Pilbara Underground Power Project (PUPP) Onslow Information

About PUPP

The Pilbara Underground Power Project (PUPP) is a partnership between the State Government's Royalties for Regions initiative and Local Government, delivered by Horizon Power.

PUPP is providing cyclone-affected North West towns with a safe and reliable power supply by replacing ageing overhead electricity infrastructure with underground networks. The project is intended to dramatically reduce the likelihood of power outages to essential services, regional residents and businesses during and immediately following adverse weather events.

Historically the rollout of underground power required a 50% financial contribution from the local community, however with additional support from the State Government's Royalties for Regions program, a transition to underground power in the Pilbara only requires a local 25% contribution to the overall cost of the project.

The project has so far delivered the undergrounding of powerlines in South Hedland, Wedgefield, Roebourne, Karratha CBD, Bulgarra, Karratha LIA and Millars Well. Civil works in the suburb of Pegs Creek finished two months ahead of schedule in mid-July and electrical connections at each property are expected to be completed by early 2017.

Horizon Power requires the endorsement of the Shire of Ashburton, and commitment to the 25% funding requirement, before proceeding with the detailed planning and delivery of underground power in Onslow. It is proposed that the 25% funding is raised via a combination of contributions from the Chevron-operated Wheatstone Project, Shire of Ashburton and a service charge levied through the Shire's rates system, which will be payable by all landowners in Onslow. It is intended that landowners will only need to pay about 10% of the total cost of the project as a levy.

How are landowners proposed to be charged?

A funding model has been developed based on the type of existing connection you have. For example, if you currently have 'full overhead power' including the connection to your house, you will pay slightly more than a property that already has underground power from the street to the house. Further information about the type of connections and associated costs are provided below.

The Shire of Ashburton will pay the landowner contribution upfront, which will be funded by a low interest loan. Landowners will then pay their portion over four years as a service charge levy, which will appear on your annual Rates Notice.

Pensioners and eligible concession holders are entitled to a 50% discount on the cost.

What happens next?

The Shire of Ashburton will make a decision whether to proceed with the Pilbara Underground Power Project at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 16 December 2016 (to be held in Onslow).

Please check our website regularly for updates and further information.

Any feedback or queries regarding the project can be directed to: soa@ashburton.wa.gov.au



Types of Connections

Type 1: Full Overhead

Network

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Point of attachment / Point of supply

Network cable

(provided by network operator)

Riser

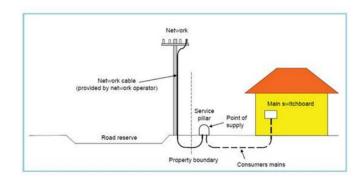
bracket

Consumers mains

Main switchboard

Property boundary

Type 2: Consumer Mains Underground



Type 3: Transformer or Vacant



Type 4: Street Already Underground



Proposed Cost (per year over four years)

Connection Type	Residential	Residential	Commercial	Commercial	Industrial
3.		(pensioner)		(pensioner)	
1. Full Overhead	\$525	\$263	\$1576.24	\$788.12	\$3021.12
2. Consumer Mains U/ground	\$302	\$151	\$1352.94	\$676.47	\$2797.82
3. Transformer or	\$210	\$105	\$210.16	\$105.08	\$2705.87
Vacant 4. Street already underground	\$105	\$52	\$210.16	\$105.08	\$2600.79

