



**1 SCOPE**

This document details the application of SOP 294 issued by the Electricity Association.

**2 ISSUE RECORD**

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<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Issue No</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Amendment Details</b>
August 2002	1	David Naylor	Initial Issue 2 Page Document
October 2002	2	David Naylor	Updated to reflect the issue of Operational Information Circular 327

**3 ISSUE AUTHORITY**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Issue Authority</b>
David Naylor Senior Project Engineer	Alastair Ferguson Section Head Engineering Support	Eric Leavy Engineering & Transmission Operations Manager  .....



#### 4 SOP DETAILS

- TYPE :** Pole Mounted Air Break Switch Disconnectors (ABSDs) which have earthing systems fitted on the same pole as the switching location.
- ORIGINATING REC :** East Midlands Electricity
- DATE :** 16/08/2002
- NO. INSTALLED IN MANWEB:** 1566  
**NO. INSTALLED IN SCOTLAND:** 3129
- STATUS :** EME has issued an SOP requiring that operation of all mechanically operated overhead switchgear be carried out 'not live'
- Investigations are ongoing but at this stage, PowerSystems, in common with other DNOs, do not propose to apply this SOP. It is considered that the correct application of the Safety Rules and the requirements of the Live Working Manual together with correct application of PPE would prevent a similar incident in PowerSystems.
- Refer to Blue Express BE/45/02/Eng Sup.
- REASON:** A fatality occurred on East Midlands Electricity (EME) 11kV network when an engineering operative died while operating a pole mounted air break switch disconnector during switching operations to restore supplies after a fault. Few details are currently available but it is known that a faulty disc insulator was discovered at the air break.
- UPDATE:** 24/10/02: Refer to OPSAF-15-327 Operational Information Circular (OIC) 327, which provides additional information.
- REMEDIAL ACTION:** This SOP is being considered at national level by all DNOs.