

Highbank Pump Station

Canterbury, New Zealand



The Highbank Pump Station project exemplifies technical innovation and engineering excellence, whilst demonstrating strong collaboration with all stakeholders to deliver a range of practical and environmental benefits to the community.

TrustPower engaged Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM) and Riley Consultants (RC) to complete the project design, tendering, construction and commissioning of the project within a tight 10-month timeframe.

Key project features

The project demonstrates innovation in design and engineering excellence for its speed of delivery and unique features, including:

- Maximised use of existing hydro and RDR infrastructure
- Pipe bridge across the hydro tailrace
- Outdoor sunken pump station
- Siphon off-takes along the RDR
- 40 m³ air chamber waterhammer transient mitigation
- Sizing for current demand while allowing for future expansion

“The Highbank combined power and pumping facility enhances farm production by supplementing water sourced from the Rangitata River with Rakaia River water during peak irrigation demand, and generates electricity during low irrigation demand.”