

ASP Safety Alert Network Compliance & Authorisations

Alert Number: SA07_22

01 July 2022

Subject: 11kV RMU end-box failures – Temporary Switching Restrictions

Dear ASPs,

What happened

We have recently seen an increase in the number of 11kV RMU end-box failures. These failures have occurred across the following manufacture types of outdoor enclosures and kiosks within Reyrolle ROKSS, Lucy FRMU and Long and Crawford T3(4)GF3 ranges across Ausgrid's Network

Whilst statistically the increase in failures is within normal limits, we are adopting a precautionary approach to the matter. It is important to note that the issue is related to end-boxes only and not the switchgear itself and no failure has occurred during switching operations. No loose conductor connections have been identified on failed end-boxes.

Key messages

Effective immediately, Ausgrid has placed a temporary restriction on live High Voltage switching at RMUs identified by Ausgrid as being affected by this issue, pending the results of ongoing testing and investigation. Please communicate with your projects' Compliance Officer to investigate if this switching restriction will impact your outages.

Important Note

The substations detailed on the certified design (High Voltage Isolation points – where the project is taking place electrically) may not be the only substations (RMU's) which will need to be assessed. Normally open points of the 11kV Feeders are closed to enable the supply to be maintained to substations downstream of the isolation area required for your outage to take place safely. These RMU's will also need to be identified and assessed if they are impacted by this temporary switching restriction.

If an impacted RMU is identified there may be a requirement for additional pre-switching and/or expansion of the required isolation area. Unfortunately switching around these may not be possible in all situations and in these cases projects will be placed on hold, until such time as the RMU can be tested and removed from the impacted list. Once again this will be communicated with the asp by the compliance officer as soon as identified. This information will also be shared with any impacted customers via the responsible CPC.

Please confirm with your Compliance Officer if your outage will be impacted.

Ausgrid

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