

# Introduction to AusNet Services

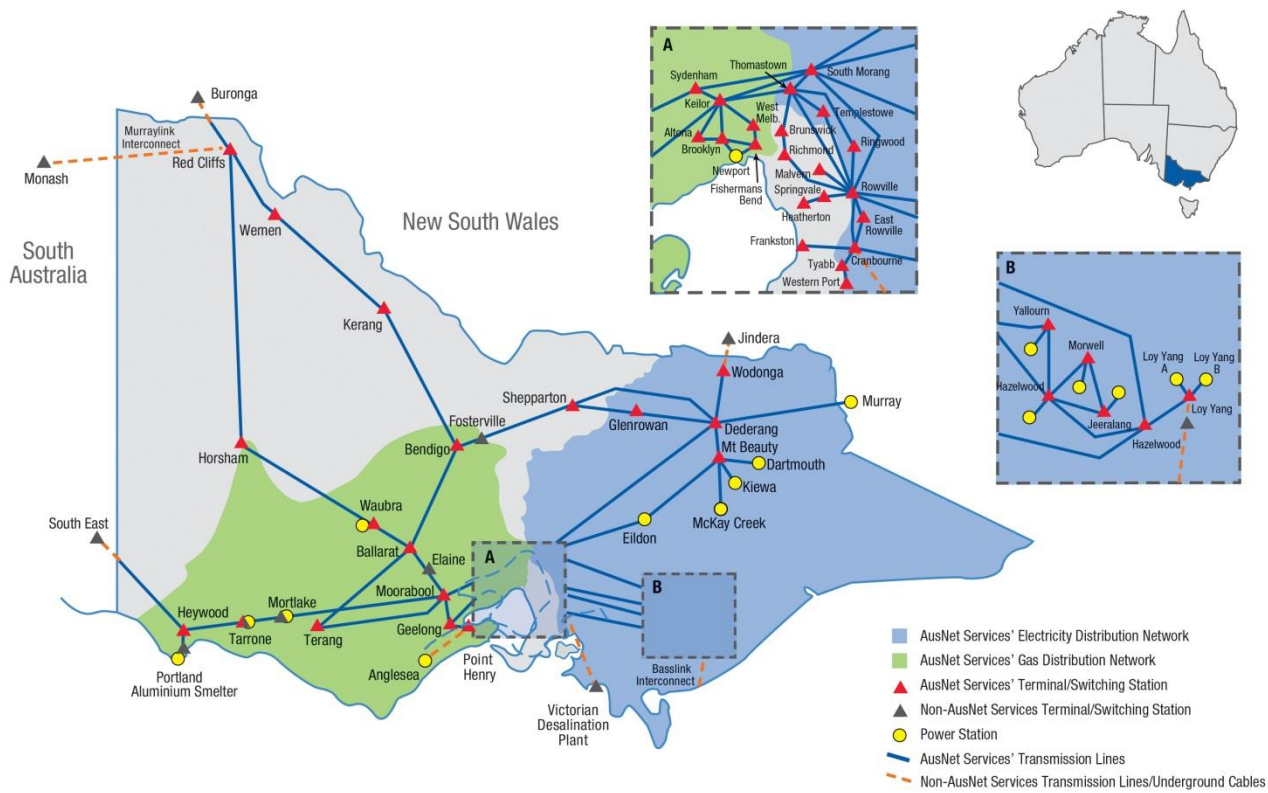
Global Regulatory Perspectives Programme  
Electricity Regulatory Commissions of India

13 March 2019



# What We Do

100% own, operate and control critical energy delivery infrastructure in Victoria



## Electricity Transmission

- ▶ 6,600 km of transmission lines
- ▶ 13,000 towers

## Electricity distribution

- ▶ 52,000 km of electricity distribution network
- ▶ 720,000 customers

## Gas distribution

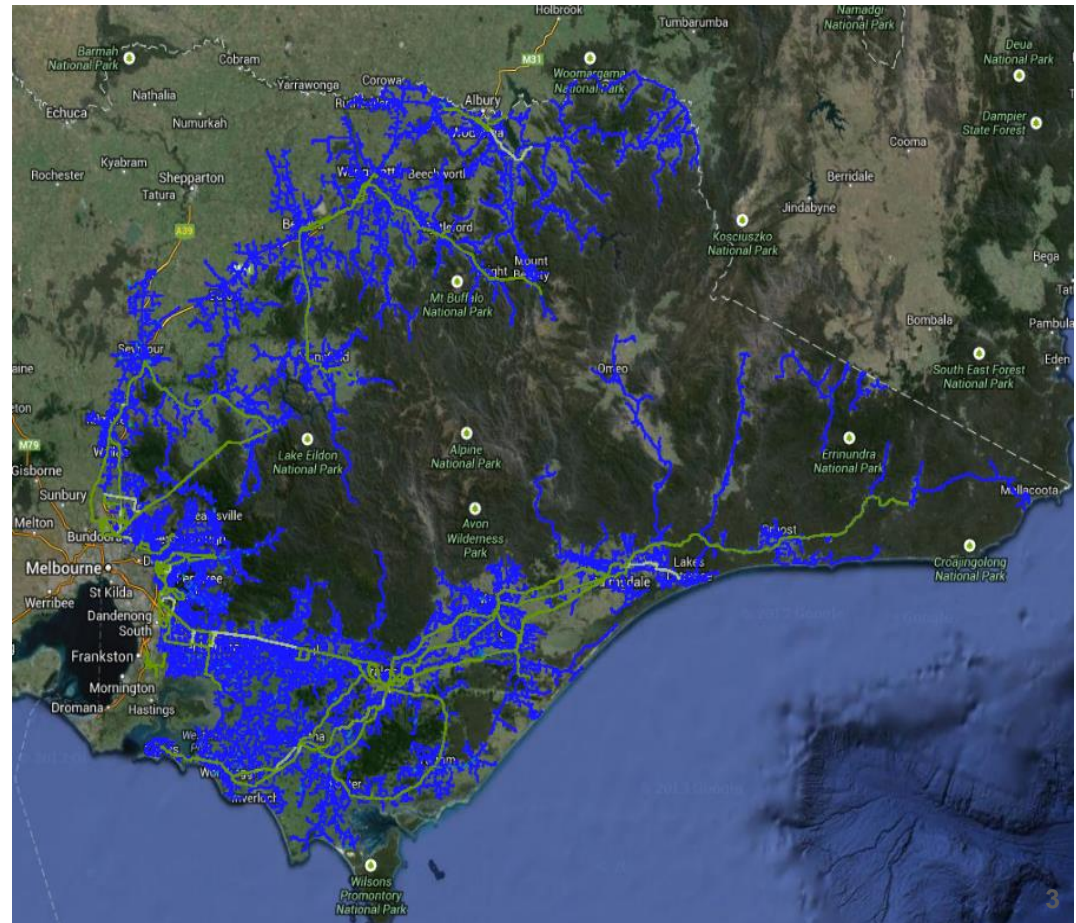
- ▶ 11,400 km of gas distribution network
- ▶ 690,000 customers

\* All figures are approximate as at 31 March 2017

# Our electricity distribution network

AusNet Services' electricity distribution network is highly diverse, from suburbs to mountains, farmland to forests

- ▶ 80,000 km<sup>2</sup> service area
- ▶ 52,000 km lines & cables
- ▶ 400,000 poles
- ▶ 720,000 customers
- ▶ 18% solar customers (residential)



# Smart Grid Technologies and Implementation

Global Regulatory Perspectives Programme  
Electricity Regulatory Commissions of India

Justin Harding

13 March 2019



# 1. Integrating Distributed Energy Resources

Mooroolbark Mini Grid Innovation Project

## Network trends and smart grid drivers

### ▶ Electricity sector undergoing exciting and unprecedented change



Shift towards Distributed Energy Resources (DER)

Shift to low carbon and renewable energy sources

Customers moving from literacy to empowerment

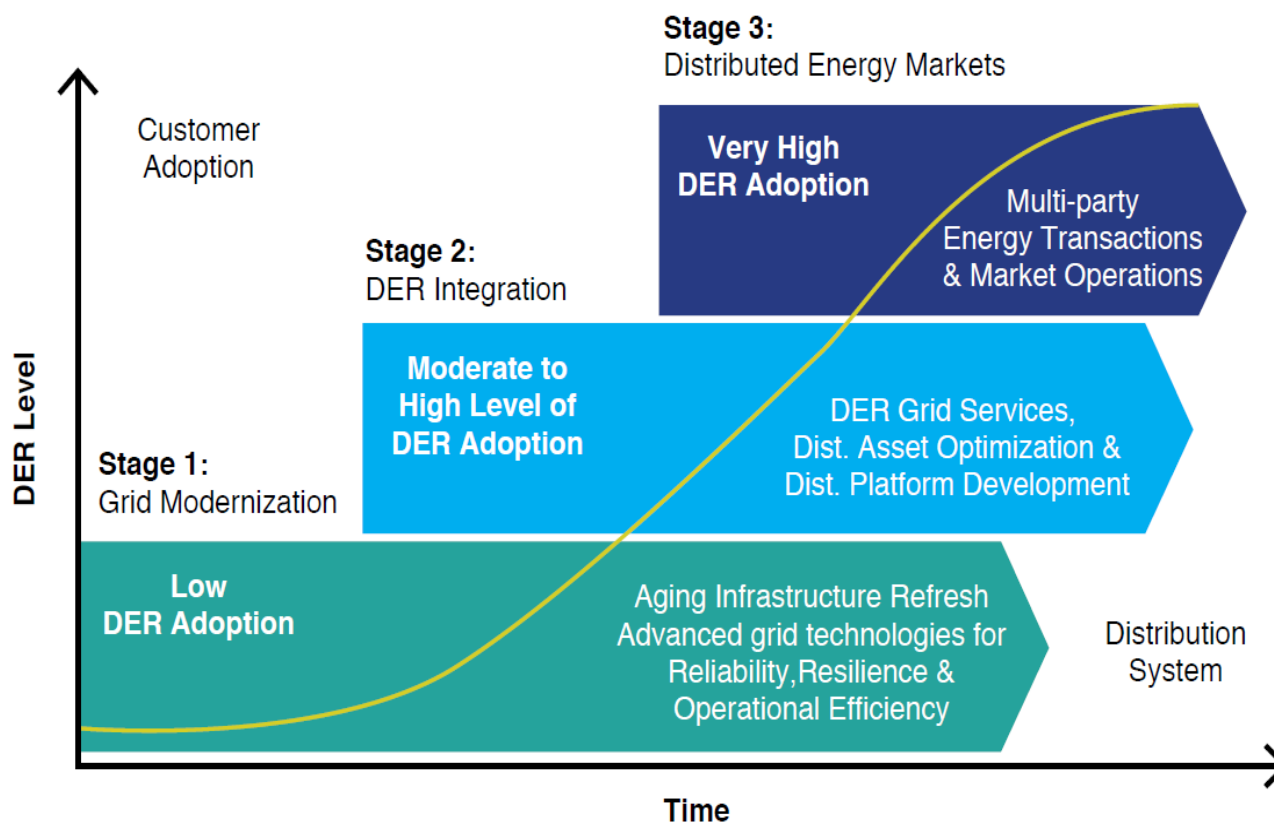
Digital platforms & big data analytics

### ▶ Our Network Innovation program seeks to test and leverage this future environment with smart grid technologies



# Electricity networks need to transform

- ▶ More customers using DER to control of their energy needs
- ▶ Networks expected to evolve through progressive stages of sophistication



# Case study: Mooroolbark Mini Grid Project

## Decentralised microgrid



◆ **2016:** Australia's first 100% renewable microgrid in an established community

### ◆ Objectives

- › Creating a snapshot of the future energy network
- › Understanding the impacts and benefits of a high-DER network
- › Prepare for a future "Distribution System Operator" model

### ◆ Modes of operation:

1. Grid connected
2. Home island (backup supply)
3. Minigrid island





# The Mooroolbark Mini Grid Project

Creating a snapshot of the future energy network



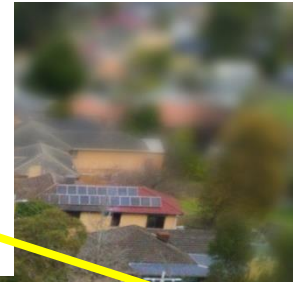
## HOUSEHOLD DER (14 Participants)

- Battery system, 5kW/10kWh
- Solar PV system, 3kW+
- GreenSync PRU control unit



## CENTRAL DER

- LV Switching cabinet & relay
- Stabiliser unit, 18kVA inverter, 10kWh battery storage



# Control system architecture

Designed for realistic testing of future DSO model at manageable scale



Three levels of control:

**1. Local household system control:**

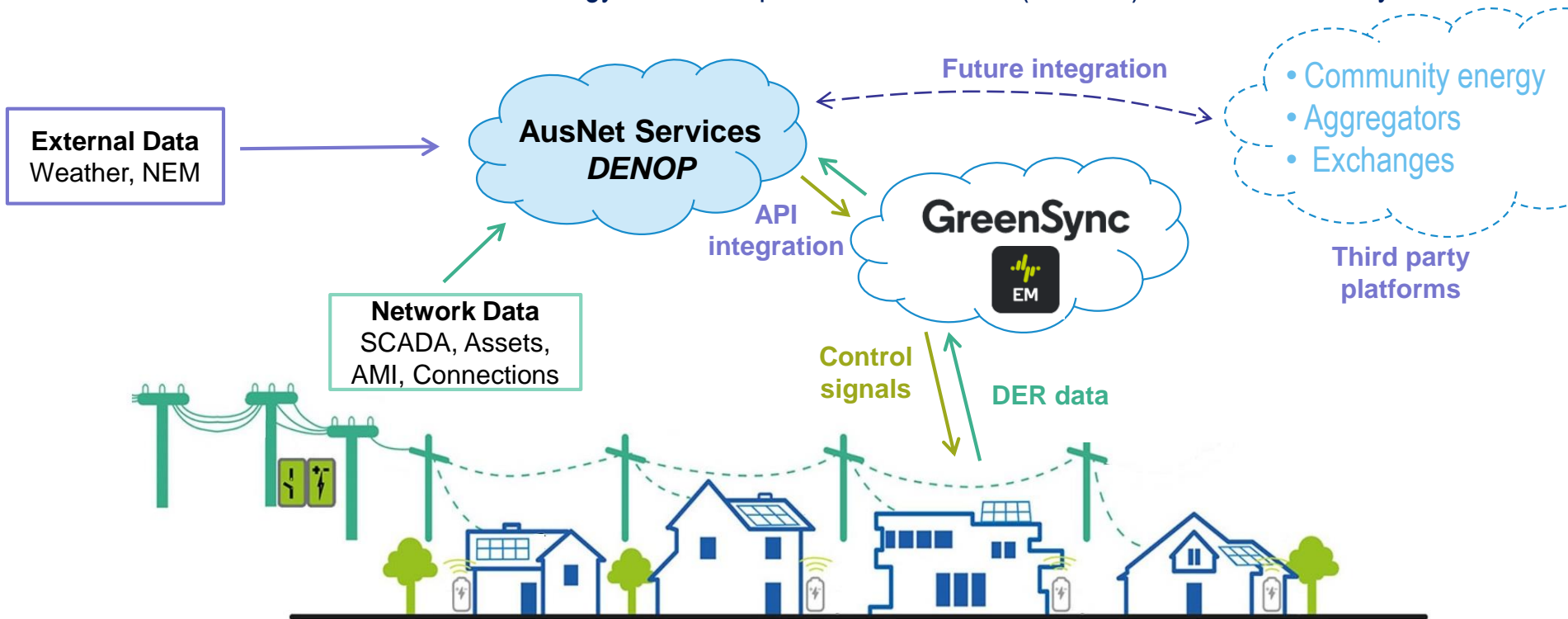
Inverter native functions + local control unit (GreenSync PRU, PowerTec PaDECS) – Fast response

**2. 'Microgrid' control system:**

Aggregated fleet control software (GreenSync EM) – 1 min control cycle

**3. Network optimisation:**

AusNet Services Distributed Energy Network Optimisation Platform (DENOP) – 1+ min control cycle



# Use cases and value streams

*The Mooroolbark Mini Grid is a test bed for DER uses cases that can return customer and network value, when orchestrated*



A series of operational tests were conducted to understand the real-world challenges, implications and benefits of DER orchestration under a potential DSO construct



## **Peak demand management**

*Coordinate distributed energy to provide network peak demand reduction*



## **Supply reliability and resilience**

*Provide islanded supply to customers during network outages*



## **Solar uptake management**

*Facilitate higher penetration of distributed generation*



## **Power quality improvement**

*Regulate supply voltage and power factor*



## **Customer bill savings**

*Reduce energy costs by reducing net consumption and tariff arbitrage*



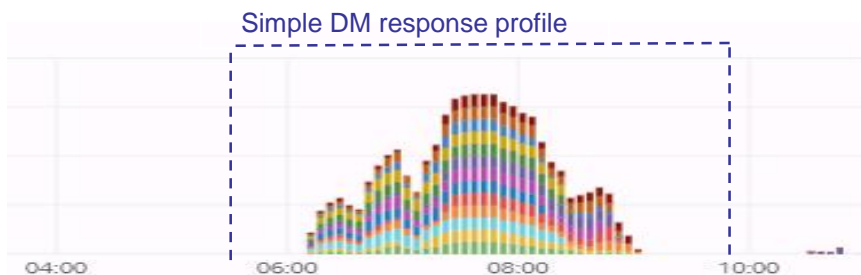
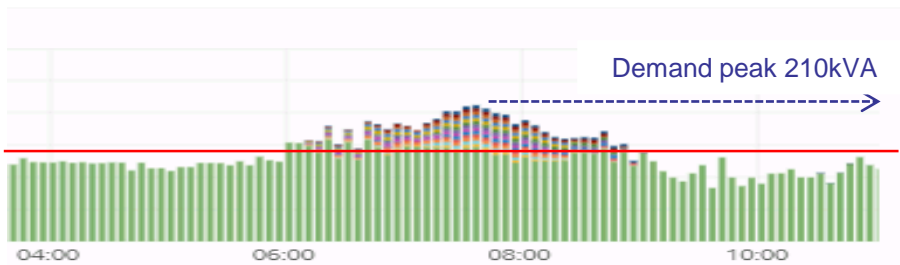
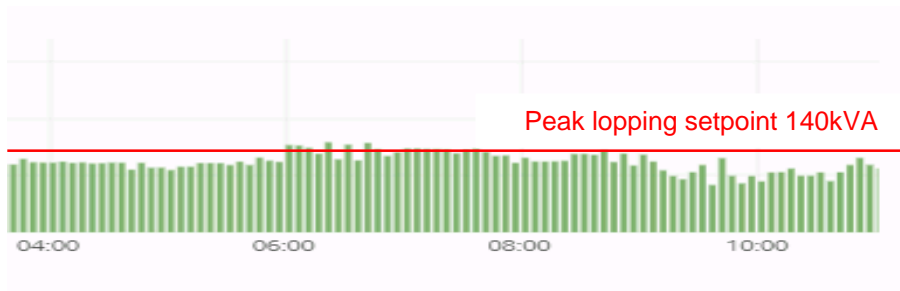
## **New options for customers to share & trade energy**

*Enable community energy models and access for customers to market*



# Use case example: Demand Management

**Peak Lopping:** Allows maximum demand on a network element to be capped to a defined value, with automated response from DER customers



- ◆ **Scenario:** Peak lopping of upstream network element (22kV feeder ACR)
- ◆ DENOP reads in SCADA data and dispatches the required level of support every 10mins
- ◆ DER is successfully orchestrated to bring down peak from 210kVA to 140kVA
- ◆ Each colour represents the contribution of each customer
- ◆ Relative customer contributions optimised (in this case according to battery SoC)
- ◆ Vastly improved response compared to traditional “simple” demand management

## **2. Large Scale Energy Storage**

### **Grid Energy Storage System, Thomastown**



# Case study: Grid Energy Storage System (GESS) Trial

## Centralised microgrid



◆ **2013:** The first 'large scale' network support battery system in Australia

### ◆ Objectives

- › Understand and evaluate the network value of grid-scale battery storage
- › Gain experience and build organisational capacity
- › Prepare for lower storage system prices in future

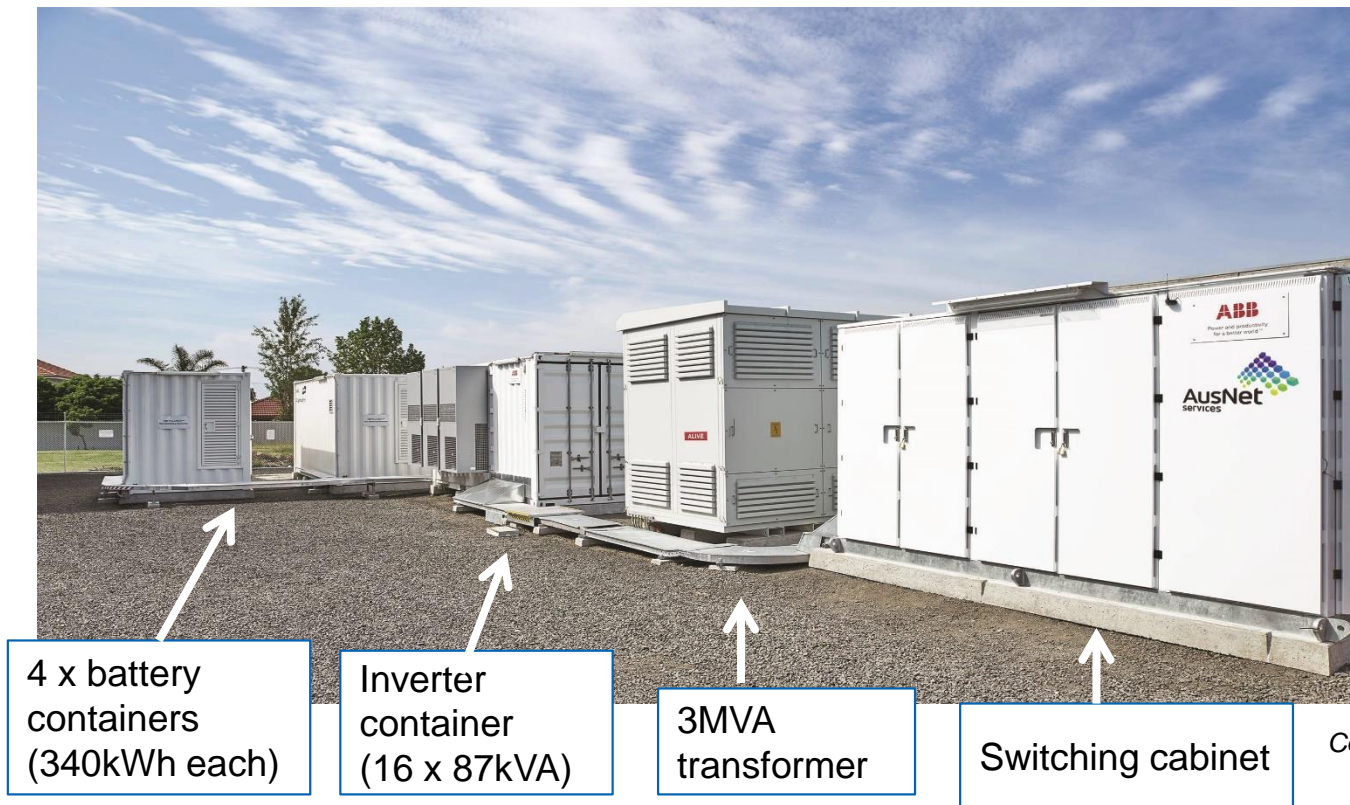
### ◆ Network value streams

- › Peak demand management
- › Voltage & power factor support
- › Operation in islanded mini-grid mode, with smooth transition to and from grid



# GES facility and hardware

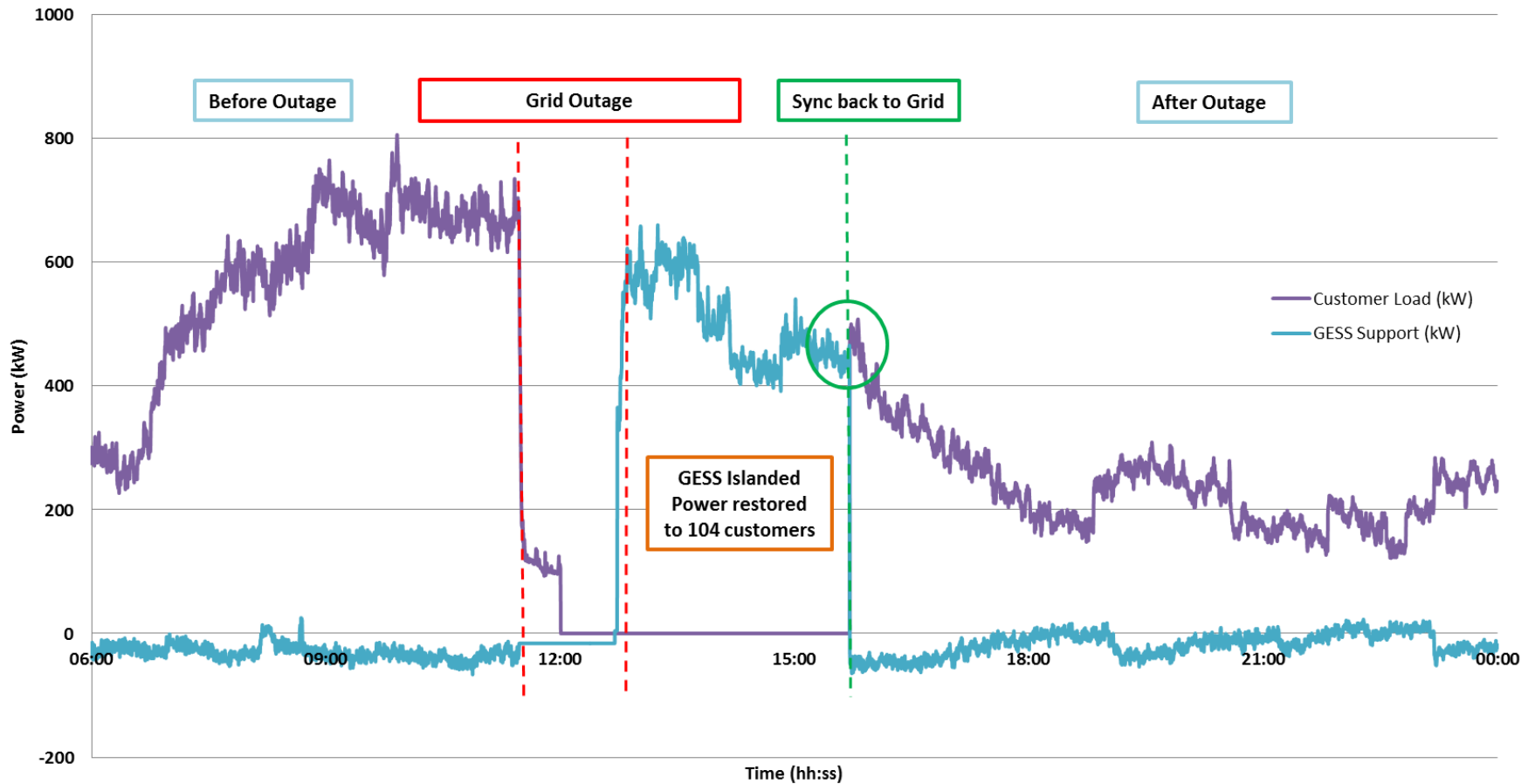
- › 1MW / 1MWh lithium-ion battery + 1MW diesel get set
- › EPC contract awarded to ABB after tender process
- › Located in an industrial zone in Thomastown, Melbourne, 22kV feeder



# Islanded operation testing

Reducing customer outage time

### GESs in Islanded Operation



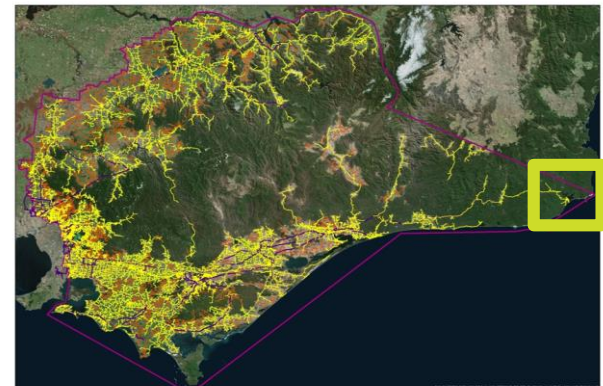
# ***GESS established at remote township***

*Mallacoota islanded supply system*



## **Mallacoota Project stats:**

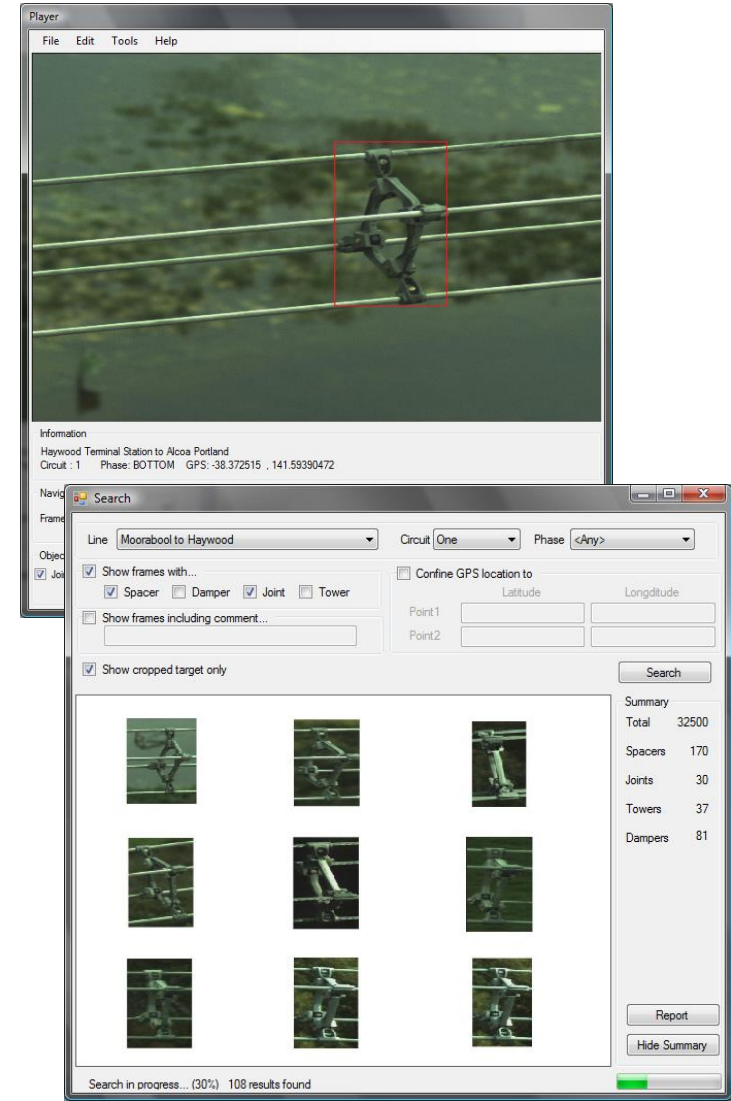
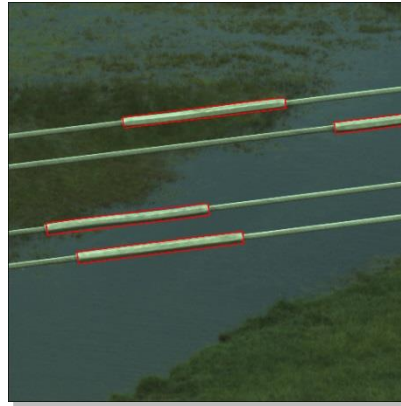
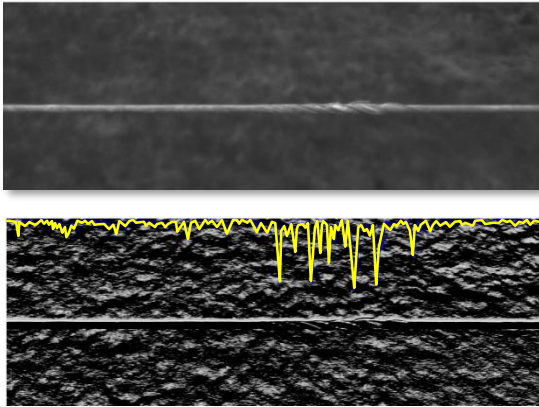
- Population: 1030, swelling >3000 during holiday periods
- Supplied via 250km radial network through national park
- 9 sustained outages p.a.
- Restoration time of 3.5hours
- Occasional multi-day outage
- Aiming for sub 1-min islanding



## 3. Data analytics



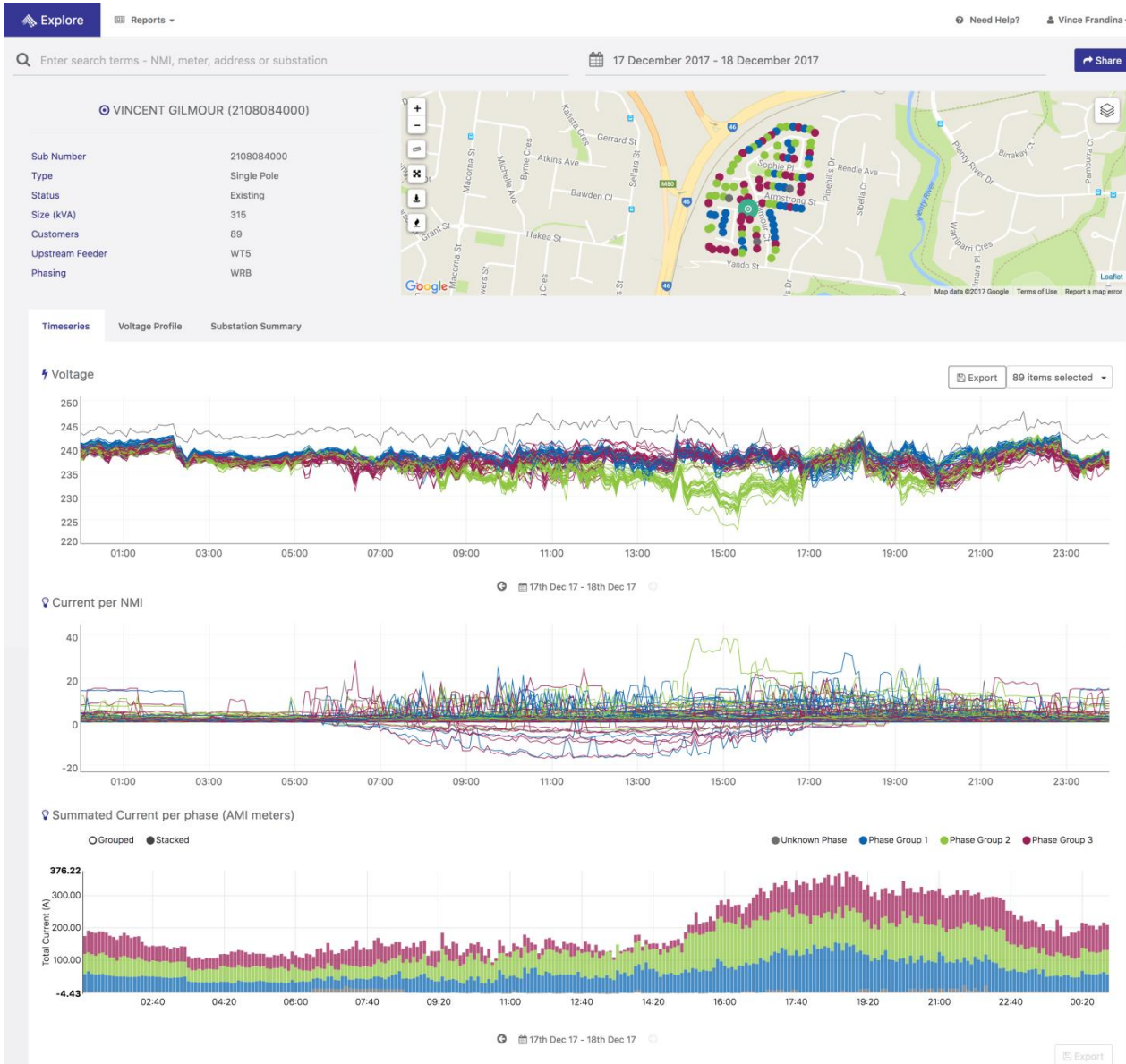
# Transmission asset inspection using aerial survey techniques and digital image capture/processing



- GPS/GIS/Laser Enabled Digital Image Capture
- Advanced Digital Image Processing Techniques
- Automatic Detection of Defects, Abnormalities
- Rapid Inspection of Specific Asset Categories  
(*spacers, dampers, joints etc.*)

# Smart meter data visualisation

## Explore tool - Substation View



- ◆ Smart meter data:
  - › 30min interval data (accumulated data for billing purposes)
  - › 5min Power Quality data (instantaneous readings for network status)
- ◆ Communications are currently a hybrid of:
  - › Wimax (base station)
  - › Silverspring (mesh)
  - › 3G in rare occasions
- ◆ Many different visualisation & analytics tools developed

# Smart meter data visualisation

## Explore tool - Network Voltage by Feeder Distance



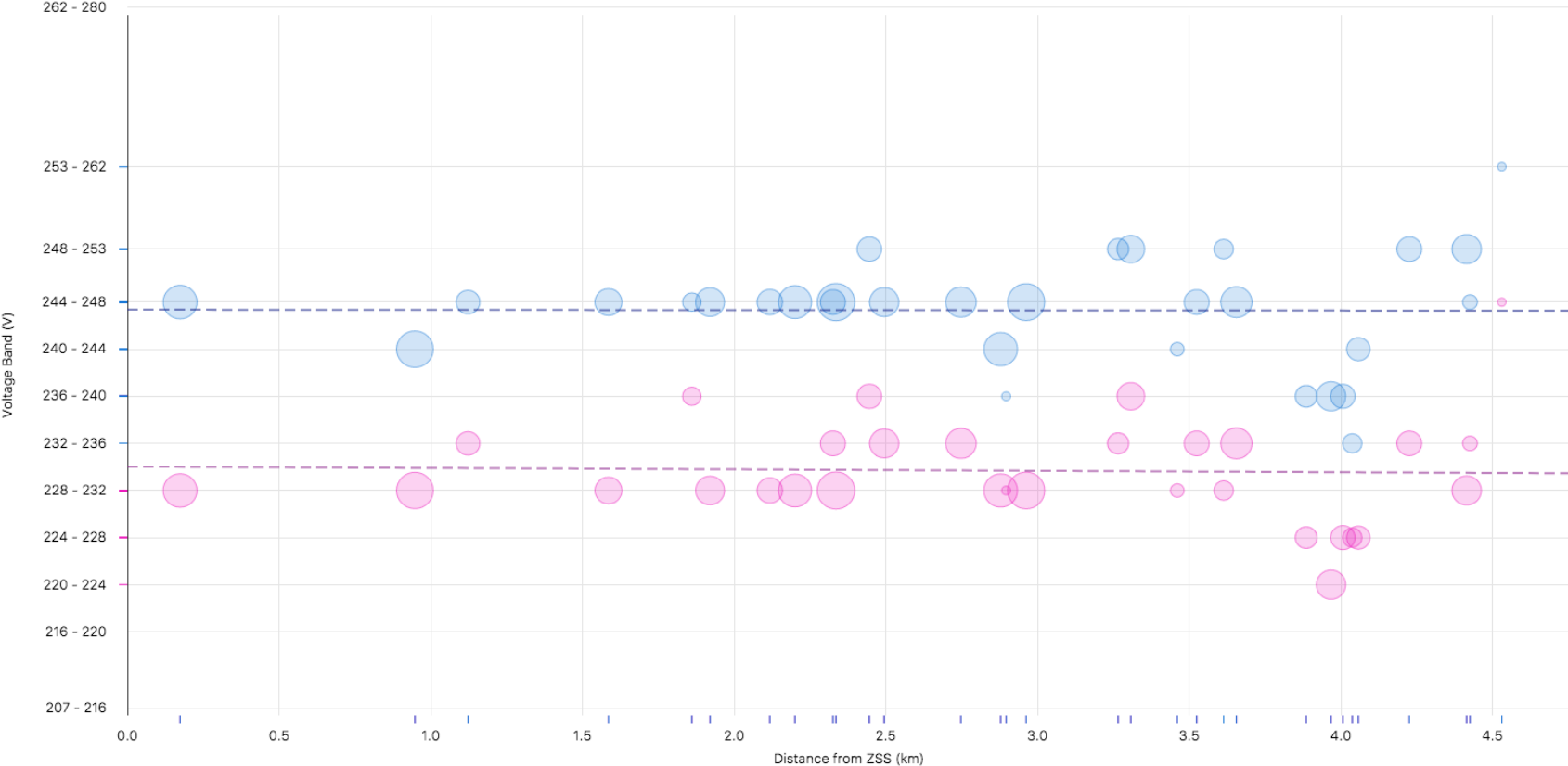
📍 Network Voltage By Distance

✎ elm13

📅 22 October 2017 - 28 October 2017



- Minimum
- Min-trend
- Maximum
- Max-trend
- Mode
- Mode-trend



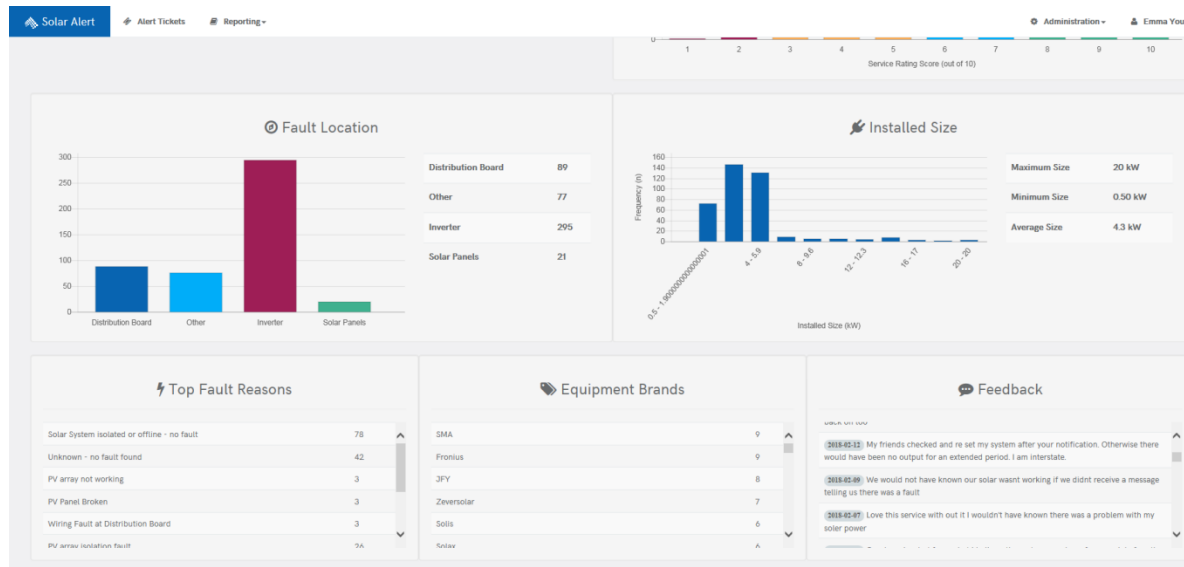
# Smart meter data analytics

## *Solar Alert – Automatic customer notifications*



AusNet Services has developed analytics – using Smart Meter Data – that detects when a customer solar systems may have stopped working.

- Using voltage data collected from AMI Meters we detect when a solar system has not exported for over 7 days.
- Customers are notified by an SMS message of the issue, and the Solar Alert Analytics continue to monitor the customer’s meter until an export is detected again.
- Since implementation >4,000 alerts have been provided to customers.
- Customer response to this service has been very positive with most customer rating 10/10.

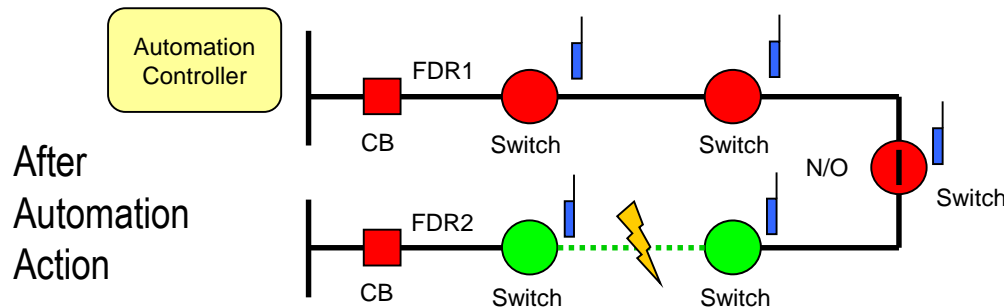
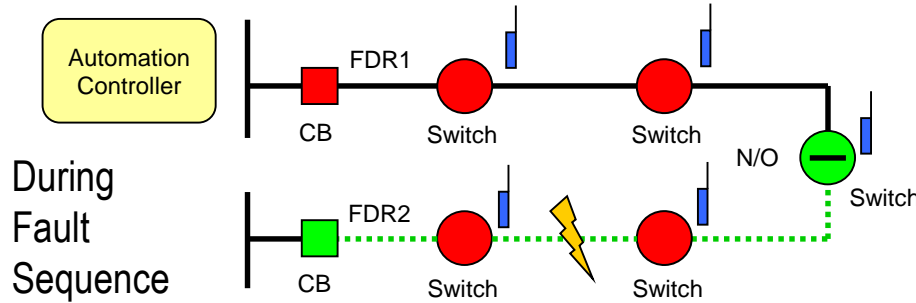
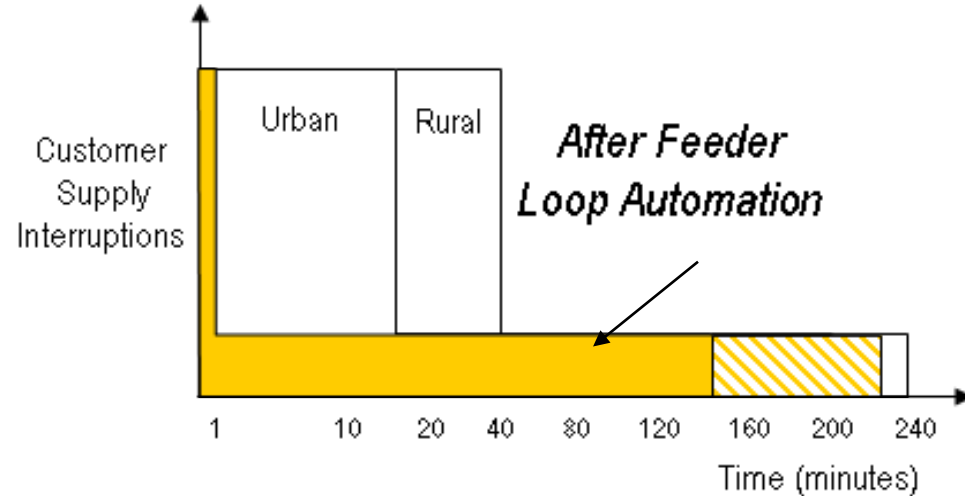
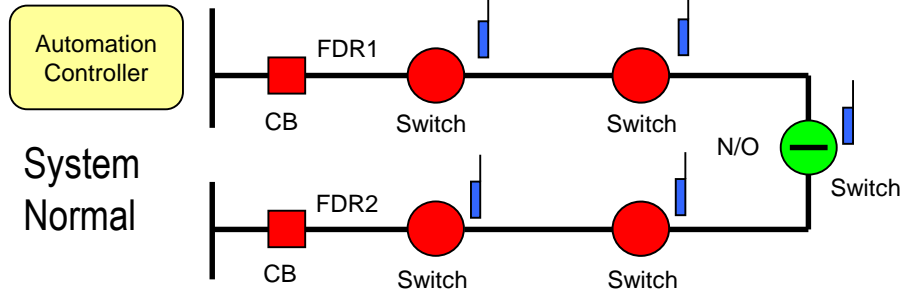


## **4. Network Automation**

### **Distribution Feeder Automation**



# Distribution feeder automation based on data analytics



**Thank you**