



Every employee and contractor working for Northern Powergrid, should go home at the end of each shift uninjured and in good health after a productive days work.

Reporting of obsolete cutouts with a fused neutral.

Cutouts with fused neutrals were prohibited when the Electricity Supply Regulations 1937 were issued and we have, through a programme of replacement, removed those that are known to us. The danger associated with a fused neutral arises when the fuse operates before the phase fuse leaving the customer's wiring live and potentially dangerous. Whilst the cut-out replacement programmes that have been in place for many years will have replace the majority of these obsolete cut-outs this information was never held on our asset records and therefore the only way to identify these are when an operative is on site. Although we expect the number of these cut-outs that remain in service to be extremely low, an operative recently attended a customer's premises and found a cut out with a fused neutral indicating there are still be some left in service.

Typical fused neutral cutouts.



This brief is a remind to ALL staff and contractors that come across cutouts with fused neutrals to report them for replacement, as a matter of urgency, using the 159 process (option 4). Reporting them using the 159 process will facilitate an OMS Task to be raised for the cut out to be replaced. Other than replacement of fuses no work should be undertaken on such cutouts.

Meter operators should report cutouts with fused neutrals through their own approved processes and data flows. It is important that each cut-out is promptly reported to enable replacement.