

# Overhead Line Designer's Forum 2025

Navigation Homes Stadium, 21 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe



Electricity Engineers'  
Association

8.00am	Coffee and Networking	
8:30	Introduction: Carl Rathbone — LineSmarts / Aaron Radford — Counties Energy	
8:40	Line Clash analysis for legacy long spans	Kavish Lal — Network Reliability Engineer, Counties Energy
8:55	Learnings from a cascade failure	Akhila Abeyratne — Asset Lifecycle Engineer, Waipa Networks
9:15	Climate change in New Zealand	Richard Turner — Meteorologist, NIWA
9:30	Carbon emissions of concrete poles	John Marshall — National Technical and Design Manager, Busck
9:45	Timber pole destructive testing	Mitch Graham — Asset Strategy & Constraints Engineering Team Leader, Unison
10:00	Solving the problem of 'black spots' on OH power lines	Goran Stojadinovic — Product & Innovation Manager, TransNet
10:15am Morning tea		
10:30	Introducing EEA's Knowledge Network and Forums	Hayley Head — Principal Advisor Health and Safety, EEA
10:45	Benefits of composite materials	Michael Kemp, Chief Technology Officer, Wagners
11:00	Proposed changes to AS/NZS7000	Carl Rathbone — Structural Engineer, LineSmarts
11:15	Snow load standard provisions	Richard Turner — Meteorologist, NIWA
11:35	Standards and EEA's Asset Management Group (AMG)	Stuart Johnston — Lead Advisor, Engineering & Technical, EEA
11:45	Steel crossarm experience of Counties Energy	Aaron Radford — Lead Network Standards Engineer, Counties Energy
12.00	Jed's Poles	Jeb Coppin — Capital Projects Manager, Network Tasman
12.15 Lunch		
1.00	Cyclone Gabriel—Hawkes Bay, associated design issues	Dan Burguss — Designer Team Manager, Unison
1.15	How Centra Lines weathered Cyclone Gabriel	Josh Ross— Network Designer, Centralines
1.30	Overhead switch corrosion research	Ben Albany — Distribution Technologist, WEL Networks

# Overhead Line Designer's Forum 2025

Navigation Homes Stadium, 21 Stadium Drive, Pukekohe



Electricity Engineers'  
Association

1.45	ECP34: Requirements under ECP34	Antony Cochrane — Overhead Lead, Orion
2.00	ECP34: Close approach	Ben Albany — Distribution Technologist, WEL Networks
2.10	ECP34: Background to the revision of ECP34	Haley Head — Principal Advisor Health and Safety, EEA
2.20	ECP34: Workshop — Facilitated by Hayley Head and Antony Cochrane	
2.55 Afternoon tea		
3.10	Line Design competencies	Rob McCrone — EEA Consultant / Relevant
3.30	Surveying practice at ElectroNet	James Mathieson — Overhead Line Designer, ElectroNet
3.45	Modern line survey methods	Kirsty Mackie — Business Development Manager, Global Survey
4.00	Inspection regimes fit for purpose	Steve McLennan — Asset Engineer, The Lines Company
4.15	A perspective on the design of asset inspection regimes	Carl Rathbone — Structural Engineer, LineSmart
4.30	Close out / forum close	

EEA thank you for your participation in the Overhead Lines Designers forum.

## VENUE SPONSORSHIP



## FORUM ORGANISER AND FACILITATOR



**LineSmarts**  
Carl Rathbone

The overarching purpose of the Line Designer's Forum is to:

- Develop and sustain an overhead line design professional community. Provide a networking opportunity for overhead line designers and subject matter experts.
- Communicate good practice overhead line design, including specific examples of design and generally design which is consistent, efficient, effective, and safe
- Support and promote industry learning programmes.
- Communicate and roll out new industry standards, regulations and resources (e.g. EEA publications).
- Foster and co-ordinate collaboration across industry members and stakeholders
- Support the development of overhead line design subject matter experts and future leaders.