

Auckland Power Supply Failure 1998



The Report of the Ministerial Inquiry into the Auckland Power Supply Failure



February 21, 1998

12.15pm

URGENT NOTICE: CBD POWER SUPPLY

Aucklanders are being asked not to visit Auckland's central business district following power cuts to most of the area.

Areas without power for the next seven days are bordered by Stanley St, Beach Rd, Quay St to the Viaduct basin, most of Fanshaw St, the western side of the city bounded by Nelson St and up to Spaghetti Junction along with the Karangahape Rd area and most of its side streets. Upper Queen St including the western side streets and a section of Eden Tce is also affected.

People who currently have power in this area may not have continuous supply - and everyone should treat all wires as live at all times.

The limited amount of electricity available has been allocated to the needs of emergency services so health and safety are given top priority. Electricity is not guaranteed to any other customer in the CBD for the next seven days.

A combined meeting between Mercury Energy and emergency services was held this morning and Aucklanders are being advised to adopt the following measures as the area faces a loss of power for seven days:

- People living in apartment building should check their neighbours to ensure they are OK.
- Building owners should come in to the city and check their buildings and lifts to make sure people have not been trapped in lifts
- If you live in the central city and you have no power please seek alternative accommodation outside the area.
- Auckland Hospital and the Starship hospital are currently providing services as usual.
- Contingency plans have been put in place to ensure essential services are maintained under all circumstances.
- Food premises without continuous power supply should not serve perishable foods.
- Where possible do not operate food premises affected by power cuts.
- We advise all businesses affected to remain closed over the next week, or relocate if possible for that time.
- GP's in the CBD will continue to operate as usual.
- The Hero Parade will go ahead, but people asked not to move into the city afterwards.
- If you are in an area where a blackout has occurred please make efforts to conserve water.

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