

UK Power Networks OPERATIONAL BULLETIN

Document No:	HSS 406 OB 163	Issue Date:	17 January 2019
Type:	Operational Bulletin		
Subject:	Checking of neutral links when connecting a generator		
Applicable Areas:	All	Applicable Job Roles:	Anyone carrying out work in a Substation
Issued By:	HSS Team		
Circulation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> All UK Power Networks Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Asset Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital Programme & Procurement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connections <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contractors <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Services <input type="checkbox"/> Finance <input type="checkbox"/> G81 External website <input type="checkbox"/> HR & Communications <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICPs (Independent Connection Providers) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IDNOs (Independent Distribution Network Operators) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Systems <input type="checkbox"/> Legal <input type="checkbox"/> Meter Operators 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Network Operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EPN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LPN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SPN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connections Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distribution Capital Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Highway Services <input type="checkbox"/> Logistics <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Network Control <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Powercare <input type="checkbox"/> Transport Services <input type="checkbox"/> SHE&TTA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Business safety team <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety Reps <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy and Regulation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UK Power Networks Services 	

Please consult the author if you have any queries about the information below.

An incident recently occurred in the SPN area where the Earth and Neutral of a generator was connected to the earth bar of a EMMCO Scarborough Take Off Chamber (TOC) without the Neutral link being in place.

The substation was understood to be using a PME system but at some point previously, the Neutral earth link was removed.

- This information was written in pencil on the inside cover of the logbook.
- No name or date was recorded against it and no signage or other warning was left on site as per ECS 06-0023 Secondary Distribution Network Earthing Construction

Any task in a substation should be recorded in the logbook with the name of the person carrying out the task and date recorded against it.

When connecting a generator, a check must be made to ensure the neutral earth link is in place if connecting Neutral and Earth to the Earth bar. Where possible, they should be connected to their respective bars rather than combined.

On all occasions and for all operations carried out in a TOC or similar then a check must be carried out to confirm the status of the Earthing and running arrangements and that they match what is expected from the plans and schematics.

**It is the responsibility of line management to ensure that all appropriate employees are issued with this Bulletin and their understanding of the contents is checked.
This Bulletin will be subject to compliance audits after 14 days from the date of issue.**

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Where HV and LV earths are separated, the following warning sign should be visible on site.



Many thanks to the engineers involved in this incident in highlighting the issues this incident has raised.

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