

Whanganui, Rangitikei and Ruapehu*

Agriculture, forestry and fishing are key components of the Whanganui district economy, while in Ruapehu, tourism and primary production keep the district buoyant.

With its proximity to Tongariro National Park, this area is popular for people who enjoy outdoor activities such as skiing. This creates high electricity demand in winter.

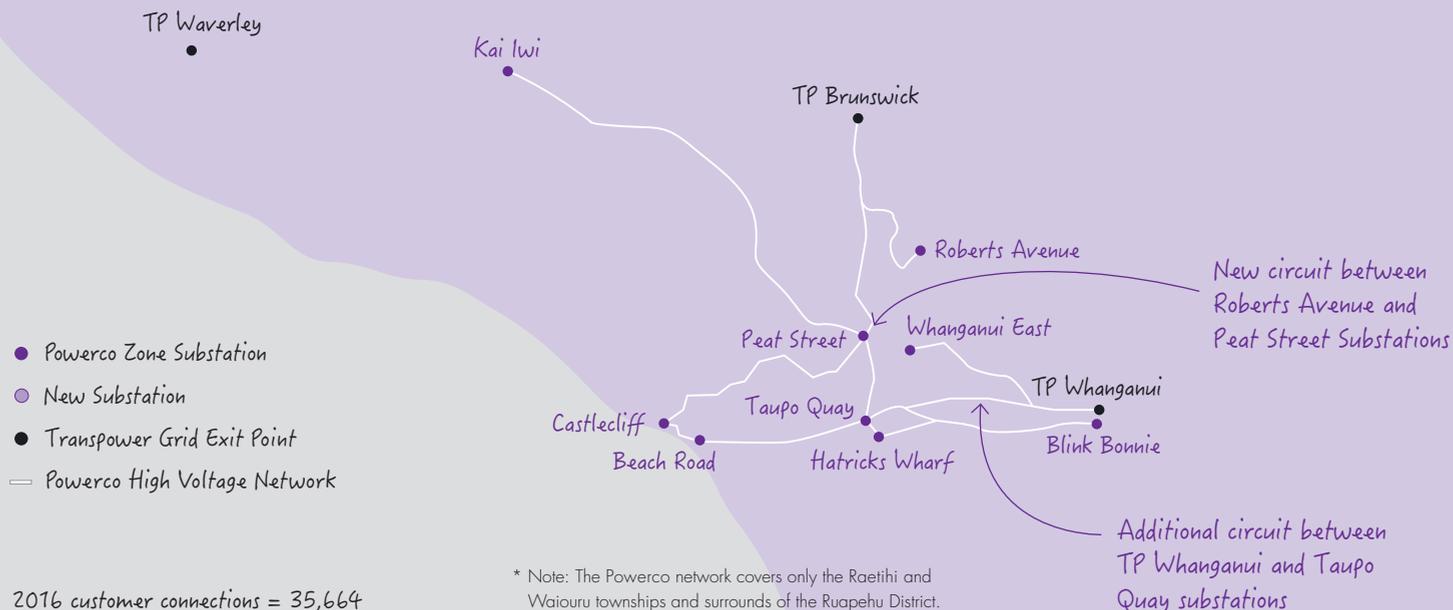
The Whanganui area is exposed to extreme weather from the Tasman Sea. High winds are the main problem, causing trees and debris to fall onto lines, resulting in power cuts.

The Whanganui River is prone to flooding, which can affect the network. The Ruapehu and Rangitikei areas experience heavy rain and snow.

There has been modest growth in electricity demand throughout the Whanganui area in recent years and Powerco expects this trend to hold for the short to medium term.

Of more pressing concern in the Whanganui region is the volume of assets approaching end of life. The region has many rural and remote rural feeders where intervention is appropriate to ensure safety and lift overall performance.

Powerco plans to spend about \$20 million on growth and security projects in this area during a five year period starting 1 April 2018. As part of the renewal programme it plans to spend \$60 million including the replacement of 190km of overhead line and 5,300 poles.



- Powerco Zone Substation
- New Substation
- Transpower Grid Exit Point
- Powerco High Voltage Network

2016 customer connections = 35,664

* Note: The Powerco network covers only the Raetihi and Waiouru townships and surrounds of the Ruapehu District.