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ETSA Utilities responds to major storm event

ETSA Utilities has mobilised all available crews to restore power to customers amid the damaging storm that has swept across South Australia overnight.

Winds gusting up to 100 kmh and heavy rain has left about 60,000 customers across the State without power.

Falling vegetation and high winds have impacted customers across metropolitan Adelaide, which has been worst hit. Also affected are Kangaroo Island, the west coast, Yorke Peninsula and mid-north.

"Crews are working in terrible conditions to repair lines and equipment damaged in the storm," said Stakeholder Relations Manager, Paul Roberts.

"Widespread storm activity like this can be challenging," Mr Roberts said. "We are having to respond to a large number of outages across a wide area.

"We have cancelled all planned work and are calling in all available crews to start the work of restoring power, but work is being hampered by the continuing high winds and heavy rain and further damage being caused.

"ETSA Utilities consistently monitors weather forecasts and manages resources in anticipation of weather events like this. Additional resources were readied last night and are being mobilised. We also have additional staff responding to calls from customers.

"Currently (at 5.45 am) about 60,000 customers are without power, though of course many will still be asleep," Mr Roberts said. "This number may increase as we get reports from people waking up to find they have no power."

"People calling 13 13 66 to report faults should check recorded messaging to see whether we are aware of their outage. Please don't stay on the line if we are already aware.

"In terms of public safety, people need to be conscious and alert that traffic and street lighting will not be working in some areas and lines are down."

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About ETSA Utilities

ETSA Utilities is South Australia's electricity distributor, delivering electricity to more than 800,000 customers. We are one of South Australia's largest organisations, employing about 1800 people throughout metropolitan and regional SA. ETSA Utilities is 51 percent owned by Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited and Hongkong Electric Holdings, which form part of the Cheung Kong Group of companies. The remaining 49 percent is owned by ASX listed South Infrastructure