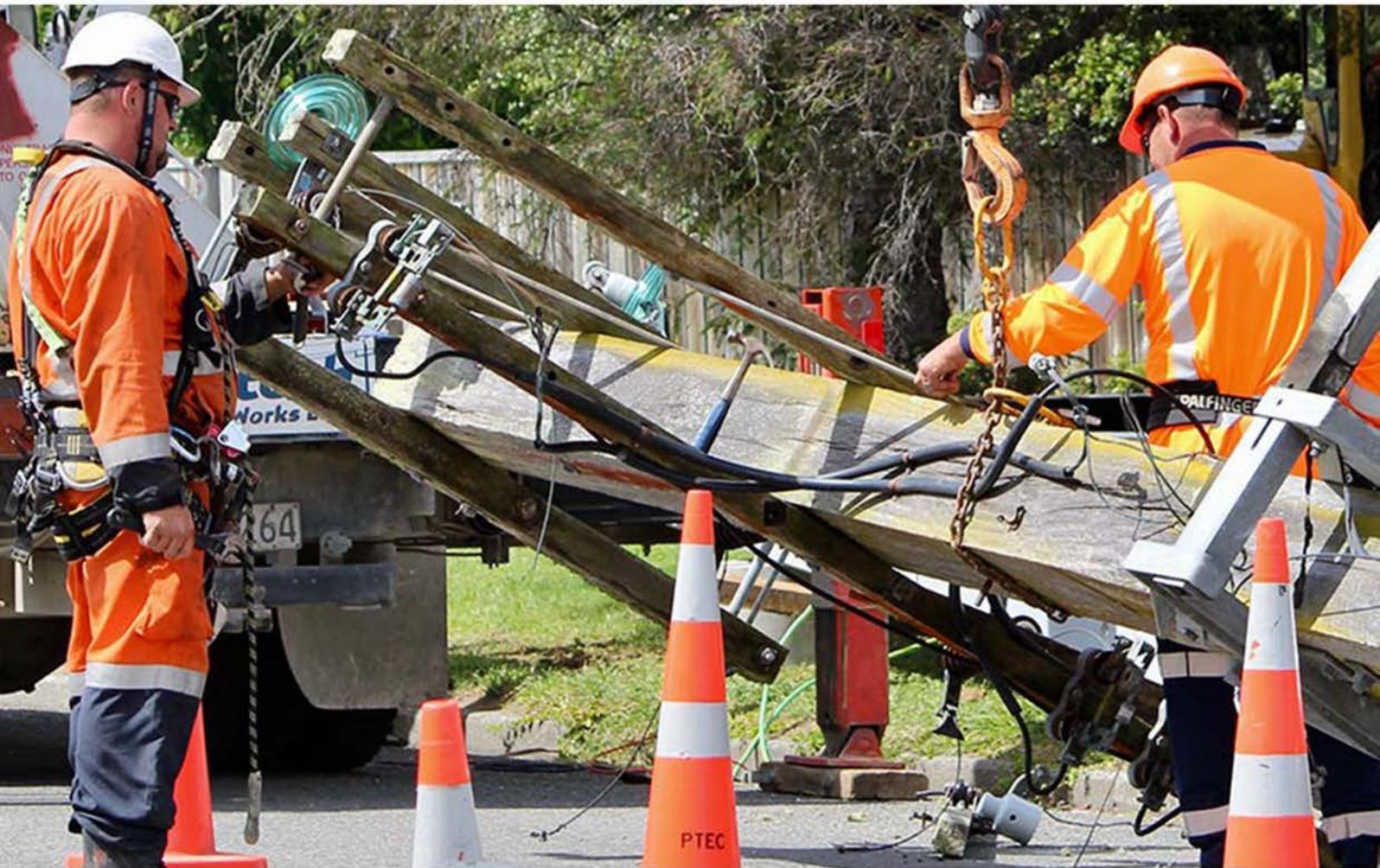


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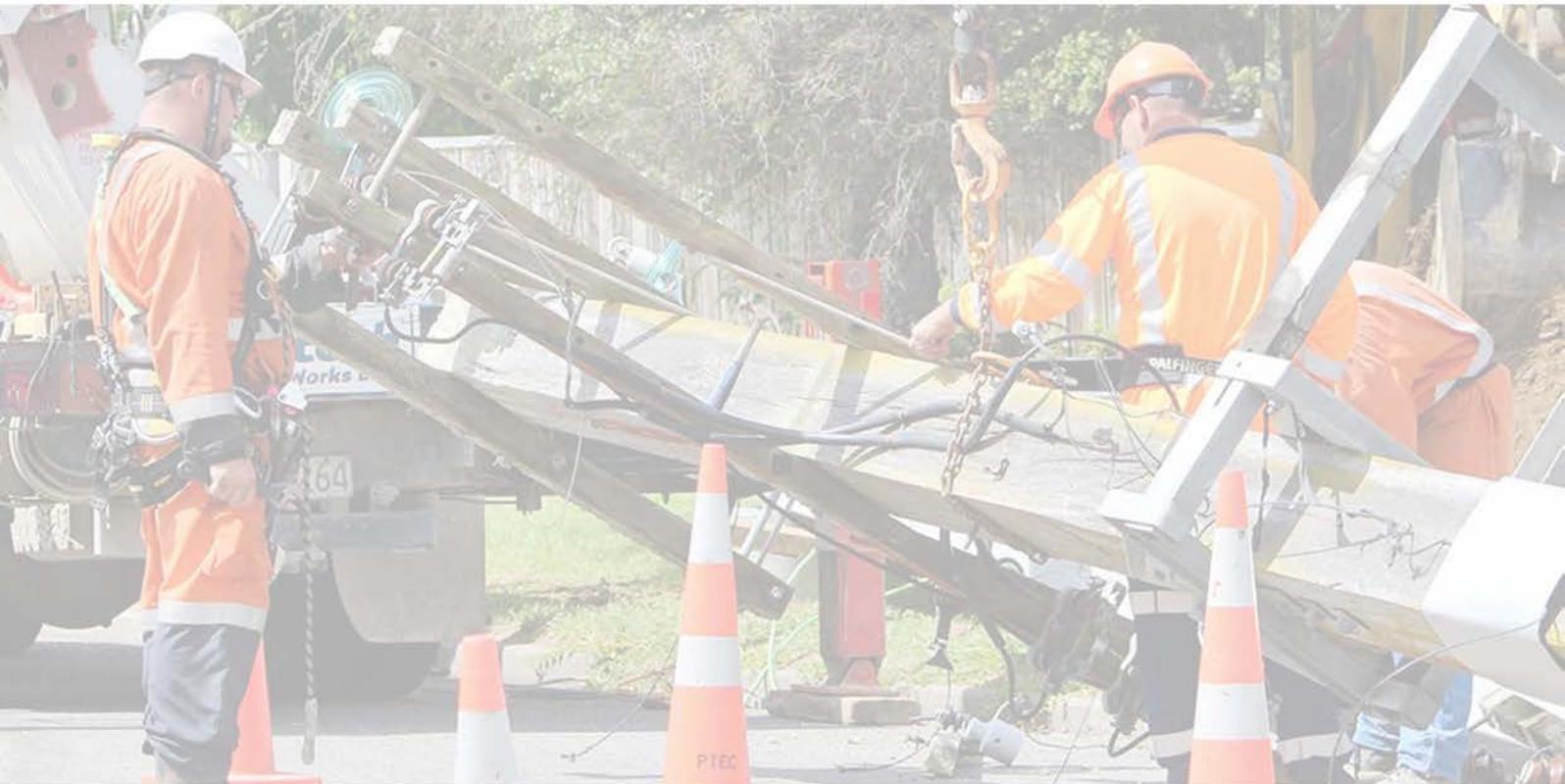
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How to save 13%...
ON YOUR POWER BILL

6 Ways to save 13% on your next power bill...

- 1 Check Your Windows and Doors
- 2 Check Your Appliances
- 3 Save on Lighting
- 4 Save on Hot Water
- 5 Ways to Keep Your Home Dry
- 6 The Importance of Insulation



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Check your...

1. Windows and Doors

- **Draw curtains at dusk** – to keep the day's heat in. The best curtains are thick, fitted close to the window, wide enough to generously overlap the window frames at the sides and long enough to touch the floor. A pelmet at the top is even better.
- **Consider DIY window-film kits** – which can cut heat loss through windows by half and are a fraction of the cost of double-glazing.
- **Stop draughts** – make sure your windows and doors fit their frames. Use draught stopping tape around windows and doors and draught excluders or door snakes along the bottom of doors.

Check your...

2. Appliances

Standby power – appliances left on standby can cost you more than \$100 a year on your power bills. Major culprits are home entertainment appliances, like TV's, stereos, game consoles and computer equipment. Plug them into multi-plug boards so they can all be turned off properly at the same time. Turn off other appliances like whiteware at the wall to.

Heated towel rails – If you have a heated towel rail, only use it when needed. A heated towel rail left on 24/7 can cost you \$170 per year to run. You can buy timers for towel rails that come on automatically at certain times of the day.

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Save on...

3. Lighting

Lighting is one of the easiest places you can save energy around your house.

- **Turn lights off when you're not using them.**
- **Replace incandescent light bulbs** with energy efficient ones and save \$100 or more a year in your house.

Coupled with smart use and good lighting design, energy efficient lighting can brighten your world and lighten your power bills. Energy efficient light bulbs use up to 80% less energy than standard incandescent bulbs, so you start saving money the moment you make the switch.

Save on...

4. Hot Water

Heating water is expensive, so using less hot water has a big impact on your energy bills.

- **Use an efficient showerhead** – it still gives you a great shower, but uses much less water. To check the flow rate of your shower, put a 10 litre bucket under the shower – if it fills in less than a minute, your shower head is wasting water. An efficient showerhead has a flow rate of 9 litres per minute, or less.
- **Use cold washes** – unless you have an especially dirty load. Modern washing machines and detergents clean well using cold water. A hot water wash uses 90% more electricity than a cold wash.

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Ways to keep your...

5. Home Dry

Outside:

Fix any broken or leaking pipes, and clear and fix gutters – leaky pipes and blocked or broken guttering can cause moisture inside your home, which can lead to mould.

Inside:

Cooking, showering and washing – all introduce moisture to your home. The best way to get rid of this moisture is with externally vented extraction fans and vents. If you don't have these, open windows during or after cooking, showering and washing up.

The importance of...

6. Insulation

Good quality insulation helps keep the heat in during winter and out during summer. This makes your house easier and cheaper to heat properly, and more comfortable and healthy to live in. The priority for insulating your home should be ceiling, followed by underfloor and walls.

Hot air rises. So for most homes, making them easier and cheaper to heat properly starts with good ceiling insulation. It's generally the easiest, cheapest and most effective insulation to install.

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