

## Benmore Local Service System Upgrade

**Project:** Benmore Local Service System Upgrade

**Client:** Meridian Energy

**Location:** Benmore Power Station, Otematata North Otago

**Contract Value:** \$2,000,000

Meridians Benmore Refurbishment Programme to upgrade the Benmore Hydro Power Station The programme consists of three parts, one of which was the Local Services Upgrade Project.

This project was primarily concerned with upgrading or improving the 11KV, 3.3KV and 415V infrastructure. This included improvements to the 3.3KV SWBD and civil work to the switch room; replacement of four protection panels and their associated 3.3kv protection relays; replacement of four 415V Switchboard's and replacement or improvements to 49 DB's, change over panels and enclosures; and improvements to the naming and numbering of equipment and installation of new and removal of old cables.

Also included in the project was; 33kv switchroom structural upgrades, panel manufacture, commissioning and integration of SCADA systems.

The quantity of low voltage equipment to be replaced necessitated a large amount of quality documentation and supplier drawings to be produced by Electrix and approved by Meridian. This was issued in stages so that work could proceed without delays. Communication and levels of trust between client and contractor was very good and this helped alleviate delays where changes were needed to be made very quickly.

The project was also used by Electrix as an opportunity to introduce new staff to power station installations in the South Island, hence increasing our pool of manpower available to undertake future work within the generation industry.

The project ran smoothly and the Client was pleased with the outcome.



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