



B.10.2. Prévention des défauts de câbles par utilisation de la technologie de renforcement diélectrique

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B.10.2. Cable fault prevention using dielectric enhancement technology

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Résumé

Des câbles isolés au polyéthylène, vieilliss en service, avec des âmes conductrices variant de 54 mm² (1/0 AWG) à 507 mm² (1000 kcmil), et une épaisseur d'isolant de 4,4 mm (175 mil) à 22,9 mm (900 mil) ont été imprégnés en laboratoire et en réseau avec un silicone diélectrique régégérateur pour déterminer l'efficacité du traitement en fonction du temps après injection. Six circuits de câbles différents représentant plusieurs variétés de construction provenant des Etats-Unis et de Hollande furent utilisés afin de s'assurer d'une gamme étendue de types de câbles et d'historiques de service. Le voltage nominal des câbles étudiés était compris entre 15 et 115 kV.

L'efficacité du traitement appliqué à cette grande variété de câbles a été évaluée par des essais disruptifs c.a., une analyse des arborescences d'eau et par micro-spectroscopie infrarouge pour quantifier le traitement au silicone. Il est montré que ce traitement améliore la tenue au claquage c.a. de tous les câbles avec comme rigidité diélectrique maximale, 44 kV/mm (1120 v/mil), atteinte après un temps équivalent à deux ans de service. Le vieillissement accéléré en laboratoire indique que les bris peuvent être prévenus et que la vie des câbles pourrait être étendue à plus de 20 ans.

Discussion

A combination of cable sizes and service histories was selected to test a new generation of dielectric enhancement fluid (coded as XL) in a broad environment. Figure 1 summarizes the relevant parameters. One goal of the experiment was to determine the effect of time on the treatment efficacy. While all subject cables were field aged from 16 to 21 years prior to treatment, some were chosen to remain in service for additional field aging and some were carefully removed from

Abstract

In-service and field-aged polyethylene power cables with conductor sizes varying from 54 mm² (1/0 AWG) to 507 mm² (1000 kcmil) and insulation thickness varying from 4.4 mm (175 mil) to 22.9 mm (900 mil) were impregnated with a silicone dielectric enhancement fluid in the laboratory and in field test sites to determine the effectiveness of the treatment process at varying times after injection. Six separate cable circuits encompassing several different designs from the U.S.A. and Holland were utilized to assure a broad representation of service history and cable type. Rated voltage on the cables studied varied from 15kV to 115kV.

AC breakdown analysis, microscopic examination for water trees, and infra-red micro-spectroscopic examination quantifying for the silicone treatment fluid allows the assessment of the treatment efficacy for the broad range of cables studied. The treatment process improved the AC breakdown performance of all cables with maximum AC dielectric strength of 44 kV/mm (1120 v/mil) reached after approximately two years of equivalent field aging. Accelerated laboratory aging indicates that failures can be prevented and that a cable's life can be extended over 20 years.

service and transported to a testing laboratory for accelerated aging. Actual and accelerated times after injection were varied from 1.5 months to 20 years.

The concept of accelerated time for treatment of cables was described by Kleyer and Chatterton [1] and is based on a mathematical model of permeation of the treatment fluid along with actual measurements of its diffusivity and solubility. This model has proven to be an accurate estimator of acceleration of the process by