

To Developers of Distributed Generation

30 December 2014

Dear Developers

Reminder – Requirement for safe systems of work on private EHV networks

We are writing to you because UK Power Networks has recently experienced several unplanned network outages as a result of faults on customer EHV private networks cascading back to the DNO source breakers.

Upon investigation, it appears that the reasons for the faults have arisen from unsuitable (and in some cases non-existent) systems for safe working on private networks. The lack of safe systems of work has resulted in operating errors where the EHV network has been energised onto applied earths – if robust control systems had been in place, this could not have happened. Such errors are of grave concern to UK Power Networks.

May we take this opportunity to remind all of you who currently operate and/or are planning to operate EHV networks of your duty to comply with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

Operators should also be familiar with guidance issued by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) – HSG85 – Electricity at work: Safe Working Practices

http://www.hseni.gov.uk/hsg85_electricity_at_work_-_safe_working_practices.pdf

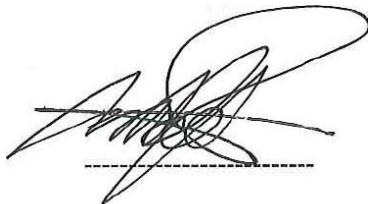
Safe systems of work and robust operational controls are legal obligations. UK Power Networks treats the health and safety of employees, the public and the distribution network with the utmost importance, and would ask you all to ensure that you and your contractors do likewise.

UK Power Networks may refuse to connect any installation or network (and/or may disconnect any installation or network previously connected) if it is not satisfied that it is constructed, installed, protected and used (or arranged for use) so far as reasonably practicable so as to prevent danger.

Yours sincerely



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