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SP AusNet invests \$20 million in major infrastructure upgrade

Electricity distributor SP AusNet is investing \$20 million to upgrade more than 40 kilometers of electricity powerlines spanning from South Morang to Kilmore.

The current stage of the project involves upgrading the 66 kilovolt high voltage powerline that runs through the Wandong Township and onto Kilmore, which includes replacing powerpoles, pole-top hardware and electricity lines to ensure increased reliability of electricity to customers in the area.

SP AusNet spokesperson Tara Albiston said upgrades were regularly required to increase reliability and allow for the continued growth in demand for electricity.

“This project is vital to provide greater reliability to our customers and will ensure they experience fewer unplanned power outages in the future,” Ms Albiston said.

“This planned maintenance work, which began in South Morang approximately 18 months ago, has involved a number of SP AusNet engineering, planning and construction crews as well as a number of safety measures such as on-site traffic management and network planning to minimise the number of outages while the work is being carried out,” Ms Albiston said.

The upgrade is scheduled for completion in early December and while SP AusNet is seeking to limit the inconvenience to its customers, it will be necessary to interrupt power supply to some properties in the area throughout the duration of the project.

A total of fifteen power outages in Wandong and surrounding areas are required to complete the project.

Ms Albiston acknowledged that it's never a good time to be without power, and where possible, interruptions to power supply are scheduled at times when the least amount of disruption would be caused.

“Any residents whose power supply will be interrupted will be advised in writing by SP AusNet well ahead of any planned work,” Ms Albiston said.

“SP AusNet would like to thank customers for their patience and understanding while we carry out this work.

“Residents in the vicinity of our crews may experience minor traffic disruptions and partial road closures, these are measures put in place to assist in maintaining the highest possible level of safety for our crews and residents,” said said.

SP AusNet is the electricity distributor for the outer eastern and outer northern metropolitan areas of Melbourne, as well as the eastern and northern parts of the state, supplying electricity to more than 650,000 residents and businesses.

For more information about the upgrade works, customers may contact SP AusNet's Customer Service Centre on 1300 360 795.

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