

Media statement – for immediate release
4.00pm – Wednesday, 6 June 2012

Snow affects parts of Orion’s network

Approximately 3,500 customers are without power across the Orion electricity network, including in parts of Marshland, Spencerville, Brooklands, West Melton and Hororata – mostly where trees weighed down by snow have fallen onto power lines.

Snow is still falling heavily across the Orion area in Christchurch and central Canterbury. It appears that the cold front has stalled over Christchurch and the area inland to Annat.

“Access for our repair crews is hampered by the conditions. Our teams will continue to work as quickly and safely as they can until nightfall, however it’s likely that some people will be without power overnight,” says Orion Chief Executive Rob Jamieson.

If your power is off please prepare for a night without power, just in case. Wrap up warmly and contact friends and family for help where necessary.

Stay clear of any fallen power lines and treat them as live at all times. To report lines down call Orion on 03 363 9898.

ENDS

For more information please contact:

Orion Media Phone: 0275 055 761

Further information:

- The Orion website gives details of current power outages, including areas affected and estimates for power restoration – see www.oriongroup.co.nz/outages.aspx.
- Orion also uses Twitter to send updates about the power supply situation in Christchurch and central Canterbury – see www.twitter.com/OrionNZ.
- **Orion’s next update will be by 7.00pm today, unless the situation changes significantly.**

