

Media Release



12 September 2018

Prepare your property for storm season

Essential Energy is reminding residents to prepare their properties for storm season and minimise the risk of electrical safety incidents and power supply outages.

Head of Health, Safety and Environment, Christine Withycombe, issued the warning following increased storm activity across parts of New South Wales and southern Queensland in recent weeks.

“Storm season generally occurs from October through to March; however, unseasonably warm and dry conditions mean unpredictable weather could hit at any time,” Christine said.

“Severe storms can damage homes and the electricity network, causing unplanned power outages for customers and local communities.

“Prepare your property before severe weather arrives by removing debris and overgrown vegetation from around the home, clearing gutters and checking that trees are a safe distance from powerlines.”

Essential Energy encourages property owners to report vegetation that is growing too close to the electricity network on 13 20 80.

“We advise keeping a household emergency kit handy which includes a battery-powered torch and radio, candles and waterproof matches, drinking water and non-perishable food, a first aid kit, and a list of emergency contact numbers including Essential Energy’s 24-hour 13 20 80 number,” Christine said.

“During a storm or severe weather, unplug electronic equipment like televisions and computers, stay indoors and if possible check social media via mobile phones for updates.”

“Always assume fallen powerlines or any objects in contact with them are live and stay at least eight metres away from them,” Christine added.

For more storm safety tips, visit essentialenergy.com.au.



Caption: Prepare your property before storms arrive to reduce the risk of damage to the electricity network.

Media contact:
Simone Plews, Corporate Media Manager
02 6588 6733 or 0457 514 993

Essential Energy is the operator of one of Australia’s largest electricity networks spanning 95 per cent of New South Wales and parts of southern Queensland. Owned by the New South Wales Government, Essential Energy also provides water and sewerage services to customers in far western New South Wales.