

“Future Operating Model” transcript

Imagine the world in 2031. The future is fast approaching and with it comes changing community expectations, new technologies, and new energy services and solutions.

At SA Power Networks, we are preparing for the new world via our Future Operating Model.

Our Future Operating Model looks at how our business may change to meet the needs of our customers now and into the future.

There’s no doubt that customers will have more choice for how they source, manage and use their electricity. Many customers will invest in new technology while others will continue to rely on the network and expect reliable supply at the best possible price.

Many homeowners may choose solar generation and battery storage to make themselves more self-sufficient. These homeowners may also elect to share or sell electricity locally to optimise their energy use and keep costs down.

Homeowners may also find themselves in communities otherwise known as micro grids. It will collectively want to pool their energy resources and monitor their performance to ensure optimal results.

As electric vehicles become popular, owners will want to access electricity at a competitive price. These motorists will also want access to reliable connection points to charge their electric vehicles located in sites such as supermarkets or shopping centres. These charging points will become part of our not too distant future.

Rural customers may be largely self-sufficient. However, there may be times when they call on the network to top up their energy stores or provide extra energy for those critical tasks. Renewable generation and energy storage provide useful opportunities for remote communities to be more self-sufficient in the future.

SA Power Networks will continue to be responsible for the maintenance and delivery of a safe, secure and reliable distribution network.

In South Australia 2031, the network will be more diverse as the use of technology for generating and storing electricity will bring some challenges as well as exciting opportunities for customers, and SA Power Networks new electricity generation and storage options will provide opportunities to reduce long-term costs and improve usage and performance of the network to be ready for the future.

SA Power Networks is establishing new capabilities and systems. New approaches for how we plan for the network, what assets we build, and the systems we need to monitor the flow of electricity in a multi-directional network will ensure we become the enabler for what you, the customer, need to do.

We will continue to provide a safe, secure and reliable energy platform for all customers now and into the future.