

SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONAL PRACTICE OPSAF-16-181 **SOP 181**

Issue No. 1 October 2000

SCOPE 1

This document details the application of SOP 181 issued by the Electricity Association.

2 **ISSUE RECORD**

This is a controlled maintained document

All copies printed via the Intranet or photocopied will be deemed uncontrolled.

Issue Date	Issue No	Author	Amendment Details
October 2000	1	Esther Stewart	Initial Issue in New Format: 2 Page Document

3 **ISSUE AUTHORITY**

Author	Owner	Issue Authority
Esther Stewart	Roger Bracey	Roger Bracey Group Head, Standards



SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONAL PRACTICE OPSAF-16-181 **SOP 181**

Issue No. 1 October 2000

SOP DETAILS

TYPE: LUCY FRMU 11kV Switchfuse RMU.

ORIGINATING REC: SCOTTISHPOWER

DATE: 09/05/97

NO. INSTALLED IN MANWEB: 800 units affected.

NO. INSTALLED IN SCOTLAND:

There are two types of switch position indicator sight glass assembly fitted. Only units fitted with a polycarbonate sight glass held in place by a locking ring within the tank are affected by this ban. Units having the external four bolt clamp type of sight glass are not affected.

STATUS:

Ban on Live Operation. No work on or inspection of the unit to be carried out with the unit live. The unit should not be disturbed in any way.

REASON:

During a routine switching operation one of the polycarbonate ring switch indicator sight glasses was found to be cracked. The unit was made dead for further investigation and when touched by an engineer who was attempting to assess the extent of the damage both sight glasses fell out. This allowed the metal retaining ring to fall inside the ring switch tank. The design of the switch is such that in falling to the bottom of the tank the retaining ring could come into contact with live components or foul the operating mechanism. In addition the oil within the unit was found to be contaminated with water.

UPDATE:

13/05/97 Following consultation with the manufacturer units affected are those

manufactured between 1980 and 1984 i.e. have serial numbers prefixed

80/---- to 84/---- inclusive.

This range is a wide enough bandwidth to include a few of the four bolt fixed type which are not affected. Plant records say there are 388 units in this range on the MANWEB system.

REMEDIAL ACTION: Details to follow.