
Electrical Distribution Safety

GENERAL STATEMENT:

Recently ESA was informed of an incident in which a 16kV powerline fell to the ground due to equipment failure of a straight deadend clamp, Kabar Cat. #K-240-1. As a proactive approach, the LDC inspected other deadend clamp installations including installations of deadend clamps from other manufacturers. Cracks were found in other locations totaling 23 which were Kabar deadend clamps. The LDC advises

- The units were purchased over a number of years
- The units were in good shape upon installation and failed in service over a period ranging from months to years
- The cracks in the clamp body are generally visible from the ground with use of binoculars

Common findings were longitudinal cracks on the underside at the cable support end and separation of the body. The LDC sent samples of the Kabar deadend clamps to be tested by an independent organization. The LDC is currently replacing all the Kabar line clamps across their service area. During the LDC inspection, deadend clamps from other manufacturers did not exhibit cracks. The CSA specification for this clamp is C83.71-96.



ESA RECOMMENDS:

- LDC's take a proactive approach and do a visual inspection of their system that may have the Kabar K-240-1 straight deadend line clamps in use.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: If you can provide additional information on this Bulletin or any other Utility issue, please contact ESA to share your experiences. Additional information requests, and follow-up information, may be directed to ESA. Please be prepared to quote Bulletin "DSB-04/09".