



## SOP 441 – Prysmian 400kV Cable Terminations – update to RMZ dimensions

This Express supersedes Safety Express EXP-10-579, published in February 2025, which is now withdrawn. The revision in this Express is to the dimensions of the RMZ noted below, from 25m to 30m at Hunterston East.

SPEN experienced a failure of a Prysmian EVG1420/062 400kV GIS cable termination in July 2023 at Hunterston Converter Station. (Ref: DIN 2023/0027/00).

There was a subsequent failure in January 2025 again at Hunterston Converter Station. (Ref: NEDER 2025/1049/00).

Investigation into the root causes of both are still ongoing, however early indications show a contributing factor may be related to past installation works on this specific site. On completion of both investigations an update will follow.

Considering the second failure and expert ballistics guidance being implemented, SPEN have reviewed our ALARP Risk Assessment which has deemed the risk level to personnel as currently unacceptable.

SPEN have taken the decision to update the Risk Management Zone (RMZ). No personnel are to be within a minimum distance of 30m at Hunterston East and 25m at Hunterston Converter Station around all matching cable termination types.

Where work is required within the defined RMZ of the affected terminations, protective measures can be deployed to protect personnel.

The SPEN exposure to this asset type is as follows:

Hunterston Converter Station: 27 off

Hunterston East: 6 off

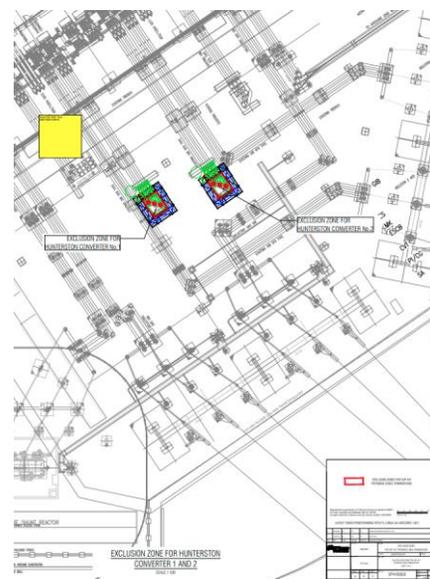
[SOP441](#) has been applied.

## Recommendations and action points

- SP Transmission to install signage communicating RMZ to all personnel
- It is a requirement to follow processes detailed in [OPSAF-04-026](#) when accessing the Hunterston compound. This document is available only to SPEN staff through the EN Document Library. SPEN Service Partners can request a copy through their nominated SPEN Project Manager
- Screens are to be erected to protect personnel where work is required within the RMZ of the affected terminations
- The investigation to determine the root cause and repairs are ongoing. A further update will follow in due course.



January 2025 Failure Investigation



Hunterston East Updated RMZ as per OPSAF-04-026