

Media statement – for immediate release

6.15pm – 18 June 2012

Power cut in north-east Christchurch

Power was cut to approximately 10,000 customers in north-east Christchurch at 5.28pm today after a fault occurred at the Orion substation in St Albans. By 6.00pm power was restored to 7,500 customers.

The affected area includes parts of St Albans, Edgeware, Richmond, Mairehau and Dallington.

“The Christchurch earthquakes severely damaged parts of our electricity network in north-east Christchurch, so we are about to install an additional large high voltage underground cable from St Albans to Dallington to help with power supply into the area,” says Orion Chief Executive Rob Jamieson.

Orion is currently switching around its network to get power back into the affected areas as quickly as possible.

Our next update will be at 6.45pm.

ENDS

For more information please contact:

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Note:

Orion New Zealand Limited owns and operates the electricity network in Christchurch and central Canterbury. Our network covers 8,000km² between the Rakaia and Waimakariri rivers and from the Canterbury coast to Arthur’s Pass. We deliver electricity to more than 190,000 homes and businesses across this diverse geographical area.

There are 29 electricity distribution companies in New Zealand. Orion’s neighbours are MainPower New Zealand Limited (north of the Waimakariri River), Electricity Ashburton Limited (south of the Rakaia River) and Westpower Limited (west of Arthur’s Pass).

