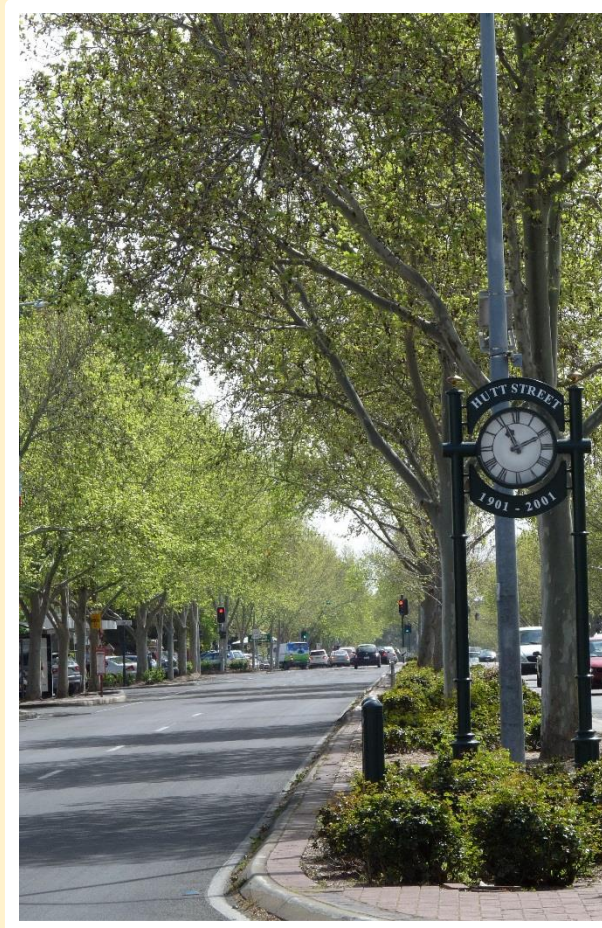


power line environment committee

Annual Report 2014-15



Celebrating 25 years



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Before



Front cover:

Hutt Street, Adelaide.
Mature trees and established
garden beds create a pleasant,
shaded avenue.

Old Coach/Port Roads, Aldinga

After



2014-2015: PLEC FUNDING AT A GLANCE



5 Kilometres of undergrounding

Metropolitan Area- 90% of funds

Country Areas- 10% of funds

\$6,620,000

PLEC funding prescribed by Regulation

\$6,620,000

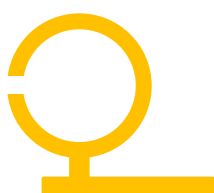
2015-16 PLEC program
Funded by SA Power Networks

\$3,310,000

2015-16 PLEC program
Funded by Councils

\$9,930,000

2015-16 total PLEC program

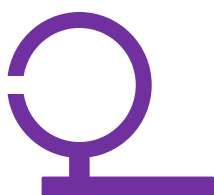


City of Port Lincoln

Edinburgh Street Stage 2

PLEC Funds \$671,468

Council Funds \$335,734

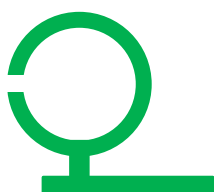


City of Unley

Goodwood Road Stage 2

PLEC Funds \$484,347

Council Funds \$242,174

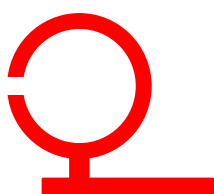


City of West Torrens

Phillips Street Stage 2

PLEC Funds \$1,337,760

Council Funds \$668,880



Campbelltown City Council

Lower North East Road Stage 1

PLEC Funds \$1,140,081

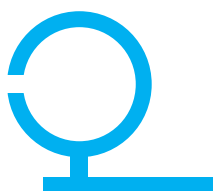
Council Funds \$570,041



Lower North East Road Stage 2

PLEC Funds \$1,140,081

Council Funds \$570,041



City of Prospect

Prospect Road Stage 3B

PLEC Funds \$810,521

Council Funds \$405,261



Prospect Road Stage 4A

PLEC Funds \$1,035,742

Council Funds \$517,871

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

30 September 2015

Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP
Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy
GPO Box 2264
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Minister

I am pleased to submit to you the Annual Report of the operations of the Power Line Environment Committee (PLEC) for the 2014-15 financial year. This year marks the twenty-fifth year of PLEC's operations. A summary report of operations over the past 25 years follows this annual report.

During 2014-15, the Committee recommended a program of seven projects to the Technical Regulator for funding approval. This program will underground a total of five kilometres of power lines. The majority of these projects are complex in nature and are being carried out on busy arterial roads. Hence, the associated costs are at the higher end of the scale.

SA Power Networks' contribution towards funding those projects, which will be built during the 2015-16 financial year, is \$6,620,000 which meets the funding prescribed by the *Electricity Act 1996* (\$6.62 million). The participating councils' collective contribution is \$3,310,000.

The program comprises the continuing stages of substantial projects on Goodwood Road, Prospect Road and Phillips Street/West Thebarton Road, Hindmarsh. In addition, a two-stage project on Lower North East Road, submitted by Campbelltown City Council, was also approved for construction. This project provides the groundwork for Campbelltown Council's upgrade of a section of Lower North East Road adjacent the village shopping precinct.

Ninety per cent of the funding approved during the year is directed to projects in the metropolitan area on major traffic routes. Except for the City of West Torrens' project at Hindmarsh, all of the metropolitan projects involve roads under the jurisdiction of the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI). These projects have an increased focus on road safety. The remaining ten per cent of funding was allocated to a regional project in the business precinct of Pt Lincoln.

Following the Local Government elections at the end of 2014, the Committee wrote to newly-elected mayors to inform them of the operations of PLEC and to encourage them to consider how prominent places in their council areas could benefit from the undergrounding scheme. A number of councils responded positively with a couple renewing their engagement with PLEC after a long spell.

In February 2015, PLEC welcomed Mr Alex Duerden as its latest DPTI representative. Mr Duerden replaced Ms Gabby O'Neill who stepped down from the Committee because of a change of role within the department. On behalf of PLEC I thank Gabby for support and assistance to PLEC.

The Committee thanks SA Power Networks for its continued support to the program in accordance with its legislated responsibility. The professional manner in which it goes about its work, and the flexible approach shown in managing the needs of associated participants, traders and residents, is well and truly appreciated as is the influence of SA Power Networks' PLEC representative, Mr Michael Magin in ensuring positive outcomes.

Thanks are also extended to the participating councils, Telstra and DPTI for their contributions to the various projects that, steadily but surely, make areas of our state aesthetically pleasing and safer for all.

I have valued the interaction with the Committee this year. The team is positive and vibrant, and the mix of backgrounds and personalities makes for sound and responsible outcomes with which I am pleased to be involved. Of interest to PLEC, the advancing technologies such as LED street lighting and signage, and the integration of security and communications technologies in street lighting assets, are becoming of greater relevance to councils when considering options on PLEC projects.

I thank the Committee members for their contributions in formulating the PLEC program. Of note, Ms Margaret Lee and Ms Di Harvey have reached 20 years of service to PLEC this year. Their commitment is commendable and worthy of recognition.

Our Executive Officer, Mr Stuart McPherson has provided PLEC with strong support throughout the year and has mapped a prospective program through to 2017-18 to ensure the program advances effectively. I also thank Ms Rachel Hunt and Ms Jo Ormond for their secretarial services at the PLEC meetings during the year.

I commend this annual report to you.

Yours sincerely



Hon Rosemary Crowley AO
Chairperson PLEC



DISTRIBUTION OF PLEC FUNDING 2014-15

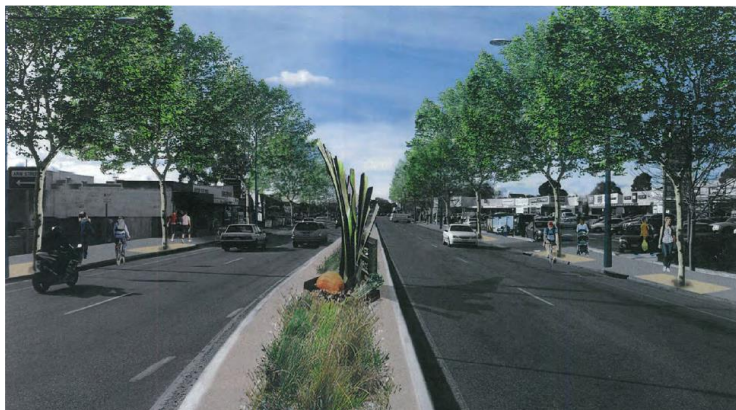
The prescribed level of PLEC funding calculated in accordance with of the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012* during 2015-16 is **\$6.62 million**.

The Power Line Environment Committee recommended funding for seven projects to the total value of **\$9,930,000** during 2014-15 (refer Table 1 page 5). The Technical Regulator, who is delegated the powers under the *Electricity Act 1996* in regard of PLEC, approved the recommended projects which will be constructed during 2015-16.

The approved PLEC funding component of **\$6,620,000** for the two six-month programs represents SA Power Networks' two-thirds contribution towards the total project costs pursuant to the PLEC Charter. The contribution to projects by SA Power Networks meets the prescribed funding. Council contributions of **\$3,310,000** make up the other one-third of the project costs.

Five projects on roads under the jurisdiction of DPTI were approved in the program; Prospect Road, Prospect Stage 3B; Prospect Road, Prospect Stage 4A; Goodwood Road, Goodwood Stage 2 and Lower North East Road, Stages 1 and 2. DPTI will fund the provision of street lighting on these projects.

The City of Prospect maintained momentum on its program to underground Prospect Road. The second section of the fourth stage is planned for 2016-17, which will leave only a small section to complete undergrounding of the full length of Prospect Road.



The removal of the power lines on Lower North East Road, in the vicinity Campbelltown Shopping Village, makes way for a substantial streetscape upgrade being undertaken by Campbelltown City Council. The streetscape includes significant tree planting and greening of the centre median as seen in the artist's impression, left.

The undergrounding program for 2015-16 comprises a mix of 90% (\$5.6 million) of funding for projects in the metropolitan area and 10% (\$0.62 million) in regional areas. Usually, about 25% of funding is distributed in country areas. The smaller proportion of country projects planned for 2015-16 is due to the number of large projects in the metropolitan area that have been staged to occur over two or more financial years.

The total value of projects undertaken in the 25 years of PLEC operations is \$178.5 million. PLEC funding of \$115.1 million has been contributed by SA Power Networks (formerly ETSA Utilities), \$55.5 million by proponents (mainly councils) and \$7.9 million by the Transport Department.

PROJECTS RECOMMENDED AND APPROVED 2014-15

During 2014-15 the Committee recommended seven projects for funding approval that will result in the underground five kilometres of power lines.

Table 1 below lists the projects submitted to PLEC by councils during the year. The projects were recommended to the Technical Regulator and approved (on behalf of the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) for the 2015-16 the undergrounding program.

Table 1. Projects approved for construction during 2015-16

PROJECT	\$ PLEC	\$ Council
*City of Prospect, Prospect Road Stage 3B	\$810,521	\$405,260
City of Pt Lincoln, Edinburgh Street Stage 2	\$671,468	\$335,734
City of West Torrens, West Thebarton Road/Phillips Street Stage 2	\$1,337,760	\$668,880
*City of Unley, Goodwood Road Stage 2	\$484,347	\$242,174
*Campbelltown City Council, Lower North East Road Stage 1	\$1,140,081	\$570,041
*City of Prospect, Prospect Road Stage 4 A	\$1,035,742	\$517,871
*Campbelltown City Council, Lower North East Road Stage 2	\$1,140,081	\$570,040
* Public lighting funded by DPTI	\$6,620,000	\$3,310,000

Seventy per cent of funding (\$4,610,772) was allocated to PLEC projects on roads under the jurisdiction of DPTI. DPTI installs frangible lighting columns on its roads, which are designed to absorb impact and collapse in a controlled manner if struck by a vehicle. The design reduces the chance of injury to vehicle passengers during a collision and to pedestrians who may be nearby.

Where appropriate, DPTI grants permission for the installation of SA Power Networks' lighting columns that are compliant with the applicable Australian Standard. This permits PLEC to carry out projects on other DPTI roads with no impact on DPTI's budget for PLEC projects on metropolitan roads, which have a greater departmental safety priority.

During 2014-15 DPTI contributed a total of \$491,000 towards public lighting on metropolitan arterial road PLEC projects.

PROJECT CONSTRUCTION DURING 2014-15

The following provides a brief summary of the progress of each of the projects approved for construction during 2014-15.

Naracoorte, Robertson Road Stage 1 – This project is complete. Council has carried out stormwater works in conjunction with PLEC work and SA Power Networks' progress was partially dependent on the progress of the council's work. Preparation is underway for submission of Stage 2.

Nairne, Main Street Stage 1 – A great degree of consultation was undertaken in carrying out the project in Nairne, which was completed in a timely manner to accommodate a community event.

Cleve, Fourth Street – Work on Fourth Street is complete. Civil and customer connection work was carried out by the council in preparation for SA Power Networks' power line work. SA Power Networks installed double outreach lighting columns on this project to match the existing DPTI lighting on the adjacent PLEC project on Main Street, Cleve.

Pt Lincoln, Edinburgh Street Stage 1 – Work on this project has been scheduled to include Stage 2 of the project.

Glenelg, Augusta Street Stage 1 – City of Holdfast Bay and SA Power Networks have negotiated a later start date on this project due to difficulties in obtaining easements for siting electrical equipment. The design has been amended to situate the equipment within the road reserve, where the council will construct suitable sites.

Aldinga, Old Coach Road Stage 2 – This project is complete. Since planning for the undergrounding began, there have been a number of developments approved within the project precinct that will greatly increase the use of the area. DPTI is also planning roadworks to improve access to the area from Main South Road.

Work is underway on the first stages of the projects at **Thebarton**, Phillips Street, **Prospect**, Prospect Road (Stage 3) and **Goodwood**, Goodwood Road. They are to be carried out in conjunction with their respective second-stage works over two financial years to provide seamless staging, thus minimising disruption to traffic, traders and the community.

The **McLaren Vale**, Main Street Stage 4 project was outstanding from the previous year with approximately 15 per cent remaining for completion. The work was completed by SA Power Networks early in the 2014-15 year.

Old Coach Road and Port Road Aldinga -under construction



BEFORE AND AFTER

Main Street, McLaren Vale Stage 4

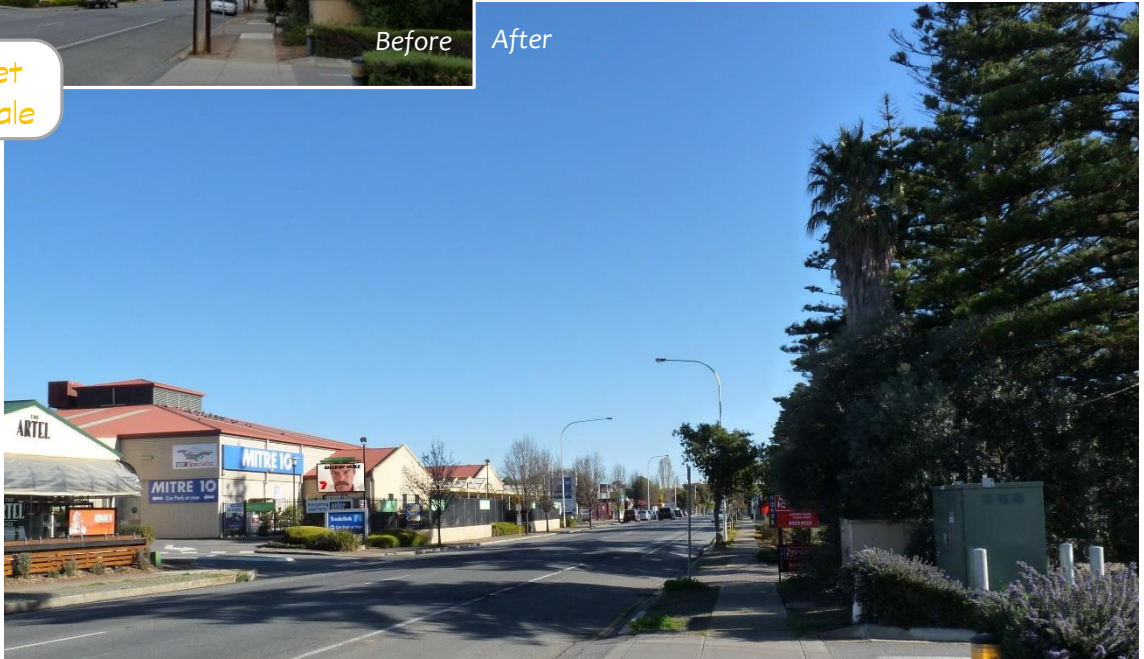
The final stage of undergrounding McLaren Vale's main street was completed during the year. The City of Onkaparinga carried out a stormwater upgrade in conjunction with the project and is now in a position to implement its streetscape that will meld with the theme of the earlier stages.



Before

Main Street
McLaren Vale

After



Main Street, Nairne Stage 1

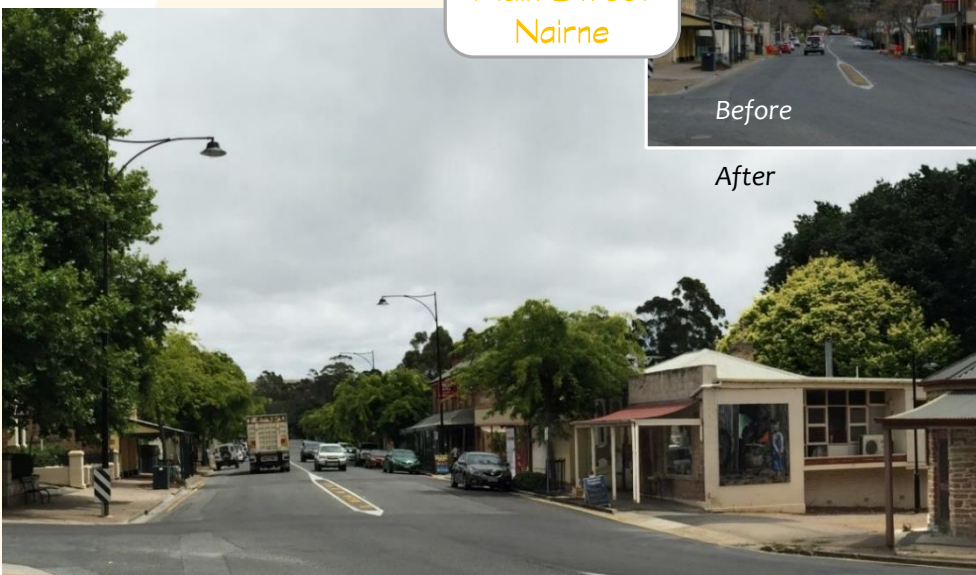
The outcomes on this project, submitted by the District Council of Mt Barker, demonstrate the spirit of cooperation that exists between SA Power Networks and stakeholders. The project was completed on time, avoiding construction work during a planned 175th year commemoration event for Main Street.

Main Street
Nairne



Before

After



Although the above 'before' picture was taken during the winter, it is evident that the removal of the power lines will now allow the trees to develop their full natural canopies, which will provide a shady environment during the summer.

BEFORE AND AFTER



Fourth Street, Cleve

The streetscaping of the median strip in Fourth Street includes a new entry statement (above), and an alfresco area (right), which has bollards and glass panels installed to protect users from vehicle intrusion. Shade umbrellas have been installed to complement new street furniture. The new lawn, gardens and trees are watered from treated effluent delivered by subsurface irrigation to drought proof the project.



Before

Fourth Street
Cleve



After



Looking east along Edinburgh Street from
the intersection of Mortlock Street

Edinburgh Street
Port Lincoln

Before

Edinburgh Street, Pt Lincoln Stage 2

Pt Lincoln Council has begun street-scaping Edinburgh Street. The existing concreted footpaths are to be removed and replaced with clay paving, maintaining the same theme as used previously in the undergrounded CBD areas.

Advanced Ornamental Pear trees are being planted in the median areas with the installation of associated irrigation pipeline, tree grates and root barrier.



After

THE POWER LINE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



The Power Line Environment Committee was established by the South Australian Government in 1990. It provides advice to the Minister responsible for the *Electricity Act 1996* (the **Act**) in relation to the preparation of programs for power line undergrounding work pursuant to section 58A of the Act.

The Committee consists of eight members from relevant organisations and areas of community interest who are appointed for a period of up to three years. PLEC projects are funded by a contribution of two dollars from SA Power Networks for each dollar contributed by councils. The Essential Services Commission of South Australia funds the operation of PLEC and provides the services of an Executive Officer.

Appointments

Mr Alex Duerden was appointed as representative for the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure from 23 February 2015, replacing Ms Gabby O'Neill who resigned from the Committee because of a change in roles within the department.

Mr Michael Magin was reappointed to PLEC as SA Power Networks' representative from 25 June 2015 to 5 March 2017. The appointment period of just over two years aligns with the expiry date of all other members.

Following the Premier's reform of government boards and committees in 2014, PLEC is no longer classified as a government board. As such, it will not be included in future reporting to Parliament by the Office of the Premier and Cabinet.

The Committee



Rosemary Crowley
(Chairperson)
Tourism



Kevin Hamilton
(Deputy Chair)
Community



Lachlan Clyne
Local Government
Association



Michael Magin
SA Power Networks



Alex Duerden
Department for
Planning, Transport
and Infrastructure



Margaret Lee
Conservation



Diana Harvey
Community



Tim Wilson
Department for
Environment, Water and
Natural Resources



This year, 2015, marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Power Line Environment Committee.

1990

25

2015

In May 1990, eight people were appointed to the Power Line Environment Committee (**PLEC**). Its brief was to expand the State's program of undergrounding existing overhead power lines for community benefit.

PLEC is an enhanced form of its predecessor, the Electricity Reticulation Advisory Committee (**ERAC**).

At that time, it was felt that the community had a preference for an accelerated rate of undergrounding, and that particular attention should be given to the State's tourist routes.

The functional and attractive streetscape of Main Street, Clarendon, undertaken by City of Onkaparinga following the removal of overhead power lines and poles.



INTRODUCTION

The introduction of PLEC in 1990 brought a substantial increase in the allocation of funds for placing power lines underground. Like the earlier scheme, PLEC directs funds to undergrounding projects in areas that benefit the general community by lessening the visual impact of power lines and making way for amenity upgrades with an increased environmental focus. PLEC offered an enhanced ‘two-for-one’ financial contribution rate, an increase over the previous scheme, which was funded on a ‘dollar-for-dollar’ basis.

The provisions for the undergrounding program were written into the Electricity Act 1996 (the **Act**) in readiness for the privatisation of South Australia’s electricity assets in 2000. In accordance with the Act, SA Power Networks (formerly ETSA Utilities), is required to contribute a prescribed level of funding annually in accordance with the *Electricity (General) Regulations 2012*.

The Charter of PLEC is to advise the Minister responsible for the Act (currently the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) in relation to the preparation of programs for undergrounding work pursuant to section 58A of the Act.¹ The Essential Services Commission of South Australia is responsible for the administration of PLEC.

The following pages summarise the distribution of project funding over the past 25 years and highlight some of the locations that have benefited from the PLEC program.



The District Council of Streaky Bay has undergrounded areas of the Streaky Bay township that focus on tourism - its foreshore amenity, Alfred Terrace; its shopping strip, Bay Street; and Wells Street, which connects the town centre to the tourist park.

The finished project on Alfred Terrace can be seen in the adjacent pictures.



¹ In 2011, the Minister for Energy delegated the powers and functions under the Act to the Technical Regulator.

ALLOCATION OF PLEC FUNDS

Overall funding and contributions

PLEC has been well received since the time it was established and has been very well patronised by South Australian councils and eligible proponents.

The Committee has overseen 384 projects in which approximately 220 kilometres of power lines have been undergrounded around the State in construction programs so far approved to the end of 2015.

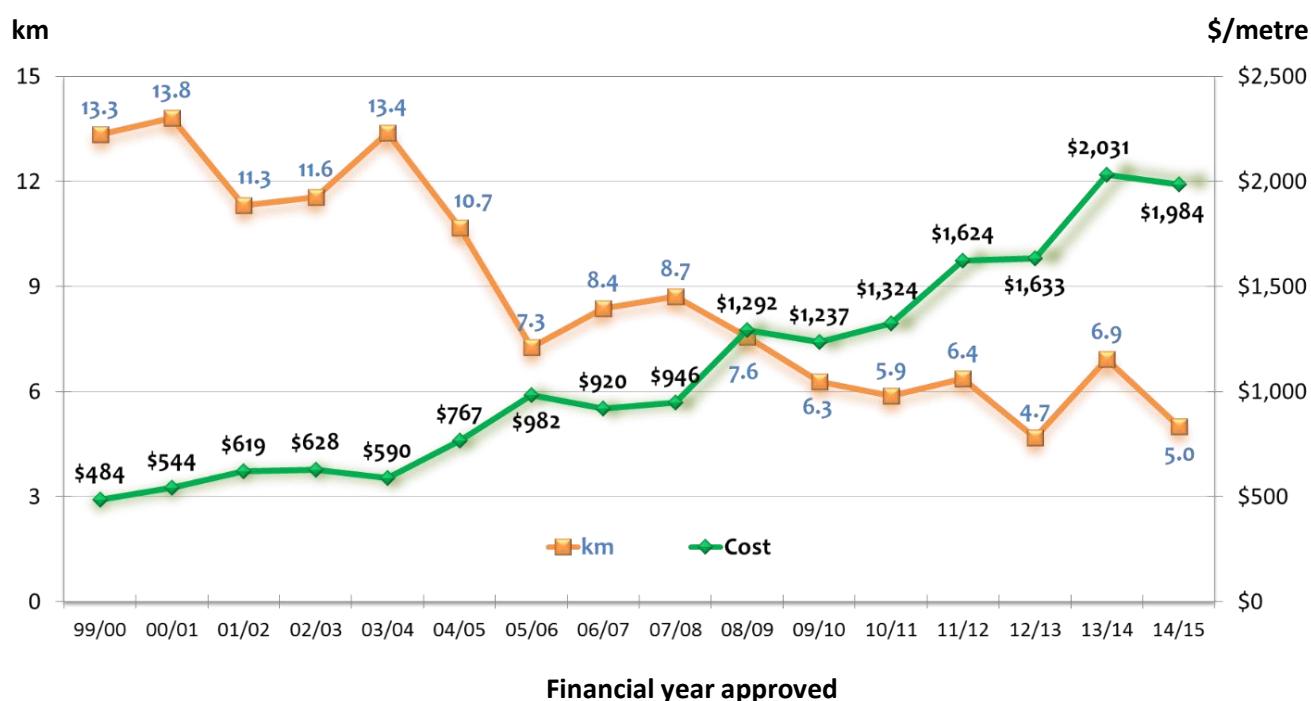
The total value of those projects undertaken is \$178.5 million, of which PLEC funding totalling \$115.1 million has been contributed by ETSA Utilities/SA Power Networks, \$55.5 million by proponents (mainly councils) and \$7.9 million by the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI).

Project costs and undergrounding achieved

Data on the distance of power lines undergrounded and the cost per metre have only been collected since 2000. Figure 1 below summarises this data and indicates that the unit cost per common service trench (CST) metre has steadily increased, resulting in a reduction in the distance of power lines undergrounded over time. Over this period, 140 kilometres of powerlines were undergrounded at an average cost of \$960 per CST-metre.

It is estimated that a further 80 kilometres of power lines were undergrounded prior to 2000 making a total of approximately 220 kilometres.

Figure 1. Undergrounding cost/CST-metre & total distance 2000-2015



COUNCIL ACTIVITY

Since 1990, 52 per cent of the approved PLEC funding has been distributed to ten councils. As shown in Table 1 below, the City of Pt Adelaide Enfield has been the most active proponent, having received marginally in excess of \$10 million. Table 1a compares the most active councils after 15 years of operation (to mid 2005 when a summary of the first 15 years of PLEC operations was published²) and after 25 years (2015). Notably, since 2005, the City of Port Adelaide Enfield has received almost double the funding it received in the first 15 years of the program. In addition, the City of Pt Lincoln, a regional council, has been sufficiently active to be included in this group of recipient councils.

In some cases, a proponent council may have undertaken a project that shares a common boundary with another council. It is a requirement, under the PLEC arrangements, that the adjoining council must agree to be a co-contributor to the project under an agreed cost sharing arrangement. Such is the case with the City of Charles Sturt, where it undertook a project on a boundary shared with the City of Pt Adelaide Enfield. Although the City of Charles Sturt was the project proponent, the City of Pt Adelaide Enfield contributed its share, thus receiving funding indirectly. The figures below reflect this shared funding arrangement.

Table 1 – PLEC funding approved comparing ten most active councils to 2005 and to 2015

Table 1 Funding to June 2015

<i>Pt Adelaide Enfield</i>	<i>\$10,099,927</i>
<i>Onkaparinga</i>	<i>\$7,682,985</i>
<i>Unley</i>	<i>\$6,971,786</i>
<i>Holdfast Bay</i>	<i>\$6,709,714</i>
<i>West Torrens</i>	<i>\$5,923,630</i>
<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>\$5,355,142</i>
<i>Pt Lincoln</i>	<i>\$5,054,736</i>
<i>Mt Barker</i>	<i>\$4,220,858</i>
<i>Charles Sturt</i>	<i>\$4,104,720</i>
<i>Mitcham</i>	<i>\$3,652,553</i>

Table 1a Funding to June 2005

<i>Onkaparinga</i>	<i>\$4,967,800</i>
<i>West Torrens</i>	<i>\$4,909,720</i>
<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>\$4,857,638</i>
<i>Unley</i>	<i>\$4,486,295</i>
<i>Holdfast Bay</i>	<i>\$4,374,590</i>
<i>Pt Adelaide Enfield</i>	<i>\$3,781,012</i>
<i>Charles Sturt</i>	<i>\$3,279,416</i>
<i>Mitcham</i>	<i>\$3,217,134</i>
<i>Barossa</i>	<i>\$2,967,928</i>
<i>Salisbury</i>	<i>\$2,906,050</i>

² Out of sight, but not out of mind – The benefits of power line undergrounding in South Australia
<http://www.escosa.sa.gov.au/library/070308-PELC-15YearReport.pdf>

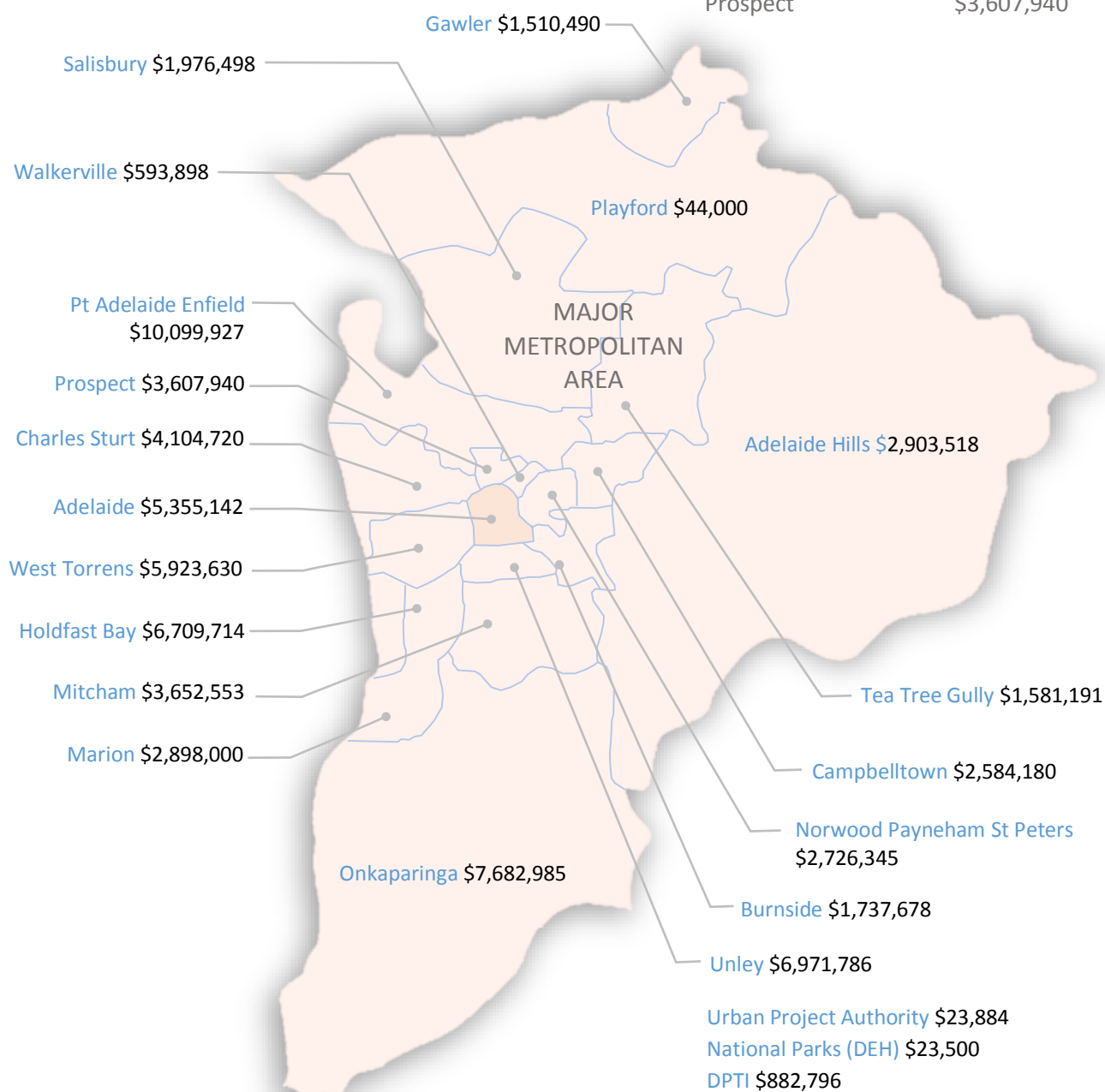
PLEC FUNDING METROPOLITAN COUNCILS

The map below shows the boundaries of each Council in the metropolitan area of Adelaide and the funding that has been provided to each participant council.

Table 2 (right) lists, in order, the ten metropolitan councils that have received the most PLEC funding over the past 25 years.

Table 2

COUNCIL	PLEC Funds
Pt Adelaide Enfield	\$10,099,927
Onkaparinga	\$7,682,985
Unley	\$6,971,786
Holdfast Bay	\$6,709,714
West Torrens	\$5,923,630
Adelaide	\$5,355,142
Mt Barker	\$4,220,858
Charles Sturt	\$4,104,720
Mitcham	\$3,652,553
Prospect	\$3,607,940



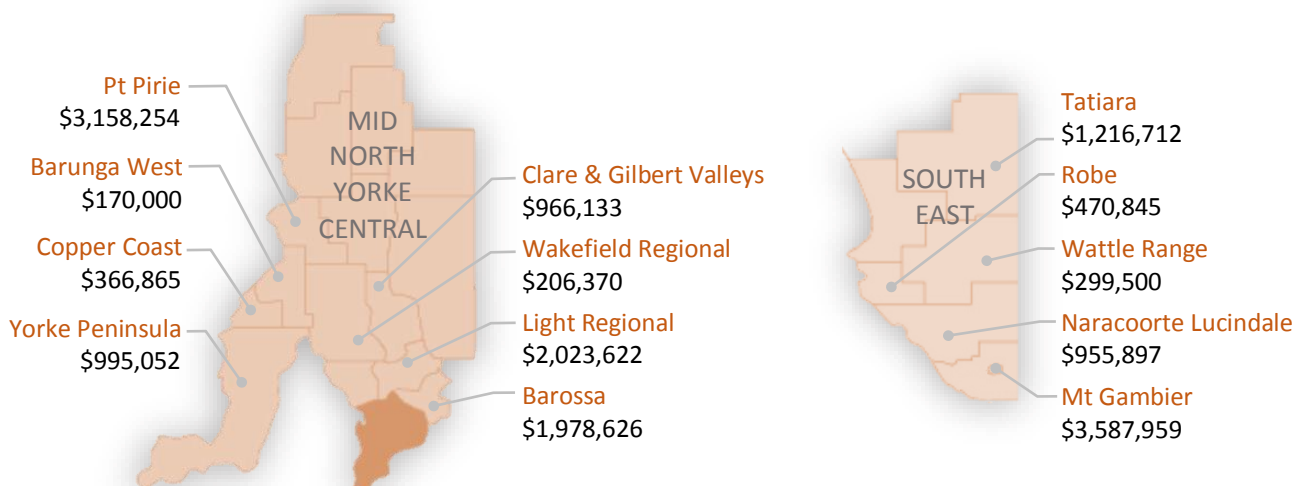
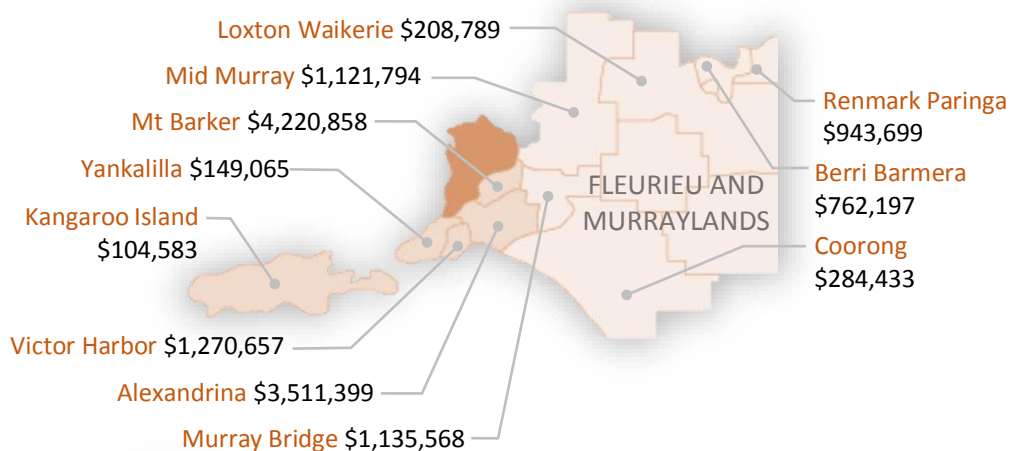
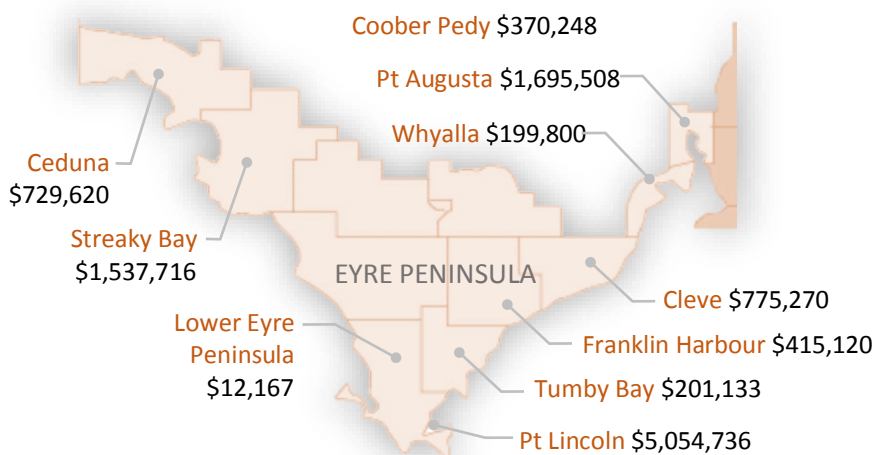
PLEC FUNDING REGIONAL COUNCILS

The maps below show the boundaries of each regional council in the state and the funding that has been provided to participant councils in each region.

Table 3 (below) lists, in order, the ten regional councils that have received the most PLEC funding over the past 25 years.

Table 3

COUNCIL	PLEC Funds
Pt Lincoln	\$5,054,736
Mt Gambier	\$3,587,959
Alexandrina	\$3,511,399
Pt Pirie	\$3,158,254
Adelaide Hills	\$2,903,518
Light Regional	\$2,023,622
Barossa	\$1,978,626
Pt Augusta	\$1,695,508
Streaky Bay	\$1,537,716
Victor Harbor	\$1,270,657



METROPOLITAN AND REGIONAL FUNDING SHARE

Proportions of funding

Table 4 summarises expenditure on undergrounding projects in the metropolitan and regional areas. A total of \$117.9 million has been contributed by participants to projects in metropolitan Adelaide and a further \$60.6 million to regional undergrounding projects. All but one of the Transport projects to which DPTI has contributed, is in the greater metropolitan area of Adelaide.

Overall expenditure on PLEC projects over the past 25 years is \$178.5 million. The PLEC portion of \$115.1 million (64.5%) has been contributed by SA Power Networks. Councils and other proponents have contributed \$55.5 million (31.1%) and DPTI has contributed \$7.9 million (4.4%).

Table 4. Undergrounding expenditure by source (\$)

	PLEC	Council	DPTI	Total
Metropolitan	\$74,654,167	\$35,419,788	\$7,853,143	\$117,927,098
Regional	\$40,420,400	\$20,099,154	\$79,128	\$60,598,682
Total	\$115,074,567	\$55,518,942	\$7,932,271	\$178,525,779

Contribution to undergrounding projects by councils

Table 5 below summarises the total contribution by metropolitan and country councils towards undergrounding projects over the past 25 years.

Table 5. Contribution by Metropolitan and Country councils*

	Total	Average
Metropolitan	\$35,419,788	\$1,770,989
Regional	\$20,099,154	\$543,220

**Does not include non-council proponents*

The overall average contribution per council that undertook PLEC projects was marginally greater than \$1 million. However, there was a great difference between the average contribution provided by metropolitan and regional councils; \$1.77 million average for metropolitan councils and \$0.54 million average for regional councils.

Thirty six regional councils have received funding as compared to 22 metropolitan councils. However, metropolitan councils have contributed 75 per cent more than the regional councils. This is mainly due to the size and nature of the projects which is demonstrated by the comparison of the mean average.

Total Contributions by PLEC and councils

Table 6 below lists the PLEC funding and contributions of council/proponents approved for undergrounding projects over the past 25 years. The colours differentiate between metropolitan (black) and regional (blue) councils.

Table 6. Overall funding on undergrounding projects since 1990

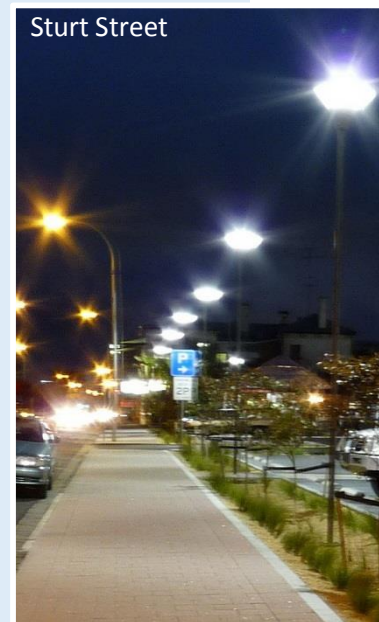
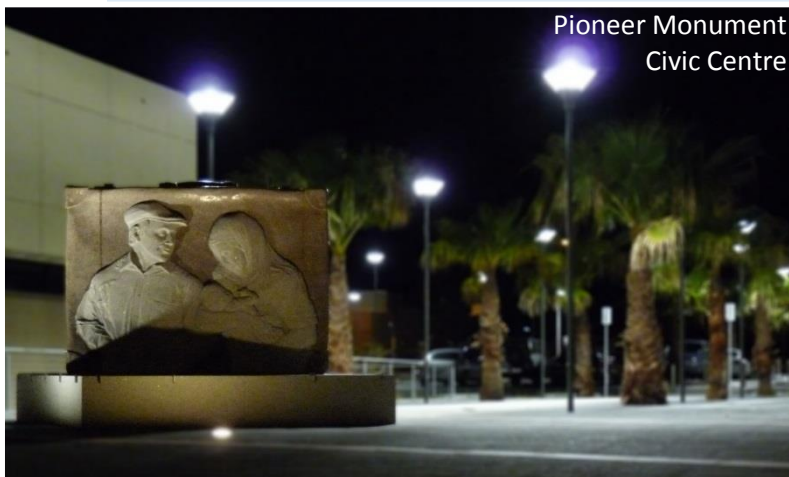
<i>Council/Proponent</i>	<i>\$PLEC</i>	<i>\$Council</i>	<i>Council/Proponent</i>	<i>\$PLEC</i>	<i>\$Council</i>
Pt Adelaide Enfield	\$10,099,927	\$5,053,391	Murray Bridge	\$1,135,568	\$567,784
Onkaparinga	\$7,682,985	\$3,821,196	Mid Murray Council	\$1,121,794	\$560,897
Unley	\$6,971,786	\$3,446,825	DC Yorke Peninsula	\$995,052	\$505,499
Holdfast Bay	\$6,709,714	\$3,161,857	Clare & Gilbert Valleys	\$966,133	\$483,016
West Torrens	\$5,923,630	\$2,747,842	Naracoorte Lucindale	\$955,897	\$477,949
Adelaide City Council	\$5,355,142	\$2,678,044	Renmark Paringa	\$943,699	\$468,140
Pt Lincoln	\$5,054,736	\$2,527,366	DPTI	\$882,796	\$441,398
DC Mt Barker	\$4,220,858	\$2,108,359	DC Cleve	\$775,270	\$387,635
Charles Sturt	\$4,104,720	\$1,922,500	Berri Barmora	\$762,197	\$381,099
Mitcham	\$3,652,553	\$1,768,259	DC Ceduna	\$729,620	\$364,811
Prospect	\$3,607,940	\$1,803,972	Town of Walkerville	\$593,898	\$296,950
Mt Gambier	\$3,587,959	\$1,791,670	DC Robe	\$470,845	\$235,424
Alexandrina Council	\$3,511,399	\$1,755,315	DC Franklin Harbour	\$415,120	\$207,561
Pt Pirie Regional Council	\$3,158,254	\$1,579,127	DC Coober Pedy	\$370,248	\$185,130
Adelaide Hills Council	\$2,903,518	\$1,451,708	DC Copper Coast	\$366,865	\$183,433
Marion	\$2,898,000	\$1,456,844	Wattle Range Council	\$299,500	\$144,500
Norwood Payneham & St Peters	\$2,726,345	\$1,055,347	Coorong District Council	\$284,433	\$143,707
Campbelltown City Council	\$2,584,180	\$1,292,090	DC Loxton Waikerie	\$208,789	\$105,904
Light Regional Council	\$2,023,622	\$1,011,847	Wakefield Regional Council	\$206,370	\$87,665
Barossa Council	\$1,978,626	\$989,302	DC Tumby Bay	\$201,133	\$100,567
Salisbury	\$1,976,498	\$824,450	Whyalla	\$199,800	\$99,900
Burnside	\$1,737,678	\$630,294	DC Barunga West	\$170,000	\$85,000
Pt Augusta City Council	\$1,695,508	\$847,747	DC Yankalilla	\$149,065	\$74,532
Tea Tree Gully	\$1,581,191	\$790,596	Kangaroo Island Council	\$104,583	\$52,292
DC Streaky Bay	\$1,537,716	\$768,859	Playford	\$44,000	\$22,000
Town of Gawler	\$1,510,490	\$747,475	Urban Project Authority	\$23,884	-
Victor Harbor	\$1,270,657	\$639,329	National Parks (DEH)	\$23,500	\$11,500
Tatiara District Council	\$1,216,712	\$608,357	DC Lower Eyre Peninsula	\$12,167	\$6,084

HIGHLIGHTS – BRINGING PROJECTS TO MATURITY

Mount Gambier – night sights

Hon Jennifer Cashmore AM, a past PLEC member, once remarked that in showing off the results of the PLEC program, she would “take people to see what is not there anymore”. It is always difficult to imagine how it was, but the sense of open space created by removing power lines makes way for an immediate transformation to something more attractive and functional.

Such is the case with projects undertaken in Mt Gambier where the council has invested heavily in community space in the CBD as can be seen in the adjacent pictures. The use of functional lighting to highlight cultural, historic and other features, showcases what has been achieved by the coordinated long-term plan undertaken by the City of Mt Gambier.



Adelaide – community space

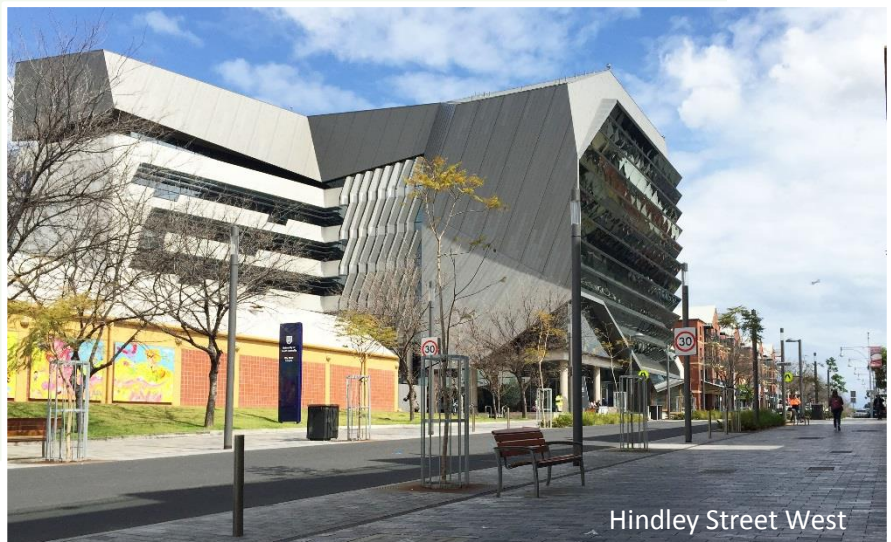


Pulteney Street – Hindmarsh Square

Pulteney Street from Hindmarsh Square to South Terrace was carried out in two stages. Streetscaping includes dark 'slate' paving and street furniture and some artistic elements such as the 'Forest of Dreams' at Hurtle Square. The removal of power lines has created an open streetscape and room for trees to grow.



Hindley Street West has undergone a significant transformation in the years since the PLEC project was completed. The expansion of University of South Australia has seen a focus on functional and safe pedestrian areas. Paving, lighting, gardens, trees and street furniture have been used to create an attractive space featuring wide footpaths and pedestrian refuges at street crossings.



Hindley Street West



Hutt Street: The most evident feature of Hutt Street is the established canopy of London Plane trees that is now forming an arch over the road.

Other features include areas set aside that link pedestrians, cyclists and public transport.

Hutt Street



Port Lincoln – long term planning

The long-term strategy for the Port Lincoln CBD was begun nearly 15 years ago by the City of Port Lincoln. It has maintained its impetus on power line undergrounding and amenity upgrades, to the point that only two smaller sections remain to complete the plan. Tasman Terrace, pictured below during night and day, is the key centre of attraction from a recreational and commercial sense. The wide clay-paved footpaths, typical to all of the work undertaken, are complemented with trees and street furniture, which provide a functional amenity and safe access to the Port Lincoln foreshore.



Above: Typical treatment to the paved areas of the CBD of Port Lincoln feature clay pavers and irrigated street trees. The clean and open streetscape of busy Tasman Terrace (right) is augmented by a well-lit foreshore path for night time safety.



Old Port Road – “Waterproofing the West”



Left: An aerial view of Old Port Road - a project undertaken by the City of Charles Sturt in conjunction with the City of Pt Adelaide Enfield.

The key aspect of the undergrounding work was the removal of poles in the centre median to make way for retention ponds which were critical to a storm-water management project.

New street lighting, kerbing and guttering have better articulated the median and the new vehicular crossings that provide greater access between carriageways.

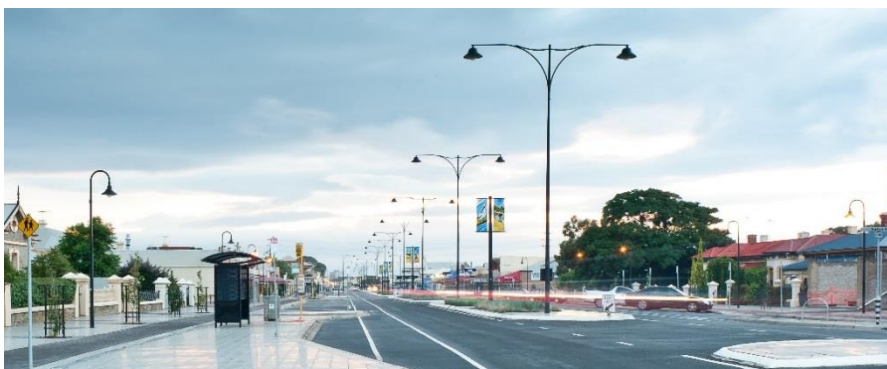
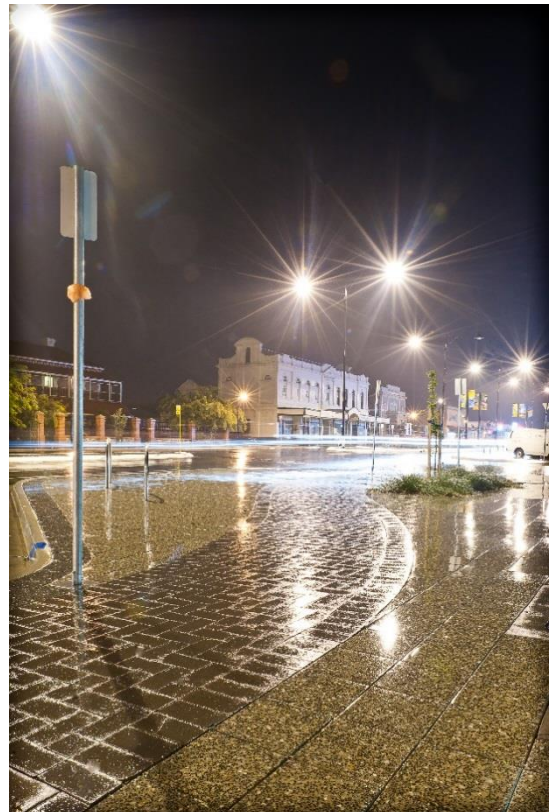
Semaphore Road, Semaphore

The City of Port Adelaide Enfield carried out a complete reconstruction project on Semaphore Road, Semaphore, a popular beachside community and commercial hub. Following completion of the PLEC undergrounding project, the council installed new kerbing, footpaths, bicycle paths, drainage, landscaping, street furniture, and decorative road and footpath lighting. The streetscape has been completely transformed and is a model of community space renewal.

- Pictures courtesy of the City of Port Adelaide Enfield



Semaphore Road shown left, has a wide road reserve that utilises parking space at one end and an access road with parking at the other end. The centre median is used for the main decorative lighting and the outer medians feature decorative pedestrian lighting and functional street furniture.



The public lighting and the mixed paving treatments highlight the exceptional design elements that have been implemented in the streetscaping of Semaphore Road.

Most of the elements that comprise the streetscape are captured in these pictures; the new road design, paving, bus shelters, trees, bins, bollards lighting and shared tracks.

FUNDING PROPOSALS

Proposals for funding are usually initiated following responses to the advertised “Registration of Interest” from one or more authorities such as councils, DPTI or the Department of Environment etc. Proposals may also be forwarded to the Executive Officer at any other time for PLEC to evaluate.

Due to the nature of the process in providing forward programs, projects can be planned up to two years in advance or even longer for a multi-stage project.

In assessing whether or not an application should receive funding, PLEC will include consideration of the following in its assessment of the project:

- ❖ The size and characteristics of the community likely to benefit from the project.
- ❖ The significance of the area, such as for tourism, heritage or symbolic value.
- ❖ Other significant factors such as road safety, the proximity to previous PLEC projects, or if the proposal is part of a staged development.

PLEC undergrounding projects submitted by proponents are recommended by PLEC to the Minister responsible for the *Electricity Act 1996*. The Minister provides the construction program to SA Power Networks six months in advance for SA Power Networks to prepare its budget in accordance with the program.

PLEC is committed to the equitable distribution of funds and priorities are based on such aspects as:

- ❖ Routes carrying high traffic volumes (eg major arterial roads);
- ❖ Prominent locations of tourism, heritage or amenity value;
- ❖ Routes of high symbolic value (e.g. gateway routes);
- ❖ Areas of intense public activity (e.g. recreation, shopping and coastal recreation);
- ❖ Major thoroughfares through townships.

SA Power Networks contributes \$2 for every \$1 contributed by councils. Councils also contribute to the project where DPTI initiates a project such as a road reconstruction project.



Power Line Environment Committee
GPO Box 2605 Adelaide SA 5001
08 8463 4352
plec@escosa.sa.gov.au