



Inadvertent flash over of Haywards 110kV Bus

During bus section switching activities at Haywards in readiness for a routine maintenance outage, the maintenance switcher applied a station earth lead to an earthing horn at the top of a bus coupling circuit breaker after proving the earthing horn deenergised. Unknown to the maintenance switcher the circuit breaker was still energised at the middle flange.

The earth lead conductor subsequently contacted the middle of the circuit breaker (Live section) when being applied onto the deenergised earthing horn, causing a flash over to earth.

The Bus Zone CB/Fail protection operated as designed, resulting in the widespread loss of supply of the Haywards 110kV Bus.

An investigation team has been assembled and the investigation has commenced on site.



Immediate actions

- The maintenance switcher involved in the incident was immediately sent hospital for medical checks.
- All work was stopped, and the yard evacuated of all work parties.
- A visual Inspection of the affected bus took place shortly after.
- A maintenance switcher not part of the work party was brought in to undertake the reinstatement of the Haywards 110kV on completion of a new restoration sequence.
- Scheduled work for the day was deferred and all staff in the work party stood down.

For more information, please contact:

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Incident Date	13/03/2020