

# Executive Leadership Team (ELT)



Empowering South Australia

## Rob Stobbe, Chief Executive Officer

Rob has more than 30 years' experience in the utilities infrastructure arena having held senior management positions in electricity, water, gas and telecommunications sectors both in Australia and overseas. He is a former CEO of TransAdelaide and Spark Infrastructure and has held senior executive positions at Northern Gas (UK), Powercor and CitiPower.

Rob holds a Bachelor of Business degree in Accounting, a fellow of CPA Australia, and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



## Jessica Vonthethoff, General Manager Customer and Community

Jess has a passion for working collaboratively with stakeholders to improve customer outcomes in energy. In recent years she has been championing industry-leading engagement with customers and location and national stakeholders to inform SA Power Networks' future business plans. Jess has applied her strategic communications, community building and stakeholder engagement skills, honed over 20 years in diverse fields in both the private and government sectors, to deeply understand customer perspectives on energy.

Jess has a BA (Hons), a Graduate Diploma in Communications, and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



## Doug Schmidt, General Manager Network Management

Doug has 30 years' experience in the electricity industry and also has experience in senior management roles in Local Government, in particular operational management, asset management and management of major engineering projects in the public realm. In his current role, Doug is responsible for network engineering, network control and asset management for the SA electricity distribution network. Doug's current role also includes the implementation of SA Power Networks' Future Network Strategy, in particular how the 'network of the future' will accommodate new technologies such as renewable generation sources and new customer equipment such as in-home battery storage and electric vehicles.

Doug holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Adelaide University.



## Mark Brownley, General Manager Field Services

Mark has more than 20 years' experience in complex asset management and systems development, having held executive-level operational and technical positions with ASX50 group companies. He is responsible for infrastructure services to the distribution network including operations, the delivery of capital projects and network upgrades, maintenance and supply restoration.

Mark is a Fellow Chartered Professional Engineer and holds a degree in Chemical Engineering, a Master of Business Administration and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



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## Richard Amato - General Manager Enerven

Richard has more than 20 years' experience in construction, wine, manufacturing and energy industries, both in the public and private sectors. He is responsible for SA Power Networks' wholly-owned subsidiary Enerven, which provides electrical and telecommunication infrastructure across the National Market.

Richard is a Fellow Certified Practising Accountant and holds a degree in Accounting and a Master of Business Administration. He is also a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University.



## Kevin Jones - Chief Financial Officer

Kevin was appointed as Chief Financial Officer of SA Power Networks in March 2020. Prior to this, Kevin had more than 20 years' experience in finance, strategy, governance and general management roles across a wide range of industries. Kevin brings transformative thinking and people-centred leadership to the roles he undertakes. Since migrating to Australia in 2007, Kevin has worked in the utilities sector, firstly at Water Corporation in WA, then as CFO and Corporate Secretary at Yarra Valley Water in Victoria, and most recently as CFO of Sydney Water, Australia's largest water utility.

Kevin is a chartered accountant, a chartered secretary and holds qualifications in humanities and music performance.



## David Syme - General Manager People and Culture

David has more than 30 years' experience in the electricity industry. He is responsible for the provision of support services to the business, including human relations, learning and development, occupational health and safety, and environmental services.

David holds a Bachelor of Economics, a Diploma in Market Research and a Masters of Business Administration. He is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



## Chris Ford - General Manager Innovation and Technology

Chris has more than 27 years' senior management experience in utilities and government organisations, both in Australia and the UK. He is responsible for all aspects of Information Technology and driving a culture of innovation across the organisation.

Chris is a Chartered Engineer, holds an honours degree in Computer and Control Systems and is a Fellow of the Institute of Engineering and Technology. He is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has completed the Advanced Management Program in INSEAD. Chris is also a Director of the South Australian Water Corporation.



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## Patrick Makinson - General Manager Governance and Regulation

Patrick has more than 20 years' experience in the electricity industry in senior management positions within Finance, Risk and Insurance. He holds the position of Company Secretary and provides broad consultative advice across the business. He holds Directorships with the ElectricSuper and the Energy and Water Ombudsman SA.

Patrick is a Chartered Accountant with a Masters in Business Administration.



## Mark Vincent - General Manager Strategy and Transformation

Mark has more than 35 years' experience in the energy industry and has been engaged in many areas within the electrical sector, including Regulation, Operations Management, Asset Management and Business Transformation. Mark is currently charged with developing SA Power Networks' strategy to deal with the opportunities arising from customers' continued take-up of distributed energy resources, and the increasing challenges and risks posed by SA's ageing network infrastructure. The strategy is seeking to support the State's transition to a decentralised, decarbonised energy system, while continuing to deliver a safe, reliable and affordable distribution service.

Mark holds a degree in Electronic Engineering and several post-graduate qualifications. He is also a Director, and Chairs the Corporate Governance Committee of the Electricity Industry Superannuation Scheme (SA) and sits on the Energy Industry Roundtable, providing advice to the Federal Government on energy policy.

