

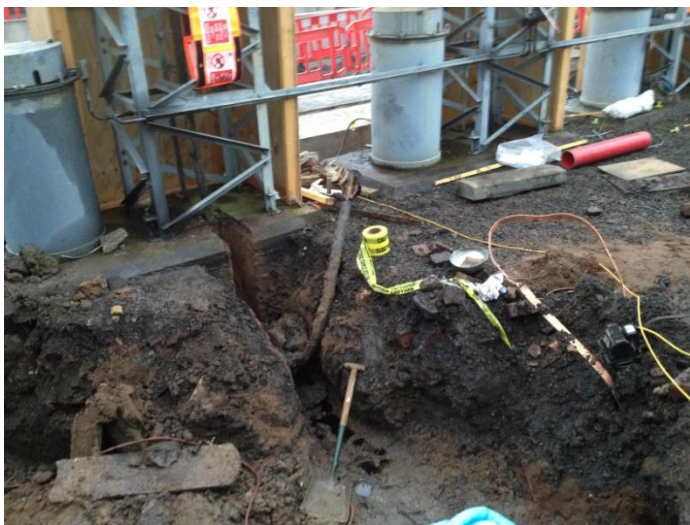


132kV Cable Damaged by an Excavator at Telford Road Grid Substation

On the 8th November 2011 an excavator struck and damaged a 132kV cable in the substation compound – fortunately it was not in service. A contractor was installing ducts for a 33kV cable contingency circuit associated with a Grid Transformer replacement project. In addition to the significant repair costs this incident had the potential to lead to serious injury had the cable been in service.

A joint SPEN/IEC Local Investigation was convened to identify the cause and make recommendations to avoid a similar incident in the future .

The cause of the incident was the inadequate planning of the ongoing excavation and duct laying works and the subsequent decision to proceed with activities for which there was not an approved method of work.



Damaged 132kv Cable



Visual cable marker

Learning Points

- Always consider the full scope of works and plan effectively.
- Do not deviate from the method of work without prior agreement/review with your supervisor.
- Visual cable markers which are disturbed/removed must be reported immediately to your supervisor/site manager and works must stop immediately.
- The method statement for works should record any agreement with the SAP on specific limitations associated with the proposed method of work.