



Safety Advice 45-2013 (Nov) (NZ)

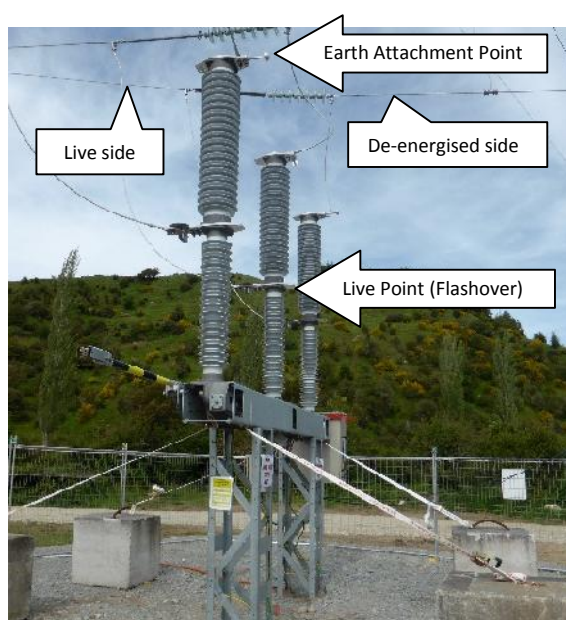
The following First Alert courtesy of Transpower outlines a flashover incident where the lead of a portable earth being installed came into contact with live adjacent 110kV equipment. All persons installing temporary earthing equipment must be aware of the hazard outlined and asset owners and contractors should take note of the asset, portable equipment and work practice arrangement under which this flashover incident took place.

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Earthing Practices Relating to 110kV Disconnecting Circuit Breakers (DCB's)

EVENT



As part of the operating procedure to isolate a section of 110kV bus at Murchison, earths were to be applied to the de-energised side of DCB558.

While operator applied earths were being installed the live mid palm point of DCB558 flashed across to the portable earth conductor causing the in service MCH_IGH circuit to trip



IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

- Identify all DCB's (livetank and deadtank models) fitted with earth horns that are utilised as a point of isolation. Review the safety of their position for temporary earthing.
- If they are not safe to be used then until they are repositioned/removed, ensure necessary warning signage is installed on the circuit breaker, in the substation relay room and on the site temporary hazard board. DO NOT USE.
- Reminder to identify and be aware of the nearest live point when undertaking isolation and earthing of equipment at all times.
- Ensure the consistent use of Voltage Detector Devices (VDD's) prior to installing portable earths.



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