



Capacitor Bank Insulator Failure

On Friday 3rd November at 12:19pm, there was a loud bang heard in Islington (ISL) switchyard. Upon investigation, it was identified that ISL Capacitor bank 15 had tripped and one insulator failed resulting in porcelain insulator pieces exploding and scattering over the surrounding area with the potential to cause harm.

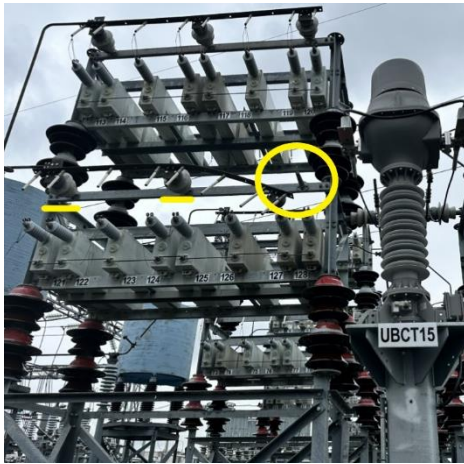


Figure 1. ISL C15 Blown Insulator and fuses



Figure 2. Insulator pieces on the ground

Immediate actions

- Identified no personnel on site were harmed as a result of the exploding insulator and there was no damage to the surrounding assets.
- The capacitor bank was isolated and earthed by the service provider and made safe so a closer visual investigation could be carried out.

The incident shows the importance of having appropriate PPE while inside a switchyard as assets can fail at any moment without warning and ensuring personnel on site maintain Minimum Approach Distances (MAD) from in service equipment.

For more information, please contact:

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Incident Date	3/11/2023