MEDIA RELEASE

30 April 2015

POWERCOR DELIVERS VALUE FOR MELBOURNE'S WESTERN SUBURBS

Powercor will deliver price cuts for residential and business customers in Melbourne's western suburbs in 2016.

The electricity distribution business outlined the price reductions, as well as the capital investment and operating costs, in its regulatory proposal to the Australian Energy Regulatory (AER) for 2016-2020.

"We will deliver a $43 decrease in the average Powercor residential annual electricity bill in 2016," said Chief Executive Officer, Tim Rourke.

Powercor will also deliver $2.3 billion in capital expenditure from 2016 to 2020, to help facilitate economic growth, job creation and support residential expansion in some of the fastest growing regions in Australia including the western suburbs of Melbourne.

"We've got enormous residential and commercial growth in Melbourne and greater Geelong and we also need to invest in additional capacity for the dairy industry and agribusiness across regional areas.

"These investments will help unlock economic activity including jobs in these areas, which are essential. There is significant growth in Victoria and we must support it."

Melbourne's west, including Toolern and Rockbank, is experiencing unprecedented growth and is home to the largest number of residential and business customers in the Powercor network. The City of Melton which incorporates these areas is one of the fastest growing municipalities in Australia.

Powercor is planning to spend more than $70 million up to 2020 on a major capital works program in this region to ensure continued reliability of supply to meet growth in electricity consumption between now and 2020.

Powercor will connect its assets to a new terminal station at Deer Park and build a new zone substation at Truganina. The new zone substation will also free up additional capacity in the areas served by the Laverton North, Laverton, St Albans, Sunshine, and Werribee zone substations.

Works at the Melton Zone Substation will address growth in the Melton and Bacchus Marsh areas.

The capital investments will also enable the connection of more renewable energy to the grid and provide the ability to explore new and emerging technology to reduce costs for customers, such as battery storage.

"A lot of our investments are about shifting the network from one which receives energy from a few providers to one that can receive energy from multiple sources and move that energy around in different directions," Tim said.

"Whether that's solar on people's homes, commercial wind farms or any of the potential generation methods of the future, we need a network that can handle these technologies."

Powercor will also invest in a customer relationship management system that enables the introduction of a customer portal to help people can make informed choices about their energy use.

Powercor sought the views of customers and stakeholders across Melbourne's western suburbs to help shape our future plans.

For more details of the investment plans and an overview of CitiPower and Powercor's regulatory proposals see www.Talkingelectricity.com.au.

Media inquiries: CitiPower and Powercor Australia's media line on (03) 9683 4342

ABOUT POWERCOR

Regulated businesses

Electricity distribution in Australia is regulated and Powercor is required to provide a regulatory proposal to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) every five years, detailing forecast work programs and efficient revenue requirements. The AER assesses the regulatory proposal and makes a decision on the revenue Powercor can earn during the subsequent regulatory control period - in this case 2016-2020.

Powercor

The Powercor distribution network services customers across Central and Western Victoria and Melbourne's fast growing western suburbs. It is the largest of Victoria's five electricity distribution networks, and supplies the regional cities of Mildura, Shepparton, Bendigo, Ballarat, Horsham, Warrnambool and Geelong.

Powercor Network statistics

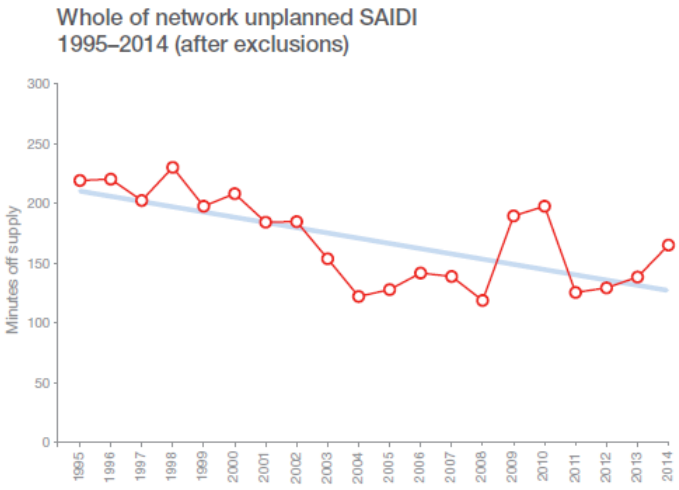
Network route line length:	67,006km
Network area:	145,651sq km
Customer numbers:	765,241
Customer density:	11.42c/km
Zone substation transformers:	141
Distribution transformers:	83,359
Poles:	561,471
Underground lines:	12%
Network reliability:	99.96%

(As at 31 December 2014)

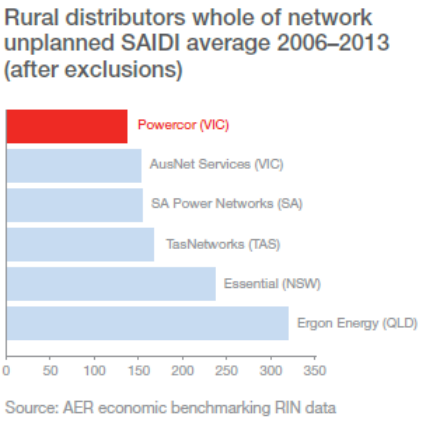
How we compare

Powercor's network reliability performance

Powercor's reliability performance compares favourably to other Australian electricity distributors, particularly regional and rural distribution businesses. This is despite its customers being spread across our extensive network with less than 12 customers per kilometre and only 12 per cent of our assets underground.



Source: Powercor analysis



Source: AER economic benchmarking RIN data

Value for money

Powercor customers pay some of the lowest distribution network costs in Australia. Research conducted by energy sector experts Oakley Greenwood concluded that Victorian electricity distribution network charges make up less than 25 per cent of the average household electricity bill, compared with around half a customer's bill in some other states.

Powercor's distribution network charges comprised less than 25 per cent of the average household electricity bill in 2014.

Based on our published distribution use of service tariffs for a customer with an annual consumption of 4,300 kWh and excluding GST, an average residential Powercor customer pays $382 per annum compared to higher distribution network charges in other states, particularly when compared to other predominantly rural based distributors.