



Hon Geoff Wilson MP
Member for Ferny Grove

Your ref: Petitions
Our Ref: ME/08/4013, MC2711

18 DEC 2008

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 1144-08 regarding the state of power reticulation in the district of Glenmorgan in the Warrego electorate that was tabled in Parliament on 28 October 2008.

I have consulted with Ergon Energy, the distribution network service provider in the Warrego electorate, in order to determine the nature of any electricity network issues in the area, and to confirm that appropriate and timely action is progressing to address these issues.

Ergon Energy has advised that it is aware of recent interruptions to power supply in the area and is actively investigating how it can boost both the capacity of the Single Wire Earth Return (SWER) in the Glenmorgan area, and the quality of the power supply it delivers.

In order to maximise capacity on the line and improve reliability, I understand that Ergon Energy has so far:

- implemented refinements to circuit breakers settings at Glenmorgan and Bungunya to improve performance when nearing peak load during the height of both winter and summer;
- undertaken an aerial line patrol to locate two lightning-damaged power poles, which have since been replaced;
- replaced a lightning-damaged circuit breaker using a Live Line crew, thus avoiding the inconvenience of a planned outage; and
- installed a circuit breaker to isolate the upstream Miles feeder, where bird strikes frequently cause outages.

While it is impossible to stop birds striking the line, the circuit breaker and aerial markers should improve the reliability of supply downstream at Glenmorgan and Meandarra.



**Queensland
Government**

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No.: 5208T4942
22 DEC 2008
MP: Hon. G. Wilson MP

Clerk's Signature: _____

22/12/08

Minister for Mines and Energy

In addition, I am advised that Ergon Energy improvement plans include:

- install fuse switches to improve reliability of supply, which will reduce the impact of outages caused by storms and other natural hazards;
- replace a voltage regulator on the Glenmorgan SWER to provide improved quality of supply;
- install electronic monitoring devices on the SWER to provide Ergon Energy with better voltage data, which will improve the ability to assess the performance of the feeder and formulate any necessary corrective actions; and
- undertake a pre-summer helicopter patrol of the line to identify any additional potential weaknesses prior to the peak of the summer season.

I have been advised that Ergon Energy has written to all local residents to outline current and future upgrades to the system to improve the quality and reliability of electricity supply in the area. Ergon Energy's Area Operations Manager can be contacted on 13 10 46, should any residents have any further questions or comments for Ergon Energy.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and I trust this information is of assistance. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact Mr Michael Mamczur of the Department of Mines and Energy on telephone 3405 6149.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Wilson", followed by a period.

GEOFF WILSON MP
Minister for Mines and Energy