



National Lifelines Forum 2009

Holiday Inn on Avon, Christchurch

Key Points Arising

The 2009 National Lifelines Forum was attended by 75 people, a 20% increase in registrants from the previous year.

All of the presentations contained valuable information. A summary of the main points for Lifelines Groups and national utilities to take on board is provided in the following table (developed from an earlier version produced by Lisa Roberts for AELG).

Item	Next Steps/ Suggested Lifelines Group and Lifeline Utility Actions
1. Lifeline Group Activities	
1.1 Hawke’s Bay and Manawatu-Wanganui have been developing a web-based GIS Portal, which will potentially be used as a GIS-based emergency status reporting system and repository for Lifelines Group information.	Proof of concept intended for early 2010, after which time suitability for use by other CDEM and Lifelines Groups can be established. National utility reps are encouraged to become involved, and to provide a point of contact to Hawke’s Bay and Manawatu-Wanganui.
1.2 The Northland Lifelines Group have developed an Infrastructure Resilience Plan in ring binder format as a means of drawing together their projects progressively.	This is a good example of how to build up a solid package of valuable regional material without necessarily having to go through a detailed vulnerability assessment process. The method of depicting infrastructure interdependencies plus infrastructure failure scenarios and hazard summaries is considered to be particularly useful.
1.3 The AELG Critical Sites methodology was presented as a potential model for national application. It focuses on the <u>consequences</u> of utility failure/ disruption	The NELC and national utility reps on other regional groups are to encourage adoption of nationally consistent approach.
1.4 AELG are also developing a methodology for reviewing and updating their original Lifelines Project Report	NELC are supporting and involved with this project, and encouraging the development of a methodology that other Groups can use.

1.5 Taranaki and Hawke’s Bay regions are undertaking projects on “Planning for co-ordinated reconnaissance following a disaster”.	Potential project for all Lifelines Groups to consider.
1.6 The Wellington Lifelines Group has had BERL develop a framework to determine the regional economic cost of disruption due attributable to Lifeline Utilities. This is the key step in building the business case for mitigation investment by lifeline utilities	Report available from Dave Brunson for those interested.
1.7 The Canterbury Lifelines Group has done extensive research into interdependency analysis and trialed a workshop methodology. They are also developing guidelines for Critical Infrastructure Manual Back-up.	Information available from Mark Gordon. Canterbury Lifelines Group to make available when prepared.
1.8 Other regions have been working on projects such as priority sites identification, fuel supply reviews, generator stock reviews and Lifelines Co-ordination Protocols	
1.9 Some groups are reviewing their name - for example Canterbury is proposing to change to the ‘Canterbury Lifeline Utilities Group’.	
2. National Projects	
2.1 A National CDEM Fuel Plan has been developed and is going through industry review.	Each CDEM group is to work with their Lifelines Group to identify ‘CDEM-critical’ customers.
2.2 The NELC is continuing with its advocacy that Infrastructure Resilience should be led by central government agencies, and that ‘resilience’ should be one of the criteria is decision-making associated with major projects	Submission made by NELC to Treasury’s National Infrastructure Unit on their scoping document ‘Infrastructure: Facts and Issues’
2.3 Guidelines on Building Safety Evaluation during a state of emergency have been produced by Dept of Building and Housing and the NZ Society for Earthquake Engineering	Lifeline utilities should have specific priority arrangements in place with engineers to inspect their buildings
2.4 Climate change – refer to MfE website www.climatechange.govt.nz/physical-impacts-and-adaptation	Greater end-user/ critical facility operator involvement is sought by MfE
2.5 Steve Ilkovics of Vector Gas outlined the new Gas Critical Contingency Operator arrangements under the new Gas Governance Regulations	

3. Other Aspects	
3.1 Brad Scott introduced the Geonet website as a valuable source of geological hazard information.	Presentation available for Lifelines Group meetings. Utilities should go to www.geonet.org.nz to subscribe to warnings.
3.2 Excellent case studies on how organisations can proactively approach resilience were presented by Orion and Watercare.	Utilities are encouraged to view the presentations by John O'Donnell and Brian Park.
3.3 A report was provided on the 7th US Technical Council for Lifeline Earthquake Engineering Conference (Dave Brunson, Brian Park)	Report issued at Forum and available off the MCDEM Lifeline Utilities web-page
3.4 VISG outlined their intention to act as a national group while remaining based with AELG. A new electricity poster was presented.	Posters and other VISG information can be accessed on the AELG website www.aelg.org.nz .
3.5 Many groups have been using new tsunami hazard maps from NIWA to assess infrastructure risk.	
3.6 A comprehensive look at the many facets of utility recovery following the April 2009 L'Aquila, Italy earthquake was provided by Sonia Giovinazzi	
3.7 The significant contribution made by John Lamb to Lifelines Engineering over the past two decades was acknowledged. In addition to his leadership of the Canterbury Engineering Lifelines Project, he has provided valuable assistance and mentoring to a number of Lifelines Group project managers in other regions.	

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