

7 December 2018

Urgent Electricity Cable Repairs Titahi Bay Rd
Monday 10 December 2018 to Friday 21 December 2018

Wellington Electricity is your local lines company, responsible for operating the electricity network in the Wellington region.

What's Happening?

Over the next two weeks there will be some disruption to traffic along Titahi Bay Rd as we do some urgent repair work to the main electricity cable which supplies power to the Titahi Bay area. The work will start on the morning of Monday 10th December and if successful will be completed by Friday 21st December.

We want to complete the work as soon as possible but will try and keep any disruption as small as possible; we won't be working at peak traffic times or at night.

Why?

For some time, this year, we have been trying to locate the source of a fault on the main underground power cable which runs alongside Titahi Bay Rd. Sometimes these faults are easy to find and can be fixed within a matter of days. Unfortunately, this fault has proven hard to find. We've been doing this work gradually in an attempt to cause the least disruption to traffic, people and businesses in the area.

So far, the fault hasn't caused any loss of power to the area, but we want to make sure that the fault is fixed well before the cable is put under more stress next winter when electricity use naturally rises in those colder months. We've made the decision to bring in extra people to find and fix this fault as quickly as possible, and before Xmas, when many staff go on leave over the Xmas Break.

What Can I Expect to See?

- Early on Monday morning, we'll be operating a drone along Titahi Bay Rd which will be using sensing equipment to scan the ground in which the cable sits. We are hoping that this trial of new technology will help find the location of the fault quicker.
- We'll also be digging at a number of locations along Titahi Bay Rd over the next two weeks. There will be traffic management in place near Elsdon Park where a short section of the road will be reduced from two lanes to one. This is to keep our field crews safe while they work.
- The bus stop on Titahi Bay Rd outside the Whitireia campus will also be temporarily moved a short distance along the road to keep people safe and away from one of the dig locations.
- At some of the dig sites we'll be using liquid nitrogen to freeze the cables. This helps us to try and locate the fault. People might notice what looks like steam rising from those sites. The 'steam' is not harmful to people or the environment.

FACT SHEET

Is My Power Supply Safe?

There are two main cables which supply Titahi Bay, which means that there is a backup cable should anything happen to interrupt power on the other cable. It's also a low time of year for power use, which also makes it a better time to try and fix any issues before the colder weather increases power demand.

We appreciate this work is being performed at a busy time of year for Porirua residents and businesses and apologise for the disruption this may cause. We are committed to providing safe and reliable electricity to the region and thank everyone in advance for their patience.

For any further detail or updates to this project, please contact us via the following:

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Phone Howard Smith, **Customer Service Manager** 0-4-915 6162