

Knowledge Transfer Partnership with Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution

Researchers

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Background

A key challenge for SSE Power Distribution is responding to severe weather events and consequent disruption to the electricity supply to local communities, and in particular the homes and care sites of individuals considered vulnerable (including elderly people, disabled people and people with chronic illness) within those communities. Whilst SSE have robust procedures for the restoration of the electricity supply, this can sometimes take several days, and in this period the wellbeing of individuals considered vulnerable within these communities can be significantly affected. As severe weather events become more frequent, SSE needs to develop new forms of engagement with and support for communities so that the 'wellbeing gap' between electricity disruption and restoration for its customers can be effectively addressed. Through understanding in detail how different communities have in the past responded to hazard events, effective solutions (with SSE working and communities as well as its established partners in local authorities, central government and the emergency services) can be developed, and this knowledge then mobilised across communities in the UK and beyond.

Aims of the study

To identify, implement, evaluate and disseminate best practices to support communities in their preparation for and response to electricity supply disruption caused by environmental hazards and to mitigate vulnerability

Funding

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Contact

For more information about this project contact Ed Hall e.c.hall@dundee.ac.uk or Irena Connon i.i.c.connon@dundee.ac.uk