



NSW DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

Electrical Engineering Safety

Decision Sheet 5.1

Electricity Distributor Sub-stations at Mines

A basis for consistent application of Electrical Engineering Safety issues across NSW

Decision Sheets are developed by the Inspectors of Electrical Engineering in response to issues raised or questions asked by others in the DPI, in particular Mine Safety Operations and from our external clients. They are for use by any staff in Mine Safety Operations, but primarily by Electrical Engineering staff. They can be distributed externally to the DPI.

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Preamble

Many mines (coal, metals and extractives) receive their electrical supply from Electricity Distributors. Many mines receive the supply at high voltage (110kv, 66kv,

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33kv, 11kv) and transform down to lower voltages (33kv, 22kv, 11kv, 6.6kv) for distribution about the mine. The electricity distributor will generally be responsible for the assets they own and the mine will be responsible for the assets they own. The mining legislation requires compliance with AS/NZS3000 and AS3007.

Issue

Should the electricity distributor assets comply with the mining legislation, that is comply with AS/NZS3000 and AS3007.

Position

There is no technical reason why the electricity distributor assets can not comply with AS/NZS3007 and AS3007.

It is the mine's responsibility to make arrangements with the electricity distributor so that compliance with mining legislation is achieved. If interconnection of electricity distributor earths and mine earths cause the mine to not comply, then they can generally be separated so that faults on the electricity distributor assets are not transferred to mine assets.

