



SECURITY OF SUPPLY – PARTICIPANT OUTAGE PLAN (SOSOP)

1. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This plan was written to comply with Electricity Commission’s Security of Supply Outage Plan (SOSOP).

Under the regulations, participant outage plans (POP) are required to specify the actions that would be taken to reduce the consumption of electricity to:

- reduce electricity consumption when a supply shortage is declared by the Electricity Commission;
- comply with requirements of the Electricity Commission’s Security of Supply Outage Plan (SOSOP);
- comply with Electricity Governance (Security of Supply) Regulations 2008 and subsequent amendments; and
- supplement the Electricity Commission’s Security of Supply Outage Plan.

Reducing demand by disconnecting supply to consumers would be a last resort after all other forms of savings, including voluntary savings, had been employed. Network Waitaki will always endeavour to keep consumers supplied. Network Waitaki will only disconnect consumers when directed to by the Electricity Commission.

The procedures outlined are in response to major generation shortages including dry year scenarios. How an event is declared and how the Electricity Commission should communicate its requests are detailed.

The main energy saving measure listed is rolling outages and how these are structured and implemented is discussed.

2. DEFINITIONS

AUFLS	Automatic Under Frequency Load Shedding
Commission	Electricity Commission
EDN	Electrical Distribution Network
Electricity Act	Electricity Act 1992 and subsequent amendments
Feeder	A high voltage circuit typically supplying up to 2000 consumers
GXP	Transpower Grid Exit Point

GEN	Grid Emergency Notice
POP	Participant Outage Plan (this plan)
Regulations	Electricity Governance (Security of Supply) Regulations 2008 and subsequent amendments
Retailers	Electricity Retail Companies
Rolling Outages or Rolling Cuts	Planned electricity disconnections spread over different parts of the network at differing times to avoid prolonged outages at any one location
SOSOP	Security of Supply Outage Plan (Electricity Commission)
Supply Shortage Declaration	Declaration made by the Electricity Commission under regulation 9
System Operator	Operator of the national electricity transmission grid

2.1 Associated Quality Procedures

Notification of Outages to Retailers

Outage Advice to Media

NWL Emergency Load Shedding and Restoration

NWL POP Feeder Schedules

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Electricity Commission

The Electricity Commission is a Crown entity set up under the Electricity Act to oversee New Zealand's electricity industry and markets.

A function of the Electricity Commission under the Electricity Act is to use reasonable endeavours to ensure the security of electricity supply. The Commission's activities include forecasting supply and demand, developing and publishing guideline hydro levels for security of supply, contracting for reserve energy, and improving the ability of consumers to manage price risks in the market.

3.2 Transpower

Transpower is a State Owned Enterprise, which owns and operates New Zealand's National Grid - the network of high voltage transmission lines and substations that transports electricity from where it is generated to distribution line companies, such as Network Waitaki.

As System Operator, Transpower manages the real-time operation of New Zealand's electricity transmission system. It keeps the right amount of energy flowing to match generated supply with demand.

3.3 Network Waitaki

Network Waitaki is the electricity network company that owns and maintains the electricity lines, cables and substations that deliver electricity to consumers in the North Otago and southern South Canterbury regions.

4. SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Transpower, as the System Operator, controls the transmission network to match generation with consumer demand. Constraints on the ability to manage this may be caused by:

- low lake levels reducing hydro generation;
- failure of a large generator; and
- a fault on critical transmission circuit.

The first two causes above could lead to an energy shortage, while the third could lead to a shortage of transmission capacity.

4.1 Load Reduction by Network Waitaki

Network Waitaki has some ability to reduce load by turning off domestic water heaters via ripple control in the North Otago region. Further load reductions would require disconnecting consumers.

4.2 Range of Events

Events that could lead the Commission to make a supply shortage declaration can in general terms be categorised as;

Developing Event: Events that evolve over time, for example low hydro lake levels.

Immediate Event: Events that occur with little or no warning, usually as a result of a transmission line or major generation failure.

4.3 Significant Incident

A Developing Event or Immediate Event will be classed by Network Waitaki as a significant incident and the Network Operations Manager will assemble a team of senior managers and staff to manage the incident.

Communication with retailers will be as per normal notification procedures described in Outage Advice to Media.

Local Authorities, civil defence and other stakeholders will be notified of significant events by the Network Operations Manager.

5. ACTIONS FOR IMMEDIATE EVENT

Transpower, as the System Operator, is required to keep enough reserve generation to cover the risk of the largest connected generator tripping (or HVDC link failure). They are also required to keep the system frequency at 50Hz. If a large generator trips, it may cause a reduction in frequency which if not rectified can result in other generators tripping and could lead to complete failure of the electricity network.

As reserve generation cannot immediately pick up the load of a disconnected generator, an immediate load reduction is required until additional generation can pick up the load. Automatic load shedding groups reduce load in stages until the frequency stabilises.

5.1 Reserve Market

Generators and load users with interruptible load, such as distribution networks, may offer in reserve capacity to cover the risk of the largest generating unit or a critical transmission line tripping. The ability to do this is affected by the numbers of frequency capable relays installed and the likely revenue stream from the market, less the compliance costs of participating in the reserve market. Network Waitaki does not presently participate in this market.

5.2 Disconnecting Customers

5.2.1 Automatic Under Frequency Load Shedding (AUFLS)

If the load shed by the Reserve Market tripping is insufficient to stabilise the network, further automatic load reduction is required.

Each distribution network company must have available at all times two blocks of load, each of 16% of its total load to be shed by automatic under frequency relays. In the South Island Transpower has installed these relays on selected 33kV feeders at the GXP's. These feeders are generally disconnected by Transpower.

AUFLS scheme on Network Waitaki network is available only at Weston 33kV Switching Station. The pre-selected 33kV feeders are automatically disconnected by Network Waitaki relays.

5.2.2 AUFLS Zone 1

If system frequency fails to recover after Reserve market load shed, AUFLS Zone 1 shedding by Network Waitaki relays will occur. This will disconnect up to 16.4% of Network Waitaki's load by disconnecting customers supply.

5.2.3 AUFLS Zone 2

If zone 1 tripping fails to restore frequency, the next stage, zone 2 activates. Network Waitaki relays would disconnect a further 28.4% of load.

5.2.4 Manual Load Shedding

If AUFLS Zone 1 and Zone 2 tripping fails to stabilise frequency the System Operator will shed more load. Once the frequency has stabilised the System Operator will advise the Network Waitaki System Control when load can be restored.

5.3 Supply Restoration

Restoration of disconnected load must be restored in conjunction with the System Operator. This is to prevent overloading the transmission network and creating further instability.

5.4 Electricity Commission Declaration

For some Immediate Events, the Electricity Commission makes a supply shortage declaration and directs rolling outages. In such a situation, the procedures for developing events will need to be implemented as per section 6 to 8.

5.5 Transmission Grid Emergency

The System Operator may request Network Waitaki to reduce load under a grid emergency notice (GEN). Network Waitaki would commence with shedding water heating load and then if necessary shed feeders as per NWL Emergency Load Shedding and Restoration.

If an Immediate Event is in place, the grid emergency will take precedence.

6. DEVELOPING EVENTS

If the Commission requests through the System Operator a load reduction for a Developing Event, Network Waitaki would reduce demand to meet the Commission's targets. The targets are expected to be a weekly energy savings target that is reviewed each week.

To reduce energy usage Network Waitaki would disconnect HV feeders (rolling outages) in a controlled manner to enable targets to be reached. There may be financial penalties for not meeting the targets specified by the Commission. The shedding of water heating load is not a viable option for energy savings as this only defers usage and would not save energy.

6.1 Declaration of Developing Event

Whilst the Commission will endeavour to provide nine days prior notice of the requirement for weekly energy savings, it may not always be possible. It is Network Waitaki's plan to use the standard planned outage notification procedure to retailers as detailed in Notification of Outages to Retailers. It would be preferable if any increase in the weekly energy savings target was also provided with nine days prior notice.

In a Developing Event, the Commission will notify, through the System Operator, that a specific weekly energy savings target is to be enforced for a specific region for a specified time-frame. A notification system similar to the GEN procedure would be appropriate.

The Commission is expected to manage general media advertising of the need to conserve electricity and the impending rolling outages when they are requested.

6.2 Criteria for Rolling Outages

To ensure public health and safety is preserved and costs to economy are minimised the following table shows a desired criteria for selecting feeders to be included in rolling outages.

Priority	Priority Concern	Maintain Supply to:
1	Public health and safety	Major hospitals, air traffic control centres, and emergency operation centres.
2	Important public services	Energy control centres, communication networks, water and sewage pumping, fuel delivery systems, and major port.
3	Public health and safety	Minor hospitals, medical centres, schools, and street lighting.
4	Food production	Dairy farms and milk production facilities.
5	Domestic production	Commercial and industrial premises.
6	Disruption to consumers	Residential premises.

Table 1 - Priority Loads

6.3 AUFLS Criteria

Currently, the same criteria for rolling outages as shown in Table 1 are also used to select 33kV feeders (zone substations) for AUFLS tripping. Thus, AUFLS load blocks are predominantly from lower priority load categories (however some higher priority consumers would also be affected). It is necessary to maintain the two 16% AUFLS blocks during rolling outages, so this suggests that rolling outages would need to impact on some high priority feeders.

To minimise this problem, it is proposed to shift the AUFLS to high priority zone substations during rolling outages. Transpower will be requested to change the AUFLS blocks to alternative feeders as detailed in NWL Emergency Load Shedding and Restoration. If this is not possible in the timeframe available, it will be necessary to roll outages through some high priority load, particularly for high savings targets.

6.4 Shutdown Notification

When requested to reduce demand with rolling outages, Network Waitaki plans to use the planned outage procedure as per Notification of Outages to Retailers, to advise retailers in advance, of pending outages. The time and extent of advertised outages will be approximate.

6.5 Vulnerable consumers and Priority Sites

Network Waitaki will endeavour to give retailers as much advance notice as possible of pending rolling outages to enable them to notify vulnerable consumers.

Retailers maintain lists of consumers with health and safety issues. It is not feasible for Network Waitaki to prevent rolling outages affecting individual vulnerable consumers. During rolling outages general media releases will advise consumers with health problems as to their best course of action.

6.6 Grid Emergency during Developing Event

If the System Operator declares a grid emergency during a Developing Event, the grid emergency will take priority. As water heating load generally would not be used to reduce load in a Developing Event, Network Waitaki would have the water heating load available for load reduction when required for the grid emergency. If water heating load is insufficient, the rolling outage feeders may have to be rearranged to comply with the grid emergency. After the grid emergency is over, the rolling outages pattern would continue.

The Grid Emergency will take priority in both Immediate Events and Developing Events.

6.7 Supply Restoration

Disconnected load must be restored in conjunction with the System Operator. This is to prevent overloading the transmission network and creating instability. *The System Operator has advised that load changes of less than 25 MW in any five minutes may be implemented by a network without their prior approval.*

6.8 Communication

Network Waitaki will keep media and consumers informed of planned interruptions to supply before and during the outages. Media will be informed as per Network Waitaki's standard communications procedure, and the retailers will be responsible for consumer notification.

6.8.1 Communication with System Operator

All communications with the System Operator will be using Transpower's RCS Telephone No. 03 349 7044 or other telecommunications systems.

Prior to notifying and implementing rolling outages, Network Waitaki will consult with the System Operator to establish a process for load shedding and restoration.

6.9 Network Waitaki Staff Responsibilities

Role	Network Waitaki Person Responsible
Receive communication from Commission	Network Operations Manager
Receive communication from System Operator	Duty Controllers
Implement this plan	Network Operations Manager
Weekly savings reporting	Duty controller
Retailer notification	Network Operations Manager/Reception
Revoking rolling outages	Network Operations Manager
Reporting to Electricity Commission	Network Operations Manager
Reporting to media, public agencies	Network Operations Manager

Table 2- Staff Responsibilities

Within one day of declaration of a Developing Event, the Network Operations Manager will notify the Commission of the updated contact details including telephone numbers and email address for each of the positions named in Table 2.

6.10 Rolling Outages Strategy and Methodology

The Network Operations Manager and the Duty Controllers together will review weekly targets and prepare plans for weekly rolling outages based on savings required. The plans will be forwarded to the retailers for consumer and media notification. Rolling outages will, wherever possible, disconnect feeders using priority listed in Table 1.

Planned energy savings will be based upon network energy usage for same period last year.

The rolling outages will be applicable to both Immediate Events and Developing Events.

6.11 Target Monitoring

For load shedding to a weekly target, the Network Operations Manager will monitor energy savings against target and, together with the Chief Executive Officer, review future load shedding to increase or decrease the amount of rolling outages to enable the weekly target to be met.

The Duty Controller will be responsible for daily and weekly reporting of consumption relative to target levels. The Duty Controller and Network Operations Manager will together, be responsible for providing the predicted load for the next week on a seven day rolling basis to the Security Co-ordinator (at the System Operator). This prediction is to be by GXP for each half-hour. Any variations in the forecast of +/- 20% will be advised to the Security Co-ordinator (at the System Operator). As part of the monitoring process, NWL will report the compliance to the Commission.

6.12 Log of Rolling Outages

Duty Controllers will log times of disconnection and reconnection of all feeder interruptions and enter in the log. The log sheet to be used by Duty Controllers is shown in Appendix 1. These will be used to monitor the rolling outage program.

7. Communication with the Commission

The Commission can contact Network Waitaki using the following details:

Network Waitaki Limited
FAX +64 3 434 8845
PH +64 3 433 0065
P.O. Box 147, Oamaru 9444
10 Chelmer Street, Oamaru 9444

Network Waitaki will contact the Commission's Emergency Response Project Manager for administration purposes (including reporting performance against targets) using the following details:

Electricity Commission
FAX: 04 460 8879
PH: 04 460 8860
PO Box 10041
Level 7, ASB Bank Building, 2 Hunter Street
WELLINGTON

8. ROLLING OUTAGES

When instructed by the System Operator, following a supply shortage declaration, to reduce demand, rolling outages will be instigated by Network Operations Manager as per this plan and outage strategy. The Network Operations Manager will ensure load shedding schedules are prepared, system control rosters are adjusted as required, and load is controlled and monitored to meet desired targets.

Schedules of estimated load shedding, restoration times and quantities are to be forwarded to the System Operator seven days before the planned outage. If significant variation is noticed, or expected, from the schedules provided to the System Operator then Network Waitaki shall advise the System Operator of this change.

Where possible, Network Waitaki will try to comply with priorities in Table 1 to select feeders for rolling outages. Network Waitaki will endeavour to keep rolling outages to any consumer no longer than 4 hours per day for a 5% savings target. For savings more than 5%, more frequent outages per week will be necessary.

Outages will be programmed between 0800 and 1800 on all days. Night time is excluded from the cut period for safety reasons. Initially outages will be scheduled for mid-afternoon to limit the economic effects.

Timing of outages will be approximate and could vary daily due to network or System Operator constraints.

Details of the planned cut duration and weekly frequency for the highest priority relating to each saving level are outlined in Table 3. The cuts are the highest priority loads expected to be affected as per Table 1.

Savings Level	Highest Priority	Maximum Duration (hr)	Days per week
5%	5	6	5
10%	4	6	5
15%	3	6	4
20%	2	5	5
25%	1	2	5

Table 3 - Rolling Cut Consumers Priority

8.1 GXP and Feeder Selection

Network Waitaki has three GXPs, all of which will be involved should a rolling outage be implemented.

The three GXPs are:

1. Oamaru GXP,
2. Waitaki GXP, and
3. Twizel GXP.

All Feeders to be disconnected, at the three GXPs, are shown in NWL POP Feeder Schedules. These tables are based upon priority guidelines shown in Table 1. Generally, feeders will be chosen from the bottom of table first. An example of how savings targets would be achieved for a typical winter week for different savings targets is included in Tables 4 – 8. The number of feeders chosen for any week will depend upon the level of savings required to meet target.

The outage durations are indicative only and will be reviewed daily to achieve the specified energy saving targets.

Consumer Group Priority	Maximum Duration (hr)	Days per week	Percentage System Winter Energy	Expected Energy Savings
Priority 1			13.577%	0.00%
Priority 2			19.43%	0.00%
Priority 3			14.56%	0.00%
Priority 4			21.02%	0.00%
Priority 5	6	5	22.35%	3.99%
Priority 6	6	5	9.07%	1.62%
Total				5.61%

Table 4 - Duration of Daily Outages per Consumer Group for 5% Savings

Consumer Group Priority	Maximum Duration (hr)	Days per week	Percentage System Ave. Winter Energy	Expected Energy Savings
Priority 1			13.577%	0.00%
Priority 2			19.43%	0.00%
Priority 3			14.56%	0.00%
Priority 4	6	5	21.02%	3.75%
Priority 5	7	5	22.35%	4.66%
Priority 6	8	5	9.07%	2.16%
Total				10.57%

Table 5 - Duration of Daily Outages per Consumer Group for 10% Savings

Consumer Group Priority	Maximum Duration (hr)	Days per week	Percentage System Ave. Winter Energy	Expected Energy Savings
Priority 1			13.577%	0.00%
Priority 2			19.43%	0.00%
Priority 3	6	4	14.56%	2.08%
Priority 4	7	5	21.02%	4.38%
Priority 5	8	6	22.35%	6.39%
Priority 6	8	6	9.07%	2.59%
Total				15.44%

Table 6 - Duration of Daily Outages per Consumer Group for 15% Savings

Consumer Group Priority	Maximum Duration (hr)	Days per week	Percentage System Ave. Winter Energy	Expected Energy Savings
Priority 1			13.577%	0.00%
Priority 2	5	5	19.43%	2.89%
Priority 3	6	5	14.56%	2.60%
Priority 4	7	5	21.02%	4.38%
Priority 5	8	7	22.35%	7.45%
Priority 6	8	7	9.07%	3.02%
Total				20.34%

Table 7 - Duration of Daily Outages per Consumer Group for 20% Savings

Consumer Group Priority	Maximum Duration (hr)	Days per week	Percentage System Ave. Winter Energy	Expected Energy Savings
Priority 1	2	5	13.577%	0.81%
Priority 2	5	7	19.43%	4.05%
Priority 3	6	7	14.56%	3.64%
Priority 4	7	7	21.02%	6.13%
Priority 5	8	7	22.35%	7.45%
Priority 6	8	7	9.07%	3.02%
Total				25.10%

Table 8 - Duration of Daily Outages per Consumer Group for 25% Savings

8.2 Contingent Events

If an unplanned event occurs, such as a Civil Defence emergency that could alter the planned rolling outages, Network Operation Manager will be responsible for communication with retailers of any changes to the advertised program.

8.3 Consumer Liaison

For major consumers, with dedicated HV feeder supplies, short-term rolling outages may not be appropriate. As an alternative, longer single outages could be offered if that was easier for them to plan for.

Other consumers are advised to contact their retailer for information on the priority of the feeder they are supplied from and outage times.

8.4 Vulnerable Consumers

Retailers maintain lists of consumers with health and safety issues. It is not feasible for Network Waitaki to prevent rolling outages affecting individual vulnerable consumers. During rolling outages general media releases will advise consumers with health problems as to their best course of action.

Network Waitaki will endeavour to give retailers as much advance notice as possible of pending rolling outages to enable them to notify vulnerable consumers.

