

Company Directive

STANDARD TECHNIQUE: SD3A/3

Relating to Low Voltage AC Supplies at 33kV and 66kV Substations

Policy Summary

This document specifies the requirements for LVAC auxiliary supplies at primary substations and 33kV and 66kV metered connections.

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Implementation Date: October 2018

Approved by



Policy Manager

Date:

26 October 2018

All references to Western Power Distribution or WPD must be read as National Grid Electricity Distribution or NGED

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IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Introduction

ST:SD3A specifies the requirements for Low Voltage AC (LVAC) auxiliary supplies at 33kV and 66kV substations.

Main Changes

A reference to ENA EREC G99 has been added and Clause 2.2.1 has been amended to add clarity regarding sites with critical protection systems.

Impact of Changes

The implementation of these changes will have minimal impact.

Implementation Requirements

Managers shall ensure all staff and contractors involved with the design, installation, operation and maintenance of Western Power Distribution's 33kV and 66kV substations are familiar with the requirements of this Standard technique.

Implementation Timescale

Document implemented on issue.

Power Generating Modules and Power Park Modules connected on or after 27th April 2019 shall comply with ENA EREC G99 unless the generator concluded a final and binding contract for the purchase of the main generating plant before 17th May 2018 and notified WPD of this by 17th November 2018.

REVISION HISTORY

Document Revision and Review Table		
Date	Comments	Name
October 2018	<p>The following changes have been made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wording in Clause 2.2.1 has been amended to add clarity, regarding sites with critical protection systems • A reference to ENA EREC G99 has been included in Clause 2.2.2.2 • The document revision number has been removed from the Implementation Plan Introduction 	Matt Pope
July 2015	<p>The following page amendment has been included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final paragraph of 2.2.2.2 has been added to allow the use of permanently installed standby generation or an alternative switched supply to automatically restore LVAC supplies following the operation of G59 protection. 	Andy Hood
March 2015	<p>The following changes have made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document has been rebranded • Duplicate LVAC supplies shall be provided at substations with two or more 33kV or 66kV transformers • It must be possible to restore LVAC supplies within 6 hours. • Sockets and, where necessary changeover switches shall be provided for critical equipment to facilitate the connection of mobile generators • LVAC supplies for single customer substations that include critical protection systems shall be provided by WPD. • LVAC supplies to single customer substations that do not include critical protection systems may be provided by the customer. • LVAC supplies shall not be disconnected by the customer's generator interface protection (G59 protection). 	Andy Hood

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Standard Technique defines requirements for Low Voltage AC (LVAC) auxiliary supplies at 33kV and 66kV substations, including 33kV and 66kV metered connections.
- 1.2 Where any difficulty is encountered with the application of this policy, the author should be notified, who will consider if a variation is appropriate.

2.0 POLICY

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 LVAC supplies shall be provided at all 33kV and 66kV substations for auxiliary loads, such as lighting, battery chargers, tap-changer motors, spring charge motors, sockets and heating etc.

The following arrangements may be used for this purpose:

- Appropriately fused 11kV/LV or 6.6kV/LV auxiliary transformer connected to a 33kV or 66kV incoming transformers. Specifications for auxiliary transformers are included in EE SPEC:8.
 - Dedicated ground mounted distribution transformer ringed into the most reliable HV feeder circuit (e.g. shortest circuit or smallest proportion of overhead line) via a ring main unit.
 - Dedicated pole mounted transformer teed into an HV overhead circuit.
 - Dedicated HV circuit breaker and transformer.
 - LVAC derived from a local LV network. This is only acceptable where the 33/66kV substation is a cold site^[1].
- 2.1.2 At sites with more than one Western Power Distribution (WPD) owned 33kV or 66kV transformer the LVAC supplies shall be duplicated. The preferred method of achieving this is to provide two or more 11kV or 6.6kV auxiliary transformers at the site. Each auxiliary transformer is connected directly to a 33kV or 66kV transformer.
 - 2.1.3 At sites with only one WPD owned transformer duplicate LVAC supplies are not normally required, however, where the LVAC supplies are derived from an auxiliary transformer (connected to the 33kV or 66kV transformer) an alternative LVAC supply shall be provided. This is because the auxiliary transformer is likely to be disconnected for long periods of time when the transformer or its associated circuit are shut down for maintenance.

[1] A cold site is either:

- A substation with a rise of earth potential that does not exceed 430V RMS, or
- A substation where the power circuits contributing to the earth fault current are high reliability type, having an operating voltage of 33kV or greater and controlled by switchgear with main protection that will clear earth faults within 500ms and generally within 200ms that has a rise of earth potential not exceeding 650V.

2.1.4 Whichever option is selected, it shall be possible to restore LVAC supplies to the substation within 6 hours on failure of the main supply. Options for restoring LVAC supplies may include:

- Manual or automatic changeover arrangement (for duplicate LVAC supplies).
- HV switching to restore the associated distribution transformer.
- LV linking. This option is only acceptable if the 33/66kV substation is a cold site^[1].
- Connection of a mobile generator.
- Use of a permanently installed standby generator.

2.1.5 Sockets and, where necessary, manual changeover switches shall be provided to facilitate the connection of mobile generators in order restore LVAC supplies to critical items of equipment quickly. Critical items of equipment may, for example, include battery chargers, tap-changers and AC spring charger motors etc.

2.2 Single Customer Sites

The requirements for 33kV and 66kV substations that are dedicated to one customer and that are expected to be dedicated to a single customer for their entire life (e.g. 33kV and 66kV metered connections) are given below:

2.2.1 Sites with critical protection systems

2.2.1.1 Critical protection systems are those that are owned and operated by WPD and are deemed to be critical to the security or stability of Western Power Distribution's (WPD's) 132kV, 66kV or 33kV system, for example, where a substation is ringed in to WPD's network and the relays at the site are used to protect WPDs circuits.

2.2.1.2 LVAC supplies to critical protection equipment shall be provided by WPD using one of the methods described in 2.1.1 and shall not be derived from the customer's network.

2.2.2 Sites with non-critical protection

2.2.2.1 Non-critical protection systems are deemed to be those that are not critical to the protection of WPD's 132kV, 66kV or 33kV system. An example of non-critical protection is where a substation is teed into WPD's network and the main function of the relays at the site is to protect the customer's installation.

2.2.2.2 LVAC supplies to non-critical protection systems may be derived from the customer's LV network as long as:

- The LVAC voltage is maintained between 400/230V RMS +10%, -6% and has a frequency of 50Hz +/-1%.
- The LVAC supply is firm. The customer must restore the LVAC supply within 6 hours, should the main LVAC supply fail, for any reason.
- At sites with embedded generation, the LVAC supply is not disconnected when the Customer's generator protection or G59/G99 interface protection operates.

In this context, it is acceptable to initially disconnect the LVAC supplies as long as they are then automatically restored within a few seconds via an alternative LV connection or by a permanently installed and adequately maintained and fuelled standby operator.

2.2.2.3 Customer's may back up the LVAC supplies using a fixed standby generator or a mobile generator. Where the customer uses a generator to back up the main LVAC supply they must ensure it is adequately maintained, periodically tested and has a sufficient supply of fuel to maintain the LVAC supplies for as long as is required.

2.3 Auto-changeover Arrangements

2.3.1 Auto-changeover facilities for the LVAC supplies are not normally provided at 33kV and 66kV substations but may be provided where:

- This improves network performance (i.e. reduces Customer Minutes Lost), or
- The additional cost can otherwise be financially justified.

2.3.2 An example of where an automatic changeover arrangement may be warranted is where a substation has circuit breakers with AC spring charge motors. In this case an HV fault that disconnects the LVAC will prevent the closing springs from charging and will restrict the ability to sectionalise and restore the faulty circuit quickly. An alternative way of resolving this issue could be to replace the AC spring charge motors with DC motors.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 Auxiliary Loads

3.1.1 The following equipment typically requires an LVAC supply:

- Tap-changers (3 phase and single phase)
- Fans and pumps for transformer forced cooling
- Battery chargers (associated with batteries for switch-tripping, relay supplies and telecommunication)
- AC motor-wound spring charging for closing circuit breakers
- AC Lighting
- AC indication
- Line isolation units (some types)
- EMU terminals (at only a few locations).

3.2 Standard Arrangements

3.2.1 The options described in 2.1.1 are shown in Figure 1, 2 3, 4 and 5, below:

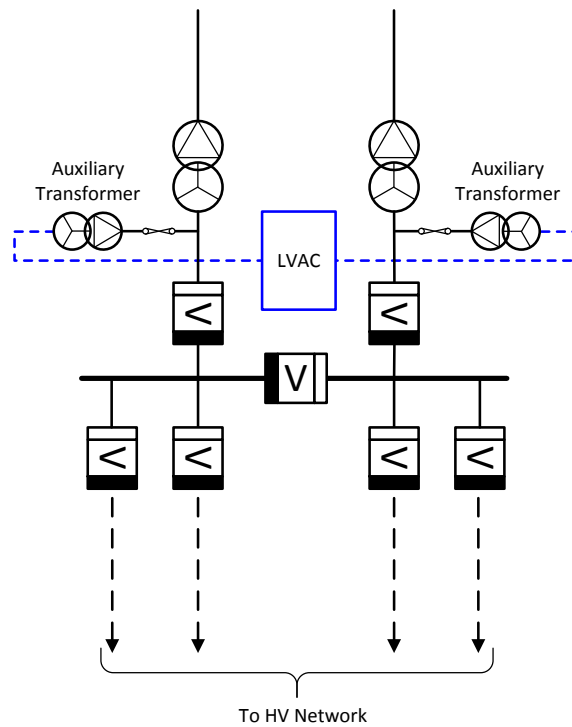


Figure 1 LVAC supplies derived from auxiliary transformers

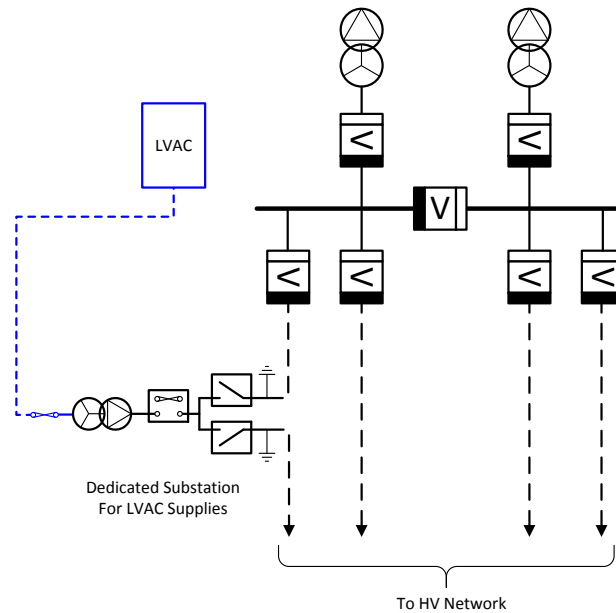


Figure 2 LVAC supplies derived from dedicated ground mounted substation

* Note, duplicate LVAC supplies are required for sites with two or more WPD owned 33kV or 66kV transformers

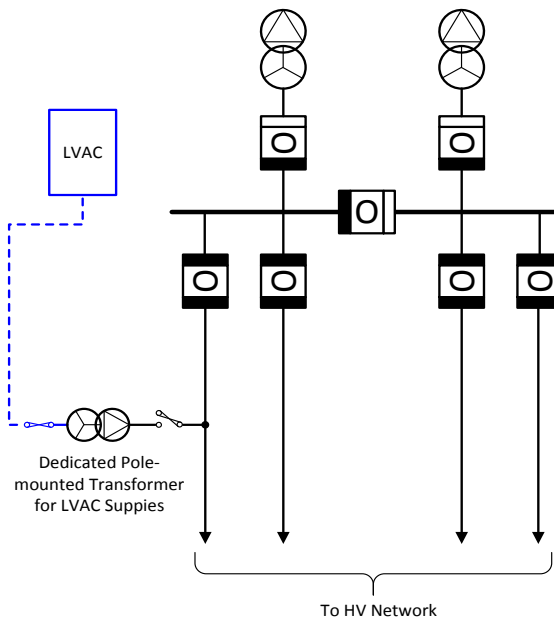


Figure 3 LVAC supplies derived from dedicated pole-mounted transformer

* Note, duplicate LVAC supplies are required for sites with two or more WPD owned 33kV or 66kV transformers

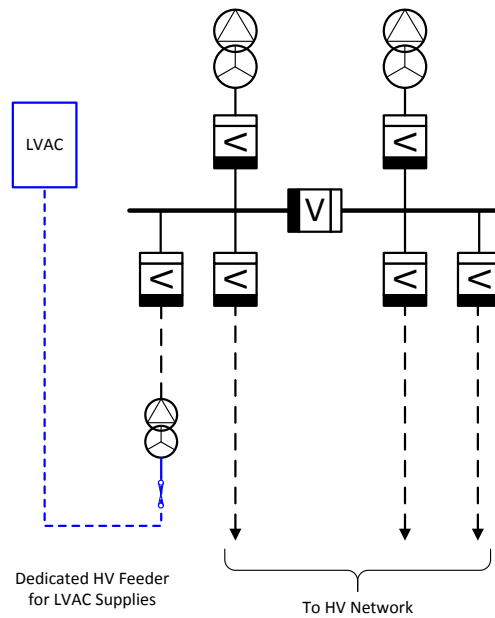


Figure 4 LVAC supplies derived from dedicated HV feeder

* Note, duplicate LVAC supplies are required for sites with two or more WPD owned 33kV or 66kV transformers

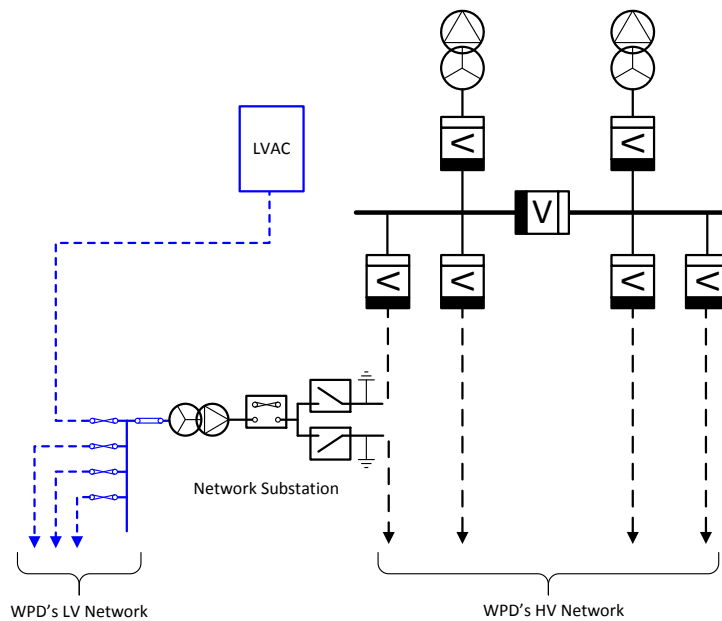


Figure 5 LVAC Supplies derived from LV network

* Note, duplicate LVAC supplies are required for sites with two or more WPD owned 33kV or 66kV transformers

APPENDIX A

SUPERSEDED DOCUMENTATION

This document supersedes ST:SD3A/2 dated September 2015 which has now been withdrawn.

APPENDIX B

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTATION

POL: SD4	HV System Design
POL: TP6	Requirements for auxiliary supplies, control functions and alarms
ST: TP6K	Substation Battery and Charger Selection
ST: TP21B	Design and Installation of Fixed Earthing Systems - Major Substations
EE SPEC: 89	Fixed Earthing Systems for Major Substations

APPENDIX C

KEY WORDS

LVAC, Auxiliary Supplies, Primary Substation, Customer Minutes Lost, Duplicate Supplies, Auto-changeover