# Normandale Times

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### Wellington Electricity presentation



The recent presentation at St. Aidan's by Wellington Electricity staff was well attended, with a number of questions asked by Normandale residents during the Q&A portion of the evening (see above).

Wellington Electricity's General Manager Asset Management Waqar Qureshi and Commercial and Regional Manager Scott Scrimgeour explained how the electricity distribution company provides electricity to Normandale. They also outlined the regulatory regime that directs their operation. They pointed out that Wellington Electricity owns, operates and maintains the power distribution assets (e.g. the poles and wires) but does not sell electricity to residents. Wellington Electricity also provides one of the cheapest power distribution charges in the country.

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**Disclaimer:** The opinions expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect those of the committee. \*Note: Copy deadline is the 25th of preceding month.

Next NRA meeting: 21st March 2024 7:30pm at St Aidan's on the Hill. All association members welcome.

## What makes up your power bill?



We combine Transpower's transmission charges (the cost of running the National Grid) with our charges (distribution charges) to make up lines charges, which retailers then re-package with their own and third-party costs. The following diagram shows each of the elements that make up your power bill:



and MBIE data sourced February 2024.

'Lines charges'

#### (Wellington Electricity presentation cont.)

They also outlined recent and proposed upgrading work, involving pole and line replacement. In particular they explained the causes of last October's power outages, the challenges involved in managing similar situations in the future, and mitigation measures carried out.

Last October's power outages experienced by some Normandale homes were due to extreme weather events, which caused lines to clash and become entangled, as well as line vegetation encroachment. Fixes involved line re-tensioning and vegetation trimming. Despite the October outages, Qureshi and Scrimgeour noted Wellington Electricity still met their 39 electricity outage minutes per household / year target for this suburb.

It was explained that Normandale obtains most of its electricity from a small Wellington Electricity substation positioned under the Normandale overbridge. This substation is provided electricity from Transpower's substation at Melling. In emergency situations an alternative partial supply of power can be obtained from Korokoro.

Wellington Electricity noted that they carry out 3 & 5 year cycle vegetation encroachment patrols, and if they observe vegetation on private property encroaching onto their assets, they will send a 'cut-notice' to the property owners, which advises the owners to get the vegetation cut back by approved arborists at the property owner's cost. While these Government trimming regulations came into effect in 2003, Wellington Electricity noted that they are presently under review.

If you would like to view the presentation slides that Wellington Electricity showed, please contact us at Normandale.residents@gmail.com and we will send them to you. Above is one of the slides shown.

Thanks to all the residents who turned out on the day with their questions and a big thanks to Waqar, Scott and the rest of the Wellington Electricity team.





## The corner gardenthanks and thanks!

The little garden on the corner of Normandale and Mirimiro roads (pictured) is once again looking loved. It has been weeded, watered and mulched. We would like to thank a Stratton Street family for providing, delivering and helping to spread the mulch.

The plants would appreciate some regular watering, so during this hot, dry weather if you are passing and can take a bottle of water, please give them a drink.



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