



Technical Bulletin

TB 0324 – Enlarged Streetlight Columns containing 7/8 boards

Purpose

To reinforce existing Standards requirements, provide requisitioning information and confirm acceptable actions when switching or working on street light columns that contain existing mains and service terminations or terminations with switching capability.

Background

Our historic standard in some locations included switching capability (e.g. 7 or 8 boards) inside the base of streetlight columns – and these boards pose a risk of contact to the column. In many instances there are numerous 7/8 boards on the same LV distributor so to minimise the ongoing risk of needing to work in these columns the following working and design guidance is provided.

Actions

When you 'need to switch' in these columns' direction has already been given to 'extend the outage' if the condition is suspect.

If under F&E you encounter a damaged 7/8 board that needs repair, the 7/8 board can be removed – and if the result is that if we haven't maintained at least 1 switch in middle and 1 switch at each end of that distributor then this should be flagged to the relevant design group to identify best location for a new switch location.

When pro-actively 'replacing a column' that contains a 7/8 board, there are 3 options:

1. Do a thorough inspection of the board to determine its condition and confirm it is in reasonable condition to remain in service and if the 7/8 board will be retained, then install the polycarbonate insulating sheet around the 7/8 board whilst the column is removed, or
2. If in poor condition remove the 7/8 boards that are no longer required as this removes ongoing risk (provided we maintain at least 1 switch in middle and 1 switch at each end of the distributor. Switches at T-offs should also be retained where possible), or
3. If switching capability needs to be maintained at that location explore options for installation of an adjacent pillar and make the column streetlight only.

A new polycarbonate insulating sheet must be applied for each column replacement job and in columns with existing mains and service terminations (especially those with 7/8 link boards that will be retained).

Requisition Information

The polycarbonate sheets are supplied in a pack of 12 (Endeavour Energy SAP Material No. 1000005955 and Manufacturers part No. 12000-LS) Each pack contains a 'leader strip' used to assist installation of the insulating sheet in columns with existing mains and service terminations.

Training

No training is required.

Impacted Standards

MMI 0022 – Routine maintenance of low voltage distribution panels in pillars and streetlight columns
MCI 0006 – Underground Distribution Construction Standards Manual
LCI 0001 – Public Lighting Construction Standard

Contact

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