



Safety Advice 01-2014 (NZ)

(Transmission)

The following First Alert courtesy of Transpower contains advice and precautionary procedures following an explosive VT failure. The full advice follows below.

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FIRST ALERT

Date 14/1/2014

ROT-VT-25, 33kV Indoor Switchgear Resin Cast Voltage Transformer (VT) Explosive Failure

EVENT

Rotorua T5 Tripped on 13/1/2014 at 10:27am. Protection operation indicated an LV Red Phase to earth fault. Subsequent site investigation reported VT 25 Red Phase had explosively failed.

In 1999 Yellow Phase VT failed in an identical manner. As this is the second failure and investigations continue into the cause, it is recommended that this model “Magrini Gallileo” VRF3Zn 33kV VT located at Rotorua, and similar vintage resin VT’s at the below listed sites, have precautionary procedures put in place. Refer to the immediate actions below.

As further testing and analysis is completed an update will be issued directly to Regional Managers and Operations.



Failed R phase VT. Damaged limited to the VT compartment. Explosion vent operated



Rotorua 33kV Switchboard rear View showing VT located in CB 2312 Panel.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

- Attached list identifies the Switchboards and Sites these precautions are required
- Tag in SCADA that when operating any CB's on the listed sites the Switch-room is cleared prior to operating
- Put on the Temporary hazard board and on the entry to the Switch-room the following notice
 - Until further notice contact NGOC operator when entering this Switch-room advise your activity and expected duration.
 - On entering the switch-room use your senses to listen for any unusual noise and/or smell emanating from the Switchboard. If there is any concern **immediately** vacate the switch-room and contact NGOC
 - Avoid walking around the rear of the switchboard
 - On exiting the Switch-room contact NGOC to confirm you have vacated

Sites to be tagged

Rotorua 33kV Switchboard

Clyde 33kV Switchboard

Penrose 22kV Switchboard

Kensington 33kV Switchboard

Whirinaki Merlin Gerin 11 kV Switchboard

Central Park 11kV Switchboard

Penrose 33kV Switchboard

Mt Roskill 22kV Switchboard

Mangere 33kV Switchboard



For more information
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