

What's a Power Engineer - Job Profile

David - Design Engineer Substations, Energy Australia



Major Responsibilities

- Construction of new 'Greenfield' substations through the project cycle including feasibility, concept design, detailed design, consultation with other internal and external design and technical bodies, construction and commissioning.
- Refurbishment, uprating & asset replacement at 'Brownfield' substations.

Pathways

2002: Work experience placement at Novotex - programming of embedded microprocessors for laser communications and navigation.

2003: Graduated – Telecommunications Eng. (Hons) degree, Newcastle University.

2004: Started a career with EnergyAustralia on the Graduate Program.

2004: Substation Design (6 month rotation) - designed & procured communication hubs for the EnergyAustralia network; small-medium brownfield projects such as capacitor bank installations.

2004 – 2005: Live Line Training School (6 month rotation) - developed a software application to determine the mechanical loads on overhead power lines for field use.

2005: Protection Design (6 month rotation) - grading studies and relay settings

2005 to present - Substation Design (Permanent position).

Why Did you choose This Career?

An engineering degree allowed me to have different options of employment including automation and control, power engineering and even banking. Given the current high demand for power engineering, there are many opportunities in the sector with very sound salary packages. Choosing a career within the power industry gave me options to work in my home of Newcastle or relocate to Sydney at my own discretion, a high comparative first year wage and job security.

I've found a career within the power industry can be both challenging and rewarding and gives opportunities to continue professional development, career progression and very reasonable wage remunerations.