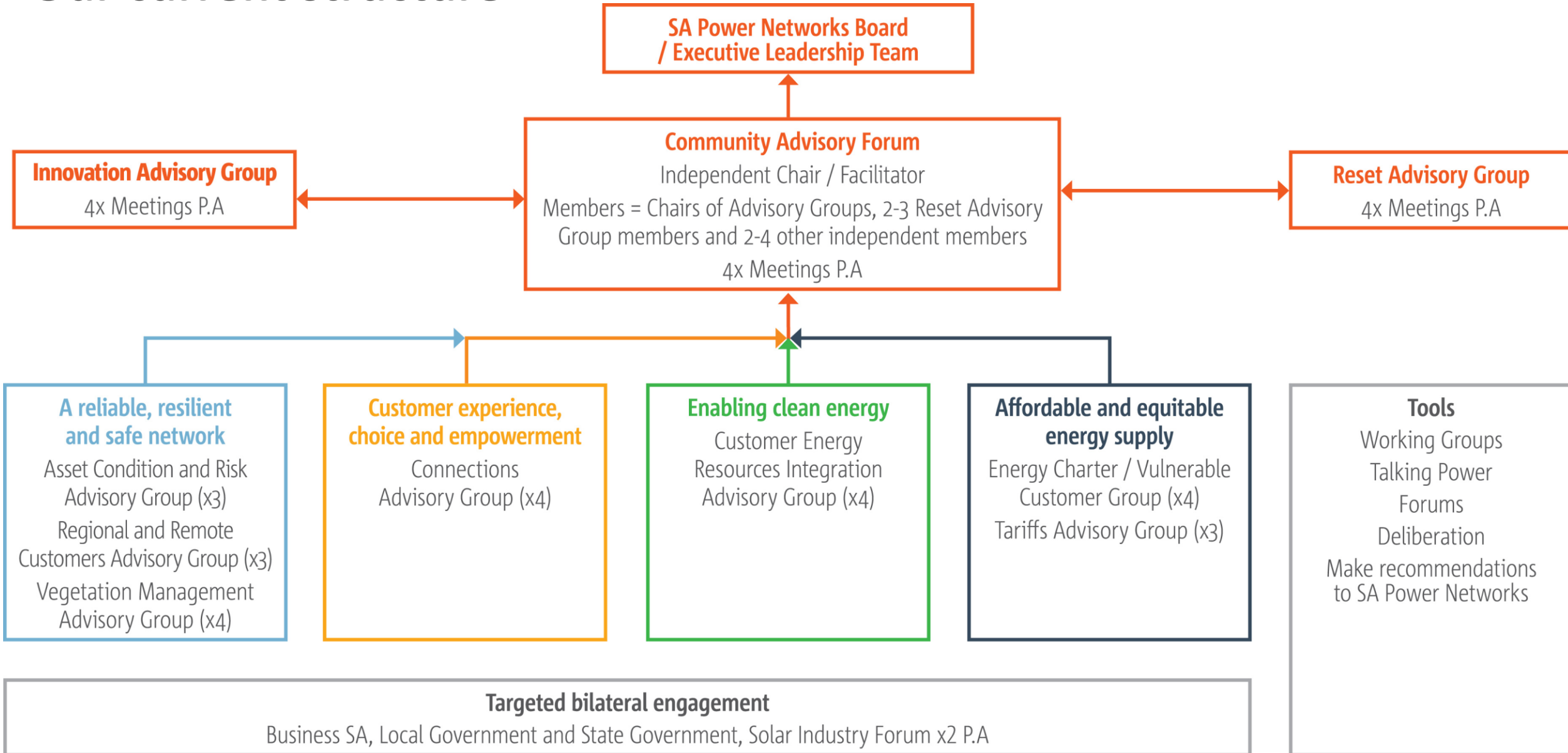
Consultative Group Review

Erin Hampton/Davis Veremu

10:10-10:30am (20 mins)



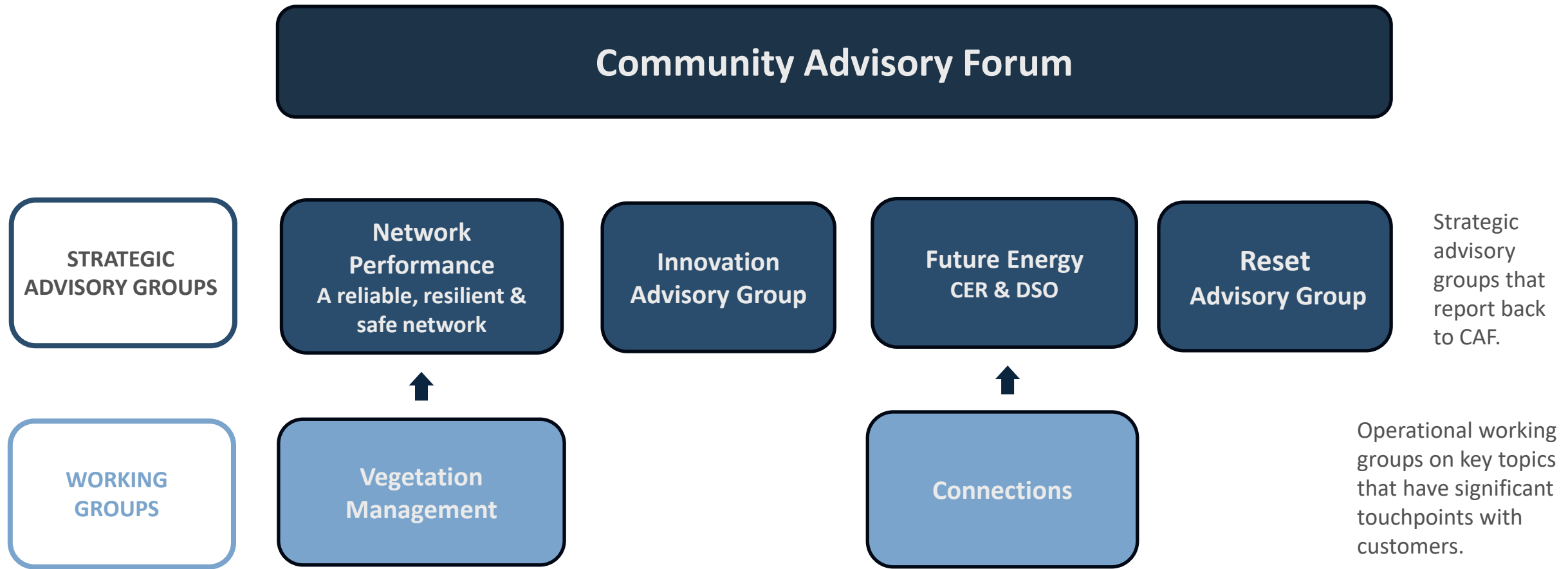
Our current structure



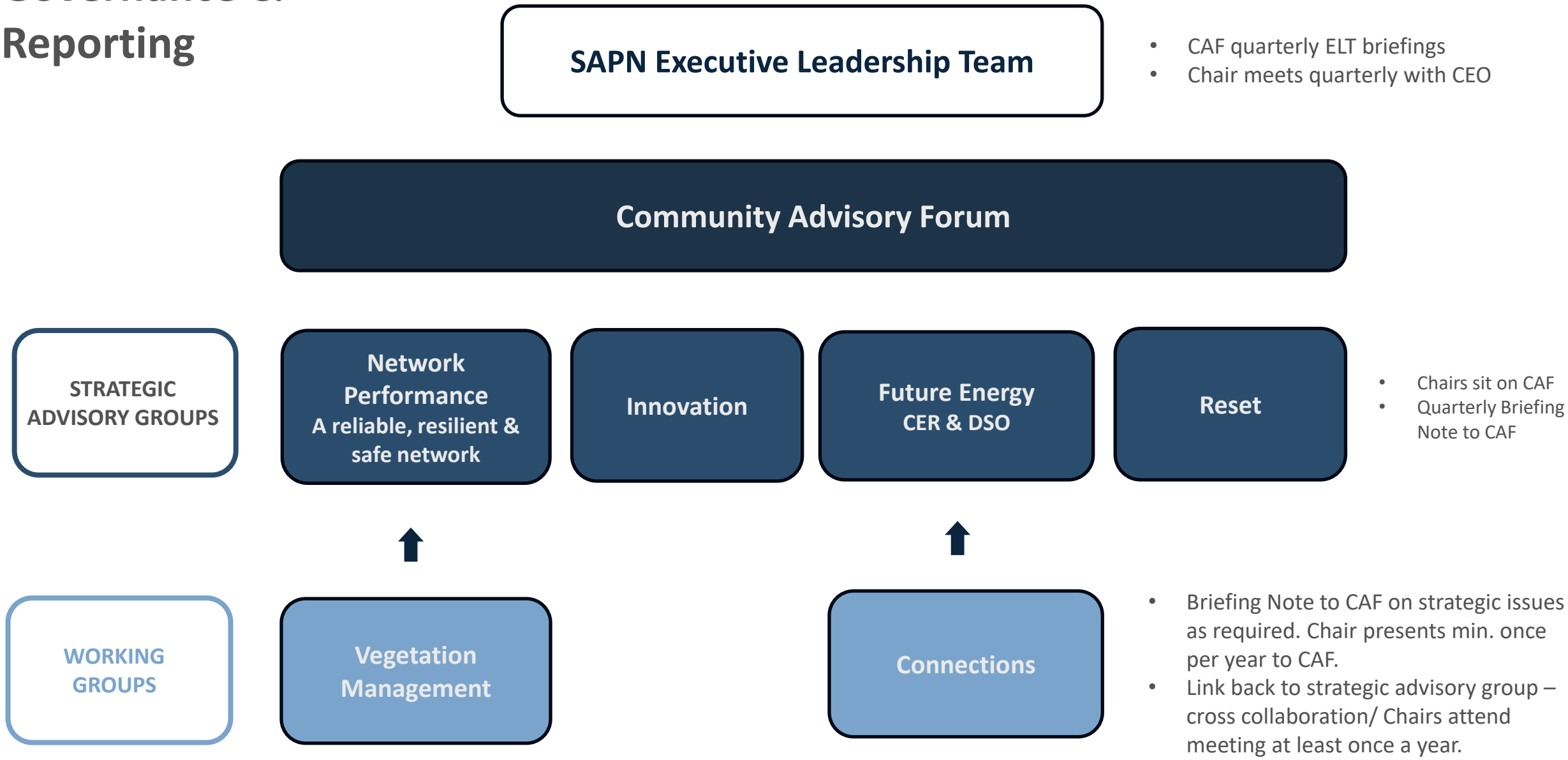
What we heard from our internal and external stakeholders

- Streamline our engagement efforts and leverage BAU engagement ahead of the next reset.
- Focus engagement on what really matters to customers and where customers have an ability to influence outcomes.
- Be deliberate about the purpose and expected value of each group, ensuring alignment with SAPN's strategic goals.
- Look at other opportunities for engagement eg. targeted engagement, our engagement with regional and remote customers.
- Ensure group membership aligns with future needs and priorities and clearly define groups' roles & accountability.
- Show how our engagement has influenced SAPN's decisions - "You Said / We Did."

Revised model



Governance & Reporting



Network Performance Advisory Group

Membership

The group will be comprised of 8 members selected on skills, organisational affiliation and expertise including:

- Local Government representatives – metropolitan and regional
- Regional customer/ knowledge of regional needs
- Asset management
- Property management/ property expertise
- Australian Industry Group/ business representative
- Community representatives
- CBD representative

Objectives

- Understand the issues associated with the current management and performance of the network and provide customer feedback on future investment and long-term sustainability.
- Ensure our asset management decision making balances costs, service levels and risks in the long-term interests of customers.
- Look at opportunities to improve the reliability of supply and resilience for worst served customers.

Process and timeframes

- Terms of current groups end in April 2026.
- Inform all Advisory Group members of proposed new structure – via email or as part of Q1 meeting schedule.
- Refine Terms of Reference for CAF/ Advisory Groups/ Working Groups. Terms for 3 to 3.5 years (June 2026 – July 2029) or 2 + 2 years. * *Final Proposal submitted Dec. 2029.*
- Expression of Interest process to commence in March/ April seeking nominations for CAF Chair, CAF Deputy Chair and CAF/ Strategic Advisory Groups/ Working Groups.
- Appoint new Chair – April/ May 2026.
- Appoint Advisory/ Working Group members – May 2026.
- Schedule meetings for remainder of 2026 (Q2, Q3 & Q4) – May 2026.
- Induction Workshop with new CAF/ Advisory Groups – June/ July 2026.

Morning Tea



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Asset Management Objectives Revisit

Ali Walsh

10:50-11:20am (30 minutes)



Asset Management Objectives - Measures



Swap to live dashboard

ASSET MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Last Refreshed: 19/10/2025 9:07:13 AM

SAFETY

*Community safety Consequence
Bushfire Consequence*



RELIABILITY

Region SAIDI/SAIFI



COMPLIANCE

*Risk associated with non-compliance
(Exposure)*



SUSTAINABILITY

*Risk associated with non-compliance
(Exposure)*



CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

CSAT-AMS



COMMERCIAL

*Network Utilization
Risk per \$ spent
Enterprise Value*



ACRAG Insights on objectives



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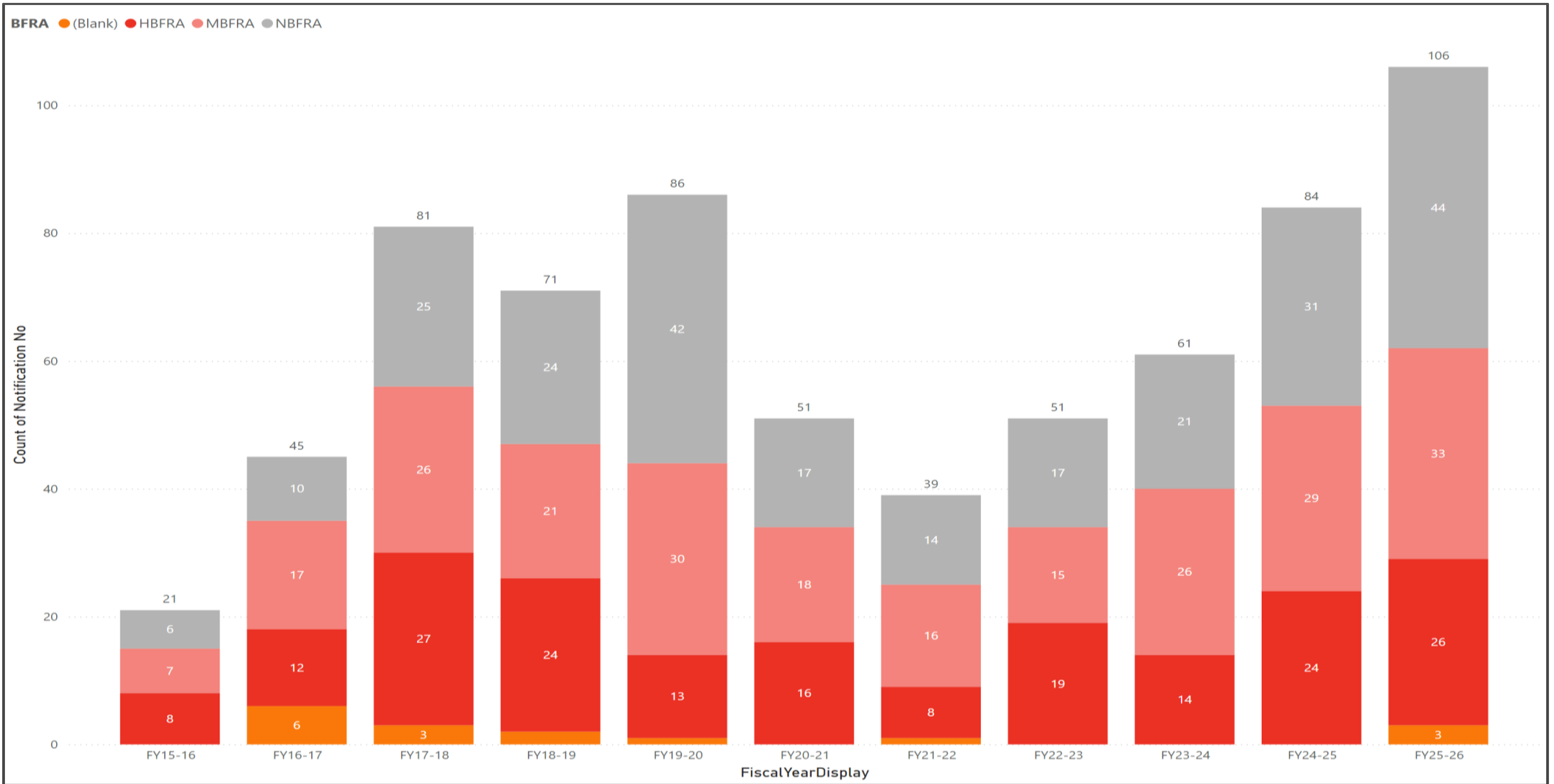


Safety

Ensure the safety and bushfire risk, to our people and the community, resulting from SA Power Networks assets and operations, is As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP)

Bushfire Risk

- Fire-start notifications are trending above the long-term average, partially driven by increased pollution-induced insulator tracking in coastal regions.
- Hot joints remain the leading cause of fire starts.
- Pole-top junction boxes and fascia-mounted fuse boxes pose increasing risks due to limited inspectability.
- APRC supports further investigation of cost-effective thermography, smart-meter-based neutral-loss detection, and computer-vision analytics to identify early-stage deterioration.
- There is also climate resilience conversations ongoing about how forecast increased fire risk days will impact our overall bushfire risk and may drive the need to spend more to reduce fire start risk failures to maintain the same level of bushfire risk.



Count of bushfire notifications per year

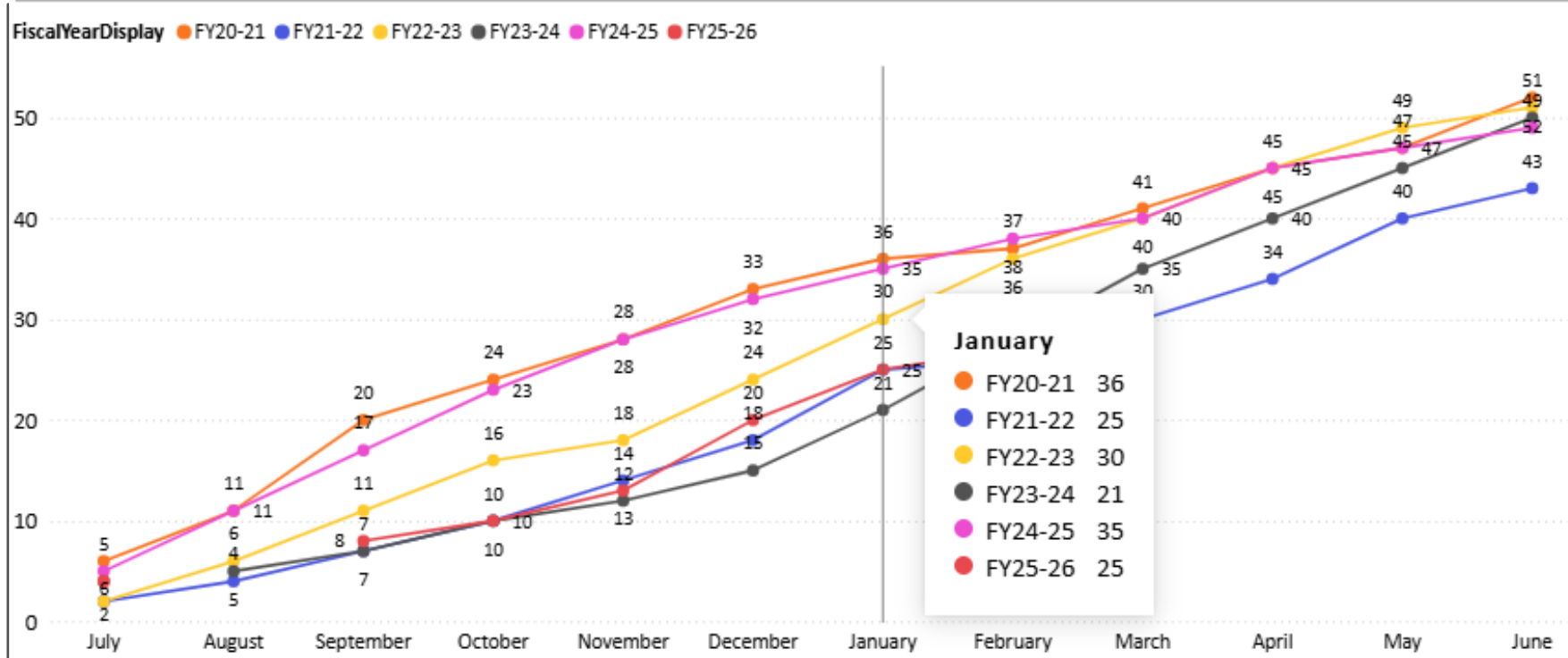
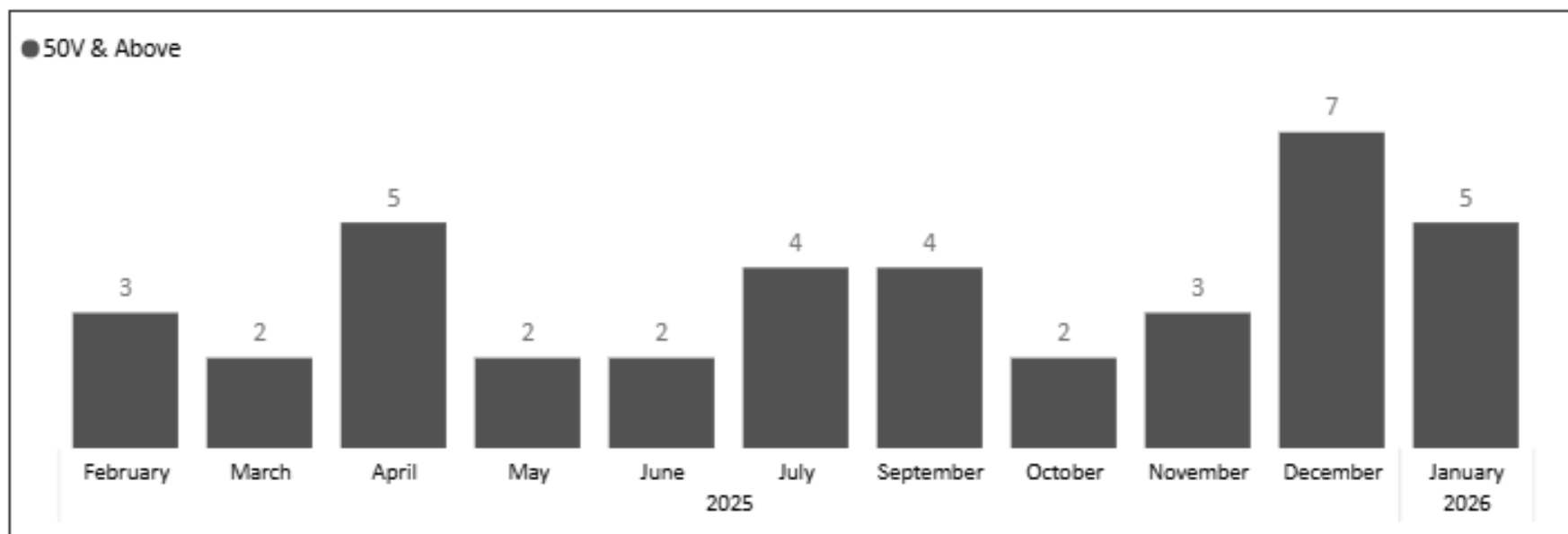


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Community safety risk

- A small seasonal increase in >50 V shocks occurred over December–January; overall incidents remain low relative to previous years.
- Neutral-loss arising from conductor corrosion continues to be the primary cause.
- Key 2026 initiatives include proactive Open Wire Service (OWS) replacement (as discussed at a previous ACRAG meeting) and smart meter data driven neutral-loss detection (with regulatory changes coming into effect mid year).



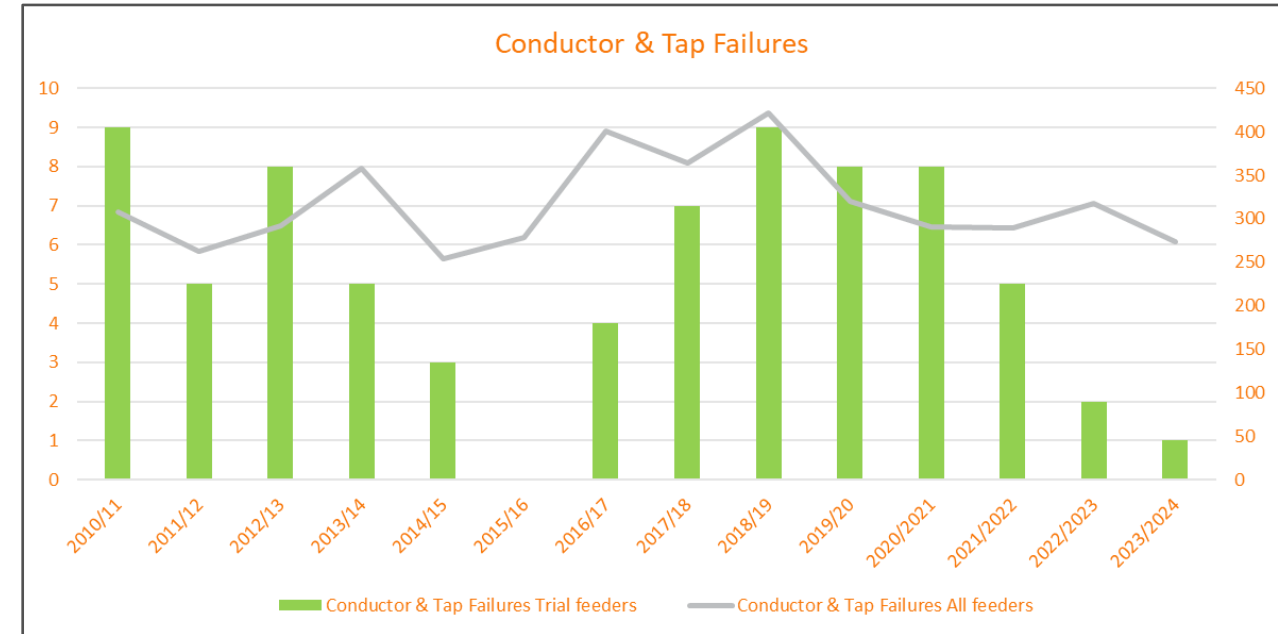


Reliability

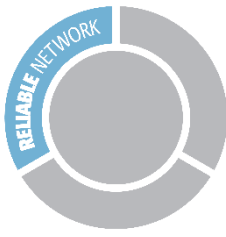
Meet jurisdictional and regulatory reliability and security standards and, maintain and improve reliability and network resilience where economic to do so

Overhead components upgrade trial (2021-2023)

- Targeted tap upgrades on ten low-reliability feeders reduced failures from 7–8 per year to approximately 1.
- The forecast 20-year benefit (~90 avoided failures) reflects strong cost effectiveness (~\$8k per avoided failure).
- Tap-only upgrades on older conductor are being considered to defer full conductor replacements while achieving material reliability improvements within existing budgets.
- This strategy may contribute to our ability to meet our customer driven reliability objectives for low-reliability feeders.



Conductor & tap failures trial feeders vs all feeders



ACRAG – What we need from you?

Do you still feel these are the right objectives?

By tracking these objectives internally, we are focusing on ensuring our investment addresses those areas where we are not hitting objectives examples include:

- CBD reliability program as per reset and previously discussed,
- Rural long and worse served/low reliability feeder improvement programs as per reset proposal,
- Supply restoration improvement initiatives,
- Increased replacement of conductors and aging assets in larger packages of work for 2026,
- Do you have any particular areas of concern or gaps you see in our current approach?

Other Business

11:20-12pm (40 minutes)





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