

Safety alert

Notice to all network stakeholders

Issue 15 | Rev 0 | August 2024

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Switchgear: Labelling & Commissioning

Several switching incidents have occurred recently involving the operation of 11kV ring main units. These are attributed to mismatched labelling on SCADA and/or GIS and/or in the field. This alert highlights the risks linked to these discrepancies.

Key message: Push pause – if you are at all unsure, seek assistance before continuing works. Immediately communicate any labelling discrepancies to the NOC.

Contributing factors

- **Historical Errors:** Legacy errors with field devices and SCADA tiles often come to light during new work involving this equipment.
- **Commissioning Day Changes:** Changes made to circuit connectivity on the day of commissioning may not always be reflected in as-built documentation or SCADA updates.
- **Outdated SCADA Tiles:** Using outdated SCADA tiles from applicants can lead to mismatches between the live SCADA data and the actual circuit connectivity.
- **Incorrect Information:** SCADA representations might be drawn incorrectly if based on inaccurate or outdated information provided during the as-build process.

Lessons Learned:

- **Communication with the NOC:**
 - Immediately inform NOC of any labelling issues or SCADA discrepancies as soon as they are identified.
 - Work closely with NOC to ensure SCADA data and switchgear labels are accurately updated to reflect current field conditions.
 - Maintain regular and clear communication between field crews, the NOC, and project managers to promptly address any inconsistencies.
 - Push pause if you are not sure. NOC fully supports any field crew to push pause on the job if they are not certain on circuit identification or any safety aspect of a job.
- **Accurate Circuit Identification:**
 - Consistent and precise labelling of switchgear is crucial to prevent operational errors.
 - Regular updates and verifications of SCADA representations are necessary to ensure they align with actual field configurations.
 - Follow Powerco labelling standard 393S004.

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- **Effective Work Planning and Commissioning:**
 - Proactively resolve discrepancies between SCADA data and field configurations during the planning phase to avoid issues on the day of commissioning.
 - Adhere to best practice testing procedures, to confirm accurate connections before energizing equipment.
 - Follow all applicable Powerco commissioning standards including 220S007.

This safety alert serves as a reminder to all crews, planners and operators about the critical importance of accurate labelling, rigorous testing and effective communication.

Let's collaborate to minimize risks and enhance the reliability and safety of our electrical network.

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