Lucy FRMU Defects and Restrictions

Lucy FRMU Oil Ring Main Units are a legacy switchgear type known to have had several equipment defects over their years in service. SWG-19-012 documents 17 distinct defects with various versions of the equipment and details repairs procedures. These defects have been managed through maintenance activities, preventing failures of the equipment in service.



Lucy FRMU

Defects associated with SOP 7 and SOP 85 affect units produced prior to 1978. There was a requirement to affix modification plates to the equipment on site to confirm that defects repairs had been completed.

Following a review of all SOPs/ORs, a gap in the audit trail for a number of affected units has been found. As a result, it has been considered appropriate to re-apply the historic operational restriction which prohibits 'live' operation of the equipment's ring switches.

In both cases, the presence of these specific defects are believed to be extremely low as many maintenance cycles have been completed over the last 30 years with no subsequent failures reported.

Although it is considered low probability, the potential for slow or manual dependent operation of the equipment's ring switches exists. Therefore, as a precautionary measure, while working through the audit trail, the SOPs are to be reapplied with immediate effect.

As both restrictions have the same affected range and same control measures, a single SOP will be applied, which addresses the risk of both associated defects.

Recommendations and action points

- OPSAF-16-007 has been reissued with restriction confirmed, this in effect also covers the scope of restriction OPSAF-16-085.
- Inspection procedures that confirm all the defects detailed in SWG-19-012 have been fully resolved during previous maintenance activities will be created and added to the Plant Maintenance Manual.
- Replacement priority for this equipment to be reviewed by NP&R.
- All relevant operational staff to ensure they are familiar with OPSAF-16-007.
- The SOP may be removed if there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate all defect remedial works have been carried out.