Far North District Council

TŪHONOTANGA MINITI ATTACHMENTS MINUTES

Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board Meeting

3 June 2026

Te Paeroa Kaupapa / Table of Contents

Attachment 1 Top Energy Presentation - June 3 3

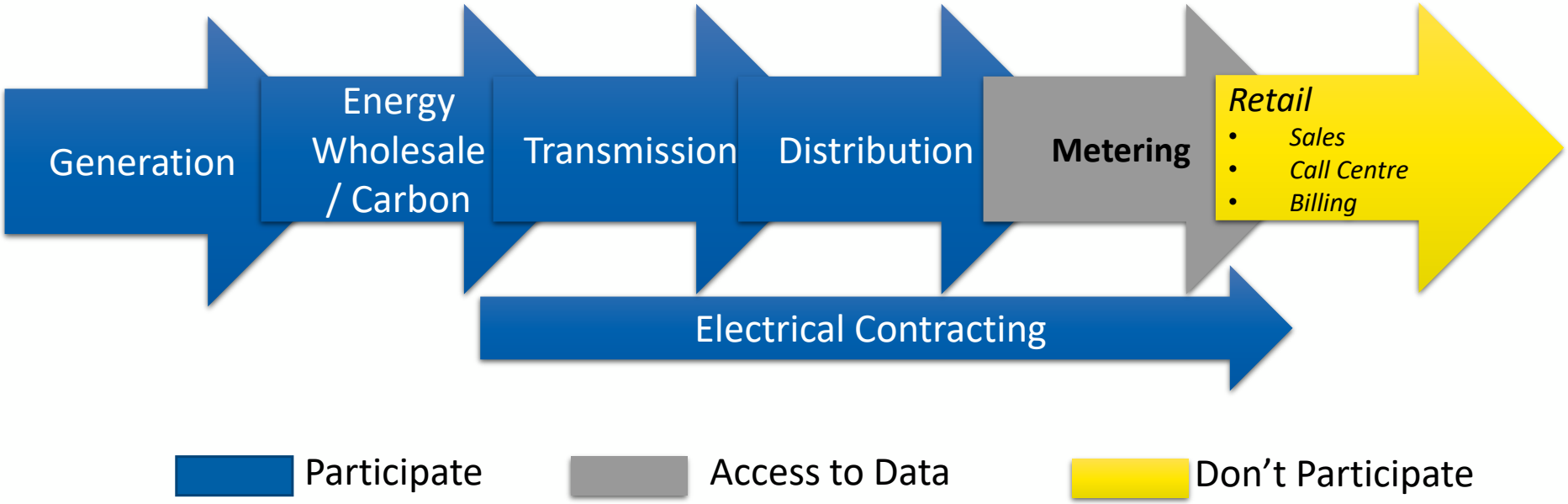
South Hokianga Network Update

Russell Shaw – Chief Executive
Claire Picking – General Manager Network

TOP ENERGY® TePuna Hihiko

Te Puna Hihiko. The Energy Source.

Top Energy Value Chain Diversification

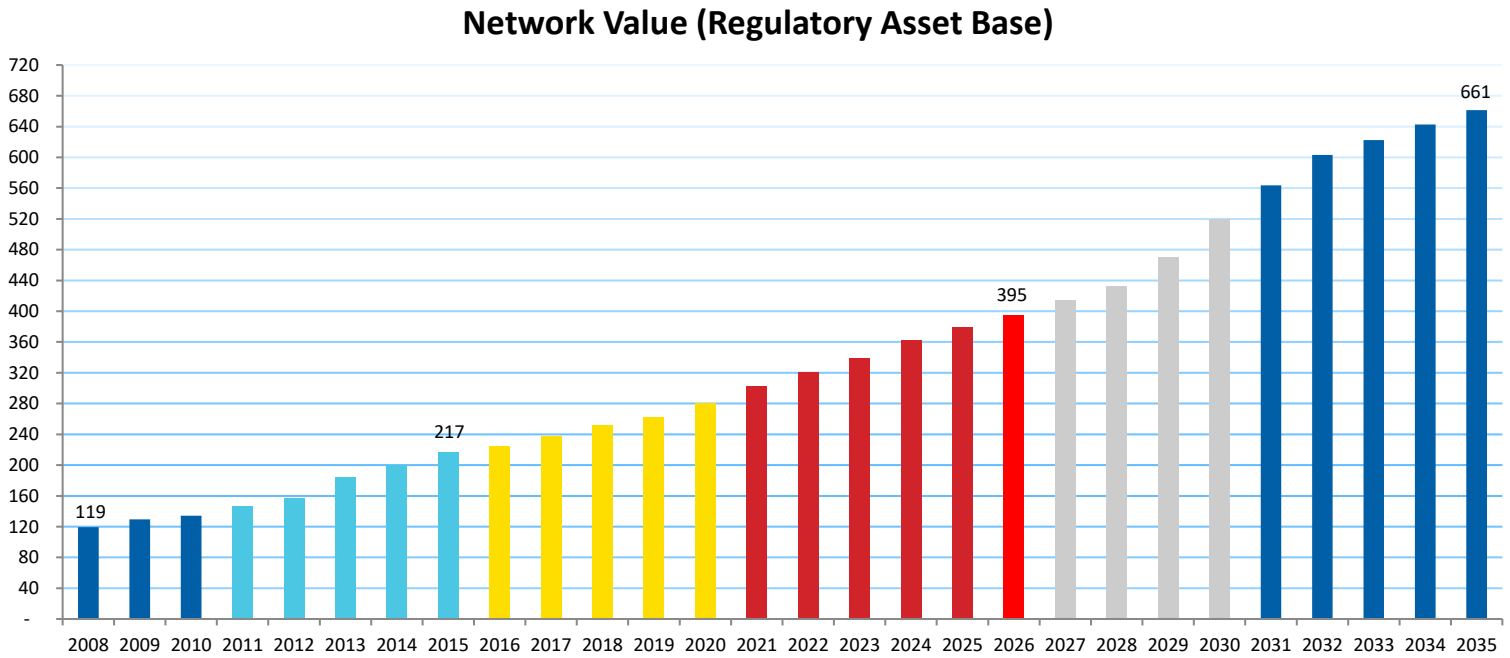


Geothermal Generation – Lower Prices

1998	OEC1 and 2	10MW
2008	OEC3	15MW
2020	OEC4	32MW

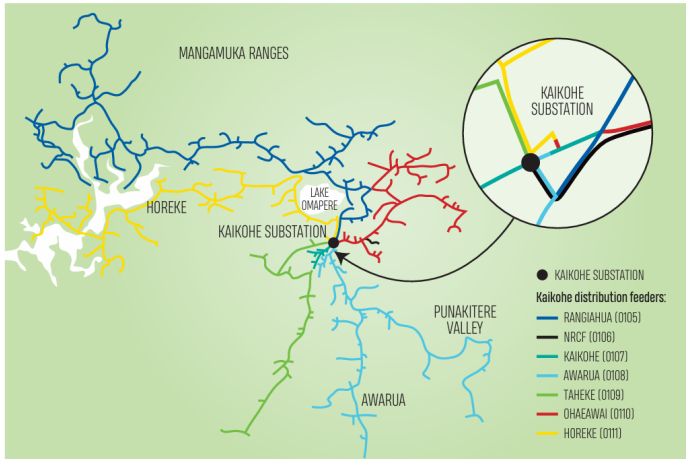
- Generation valuation $460m, Network asset valuation $395m
- Ngawha generates 125% of the electricity consumed in the Far North
- Generation profits used to offset lines prices
- Certified net carbon zero across all stations
- Lower network prices, now charging the same as we did 10 years ago
- Commerce Commission allowed 68% increase in 2025 price reset
- Planned increases 1/3 of allowed over 10 years

Continued Network Investment



- We continue to invest in the network replacing older assets at end of life

Top Energy Network



Your Request

- *"However, based on my observations over the past three years, along with consistent community feedback,* ***there appears to be a disproportionately higher frequency of outages in South Hokianga*** *compared with other areas within your network."*
- *"The purpose of this email is to request that you personally initiate* ***a review of outage frequency and causes in South Hokianga****, and* ***compare this data with other regions you service****. If the findings confirm a higher rate of disruption, I trust that appropriate management decisions will be made to address the issue and improve reliability for our communities."*

South Hokianga Network Performance

Claire Picking

How we Measure Reliability... SAIDI

SAIDI

System Average Interruption Duration Index

The average number of minutes the power was out for a typical Top Energy customer over a whole year.

Product of:

- *Number of Events*
- *Numbers of Connections Impacted*
- *Outage Duration*

*Averaged across **total** number of connections*

THE HEADLINE

What the six years of data say.

VS PEER RURAL FEEDERS

Comparable

South Hokianga averaged 11.0 SAIDI minutes per feeder per year vs 13.4 for peers (5-yr ex-cyclone).

TREND OVER 6 YEARS

Improving

Per-feeder unplanned SAIDI 3-year average **fell** from

- **27.2** (FY21–23) to
- **12.1** (FY24–26)

56% drop, slightly better than peers.

WHAT'S DRIVING SPIKES

Weather

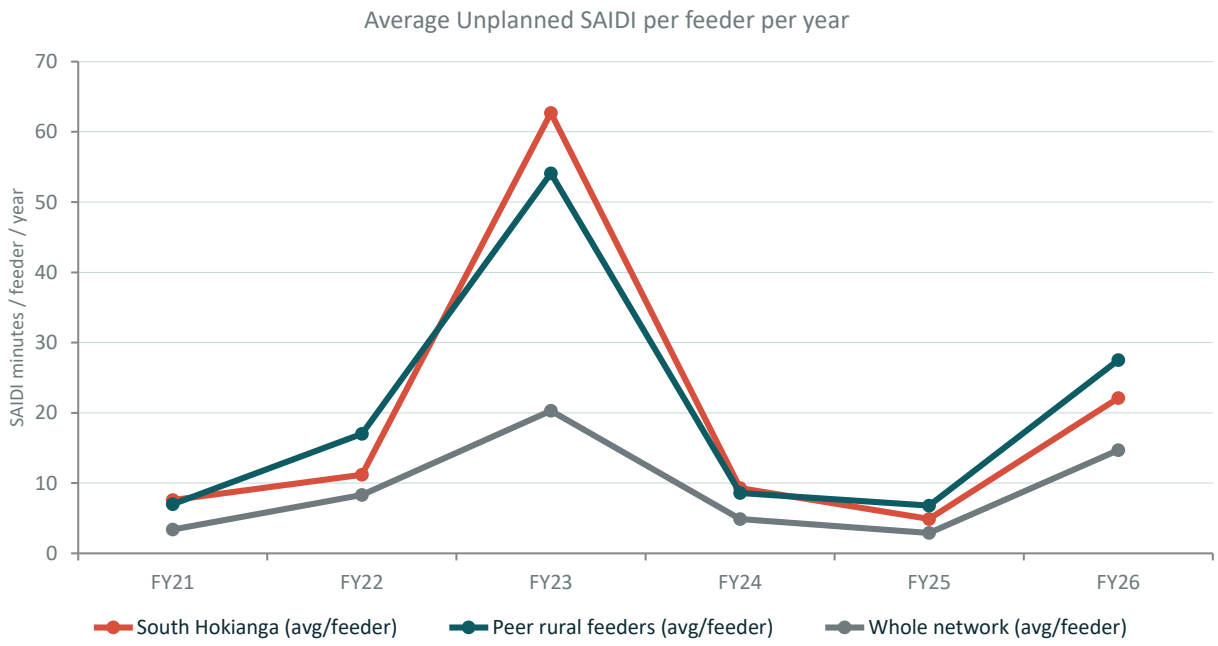
Cyclone Gabrielle (FY23) and Cyclone Tam (FY26) account for the bad years

The honest summary

South Hokianga's underlying reliability is in line with comparable rural feeders. The lived experience of bad outages is real, but it is overwhelmingly driven by major weather events, not by an underlying weakness specific to South Hokianga.

TREND · PER-FEEDER SAIDI

South Hokianga tracks the network — including the bad years.



READING THE CHART

FY23 — Cyclone Gabrielle

Region-wide event. Both rural lines hit hard. Network avg up 4×.

FY25 — Significant improvement

South Hokianga at 4.9 — below peers and well below FY26.

FY26 — Cyclone Tam + storms

Cyclone Tam average impact for South Hokianga was 15.9 SAIDI mins. SH still tracks below peers.

South Hokianga's line has the same shape as peers. When the region has a bad year, every long rural feeder has a bad year.

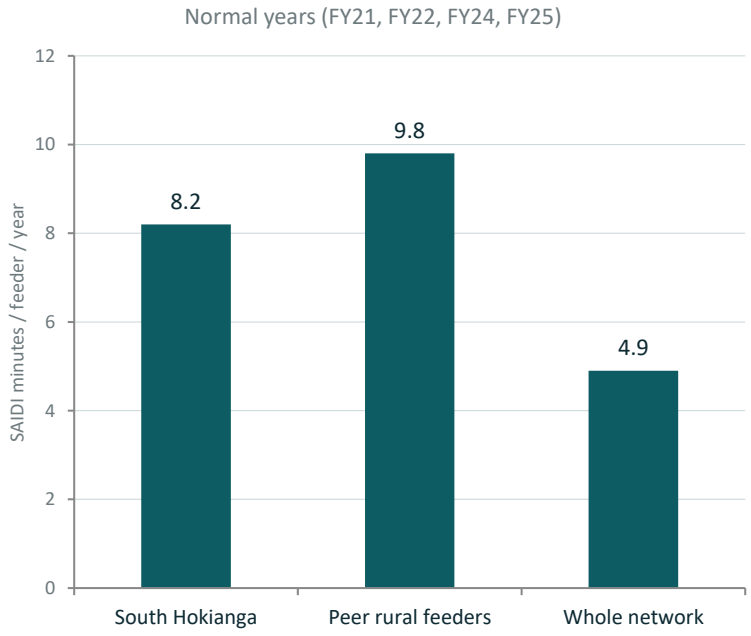
STRIPPING OUT THE WEATHER

What South Hokianga looks like in normal years.

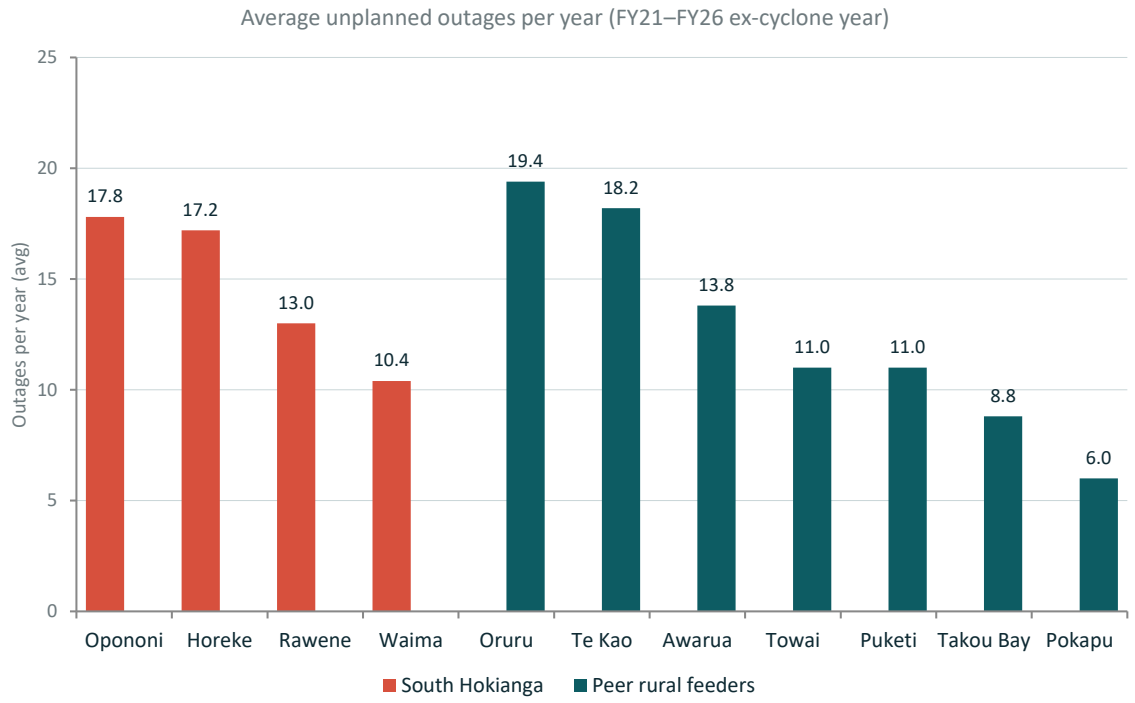
Without the cyclones, the picture is steady — and improving.

FY23 (Cyclone Gabrielle) and FY26 (Cyclone Tam + autumn storms) are the two outliers in the six-year series.

Looking at the four "normal" years (FY21, FY22, FY24, FY25), South Hokianga averaged 8.2 SAIDI minutes per feeder per year — Similar to peer rural feeders at 9.8.



Network Performance – # outages



WHAT WE SEE

13–18

outages per year

South Hokianga's main feeders sit squarely in the middle of the peer range.

Opononi

the busiest

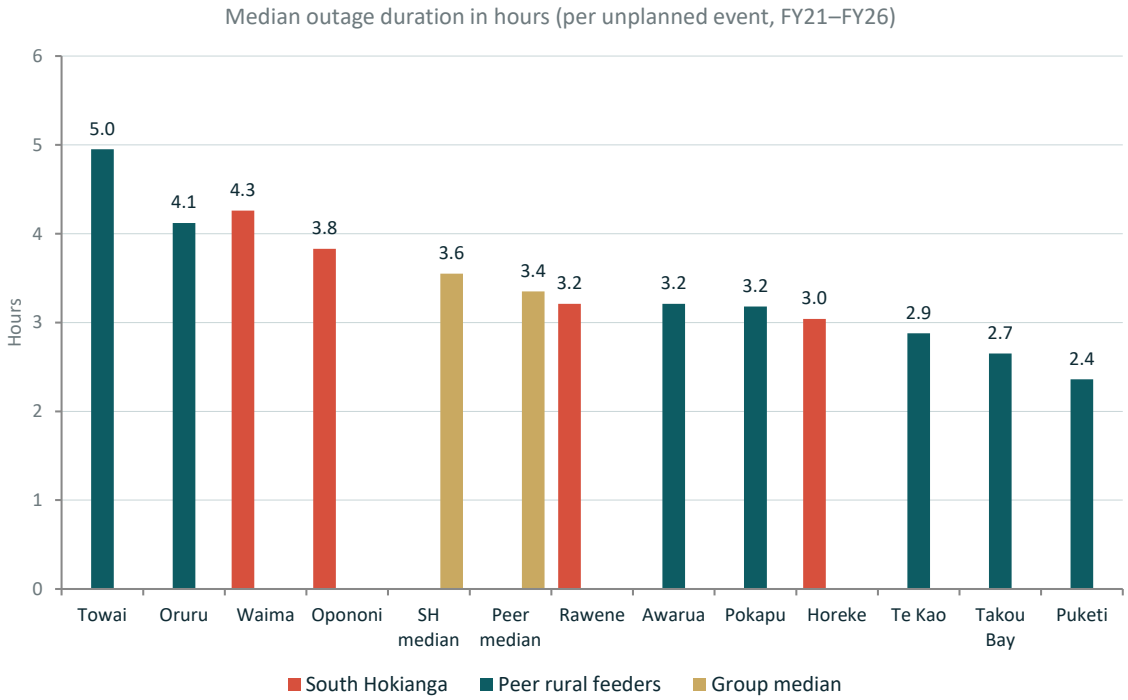
17.8/yr — same ballpark as Te Kao (18.2) and Oruru (19.4). All long, exposed lines.

Pokapu

the quietest peer

Just 6/yr — but only 12 km long with very few customers.

Network Performance – Ave. Duration (6 years)



WHAT WE SEE

3h 33m
South Hokianga median

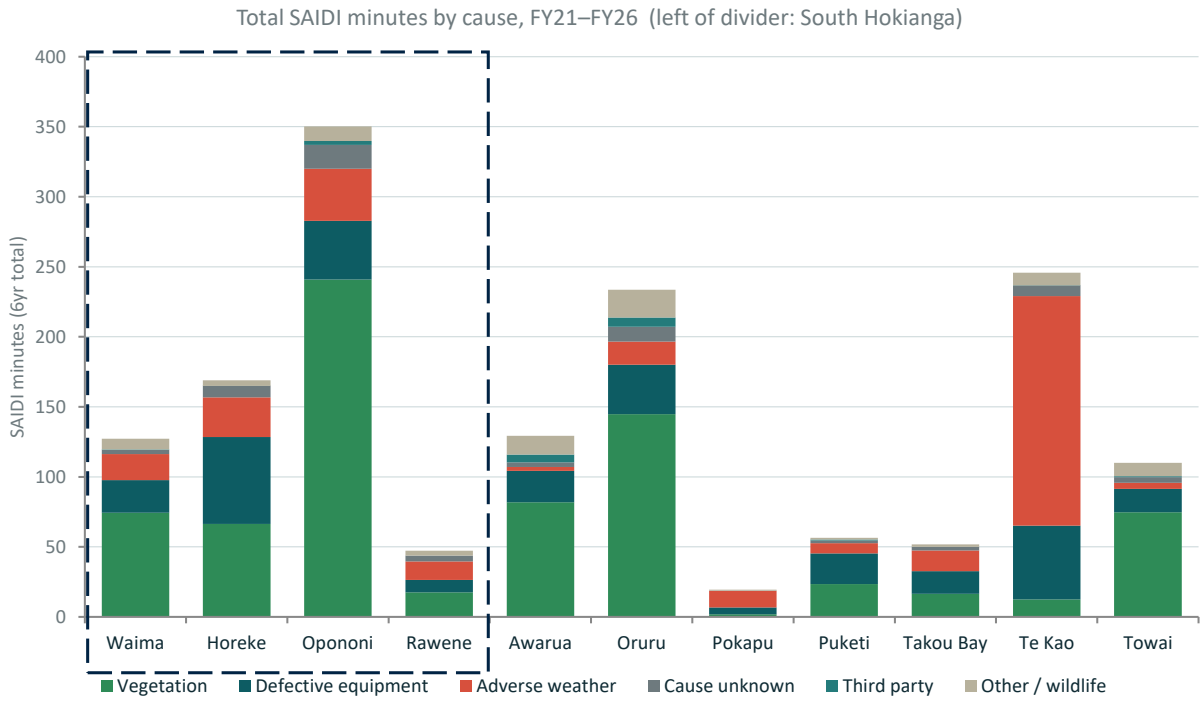
3h 21m
Peer median — 12 minutes shorter

WHY THE NUMBERS LOOK SIMILAR

These feeders are **long, single-supply rural lines**.

Once a fault is reported, crews need similar travel and switching time regardless of which feeder it's on.

Drivers are different across the areas (6 years)



DOMINANT CAUSE BY FEEDER

Opononi 69%
Vegetation
of feeder's 6-yr SAIDI

Waima 58%
Vegetation
of feeder's 6-yr SAIDI

Horeke 76%
Vegetation / equip
of feeder's 6-yr SAIDI

Rawene —
Mixed — no dominant
of feeder's 6-yr SAIDI

FY26 IN FOCUS

What drove the most recent year

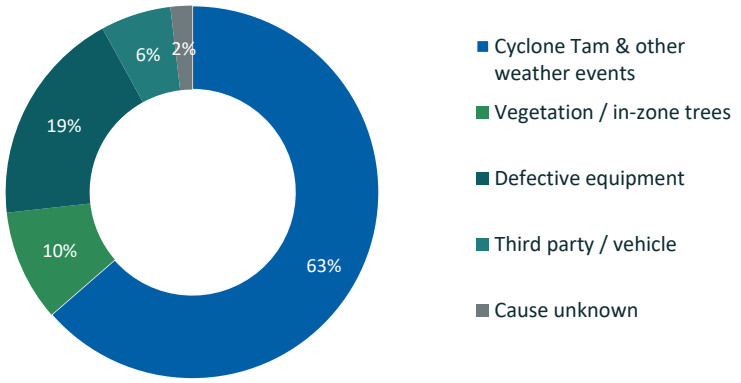
63.7 From Cyclone Tam (April 2025) — single weather event

20.7 From other weather events (high winds, lightning, slips, flooding)

84.4 **Total weather-driven minutes**

132.8 **Total unplanned SAIDI minutes** (South Hokianga, FY26)

FY26 SAIDI by cause — South Hokianga



Why FY26 felt bad

- **Cyclone Tam landed in the first month of the financial year with a significant impact to the network.**
- **Weather drove 63.5% of FY26 was weather-driven.**
- **The remainder is predominantly trees in the line and equipment failures — both of which the work programme on the next slides directly targets.**


Asset
Management

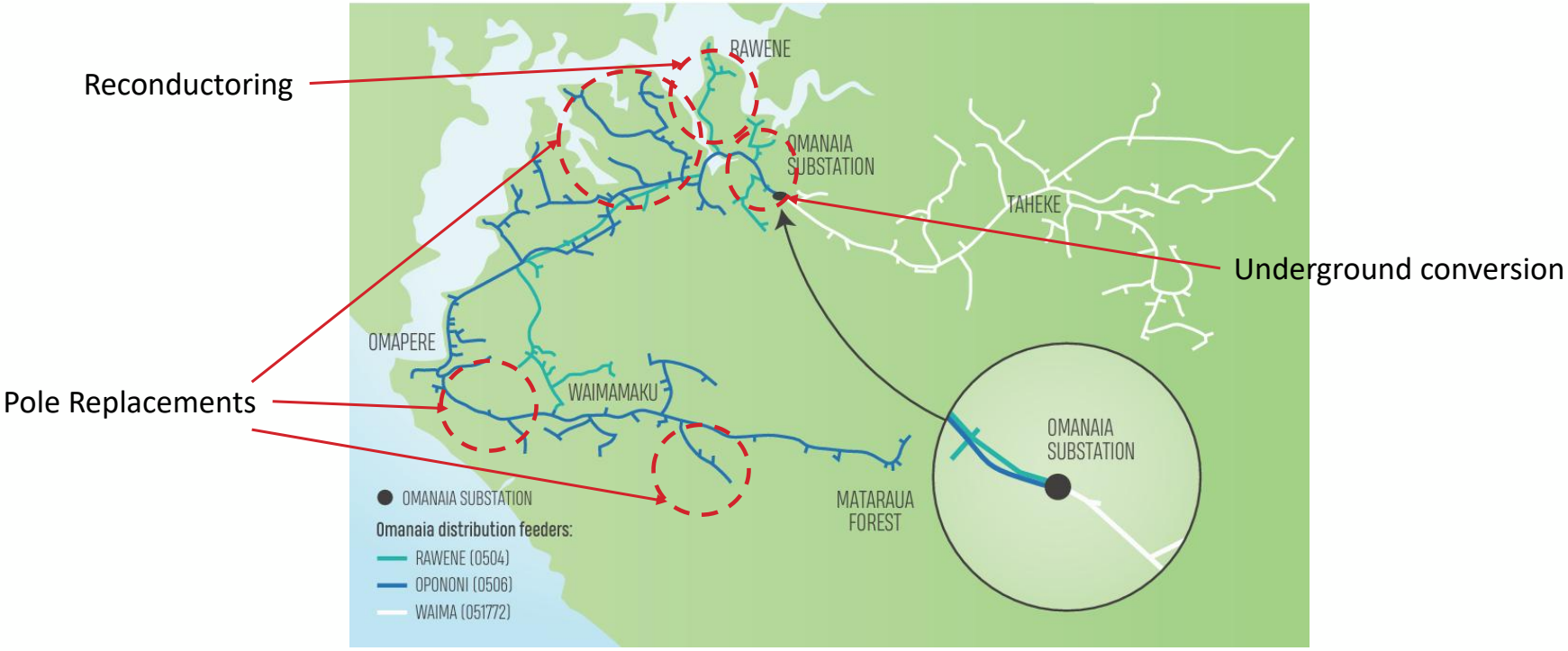
THE PLAN · CAPITAL PROJECTS

$7.4M of work going into South Hokianga.

FY	Area / Feeder	What we're doing	$000
FY25	Opononi backbone — Koutu Loop Rd	Pole replacements	*160*
FY25	Opononi backbone — Waiotemarama	Pole replacements	*150*
FY24/25	Rawene Peninsula	Conductor replacements	*1,746*
FY25/26	Opononi backbone — Omanaia to Oue	Underground feeder section	*1,268*
		Total Investment FY24-26	**3,324**
FY27	Waima — Omanaia sub onwards	Pole replacements	*490*
FY27	Rawene — Oue to end of feeder	Pole replacements	*630*
FY27	Rawene/Opononi automation	Back-feed Omapere/Opononi from Rawene via Waiotemarama	*726*
FY29/30	Rawene/Horeke peninsula	11kV interconnection	*1,534*
FY27-30	South Hokianga Targeted Defect Remediation	Replacement of poles, crossarms and other aged assets	*648*
		Total Investment Planned FY27-30	**4,028**

Source: Top Energy capital programme. Values in NZD '000.

What have we been doing?



What are we doing next?

Automation & Interconnection

Pole & Crossarm Replacements

THE LOGIC OF THE PLAN

Each piece of work targets a specific reliability problem.

ROOT CAUSE (FY21-FY26 exc. cyclones)	WHAT WE'RE DOING	EXPECTED EFFECT
Defective equipment 28% of SAIDI	**Pole replacements + reconductoring** $3.2M across Opononi, Rawene, Waima — plus 9 maintenance jobs in execution	**Fewer equipment-driven faults** Renewed assets fail less often — direct SAIDI reduction
Vegetation / trees 21% of SAIDI	**Underground Opononi backbone** $1.27M — Omanaia to Oue section, removes a long stretch from tree exposure	**Removes trees from the equation on a key span** Removes the in-zone and tree-fall risk on the worst-affected feeder
Adverse weather 29% of SAIDI	**Distribution automation + back-feed** $726k — restores power faster	**Shorter outages when faults occur** Customers restored from a different direction in minutes, not hours
Long radial exposure no second feed	**11kV interconnection Rawene–Horeke** $1.53M — creates a second supply path for the peninsula	**Network-shape change** Providing a backup for the area

Summary

VS PEER RURAL FEEDERS

Comparable

TREND OVER 6 YEARS

Improving

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Thank You

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