

TECHNICAL

ScottishPower *Express*

Reference no.: EXP-11-237

Incident:

Date: 04/05/2018



Reversible Cut outs for use on PILC Service Cables

With the increase in work activity on equipment located in the customers premises due to modernisation programmes and smart meter enabling works, this Technical Express is issued as a reminder to staff engaged in replacing legacy cut outs of the availability of a reversible cut out.

This cut out type is particularly helpful when working with PILC Service Cables, allowing the Live and Neutral (N/E) terminals to be switched round to suit the existing position of the paper insulated cores, and is available for both single and three phase applications.

Good working practise requires limited movement of the cores in order to maintain the insulating properties of the service cable.

Additional information



1 Phase Series 5 60/80
Amp SP&N kit -
30980595



L & N Reversed



3 Phase Series 5 100
Amp TP&N kit -
30980592



L1 & N Reversed

Recommendations and action points

- All Operational and Supervisory staff to be briefed on the availability of this equipment, and field staff are advised to carry reversible style cut outs as a useful alternative to the standard cut out type.
- Staff to be reminded of the need to limit the amount of disturbance to PILC cable cores during cut out change activities.
- During your risk assessment always select the highest level of PPE that is practical for carrying out the task. The minimum level of PPE for switching at a cut-out being; FR Coveralls, Approved Rubber gloves and light eye protection. Wear a full face visor if reasonable and practicable to do so. Reference [EXP-10-371](#). Remember it is always an option to make the cut-out "not live" should the Risk Assessment indicate an unacceptable level of risk, refer to [OPSAF-12-021](#) (LWM 6.1) for further guidance.
- OPSAF-12-021 advises : Approved reversible cut-outs can be dismantled and the neutral and phase connector blocks can be swapped to suit the polarity of the PILC service cable. This ensures that the crutch of the PILC service cable is not disturbed by crossing cores.