

### **Why did you consider a career in the electricity supply industry?**

For me, the prospect of going to university and coming out with a degree, but also a huge debt that I would have to pay off, did not appeal too much. I did like the idea of the social life, but was keen to get involved in some sort of practical training – something that involved a lot of hands-on learning and skills. Also, I was impressed with how well neighbours and friends who were ‘sparkies’ had done.

### **How are you finding your job and training?**

The practical work is very much the real deal. We go out and do block periods with electricity supply networks and high energy users. In my case it was with WEL Networks in Hamilton.

Others have gone to industrial sites like Kinleith pulp and paper mill in South Waikato and the dams. There is no limit to what we will be doing, everything from workshop based maintenance work to wiring up circuit breakers and installing transformers on site. You could say this is the Rolls Royce of electrical tickets and well worth having.

### **What is the best part of your apprenticeship?**

This apprenticeship is a great start for me. I also have a qualification that does make working anywhere an option and I don't have to worry about having a big debt when I finish.



*Rebecca Gowling*

