

Electrical Substation Earthing System and Its Parameters for Designing

Mayur Agarwal, Assistant Professor,
Department of Electrical Engineering, Teerthanker Mahaveer University, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh,
India
Email Id- mayurag1@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: *The computation of its characteristics and the design of the earthing system for various kilo voltage (KV) substations is very important. Substation performance must be effective and adequate for the complete power system to operate successfully. Thus, substations in general may be thought of as the beating heart of the entire power system. The problem arises in the design earthing substation a grounding design must offer a method to transfer electric currents into the ground both under standard and faulted situations to be considered safe. Hence the mathematical formulas will be required to fulfill electrical safety and power distribution performance calculations and requirements. Expected touch as well as step voltage values, safe touch, including ground potential increase. In this paper, the author discussed the design of the earthing system and its parameters to be considered for earthing of the substation. To achieve national and international requirements, it was concluded that perhaps the design of an earthing system is quite intricate and requires exacting calculations of parameters. Future earthing systems must be built to be 100% available for the duration of the substation. A substation's earthing systems should have a minimum expected lifespan of 40 years.*

KEYWORDS: *Electrical Substation, Grounding, Substation Earthing System, Power, Voltage.*

1. INTRODUCTION

A power platform's electrical substation is a significant source. A grounding system that is well-designed as well as correctly installed is essential for a substation's safe operation. Throughout the substation's service life, a well-designed grounded system will provide dependable functioning. Fast clearance of faults is certified by a decent grounding route and a low enough impedance [1], [2]. If a malfunction persists for a longer period, it may undermine the stability of the power system. Thus, faster clearance increases overall dependability. Additionally, it ensures safety if an equipment ground fault causes the metallic enclosing potential to exceed the actual ground potential [3], [4]. An inadequate grounding causes a greater potential and delays the fault's clearance (due to insufficient current flow). Because everyone who comes into touch with both enclosures is subjected to greater potential for an extended period, this setup is inherently harmful. Therefore, a good grounding plan must be as integrated into the substation as feasible to provide substation dependability as well as protection, which will in turn ensure quick fault detection and minimal enclosure potential rise.

The grounding system must be secure since it directly affects the safety of those who operate in the substation. The primary goal of this effort is to build safe and affordable grounding solutions for HV and EHV substations located in sites with uneven terrain [5],[6]. The main purpose of a substation earthing system is to maintain the correct operation of the electrical system as well as to protect individuals working near earthed equipment and facilities from the risk of electric shock. Along with following legislative obligations, reliability and security must be taken into consideration [7, 8]. At generating stations, power stations, distribution structures, and lines, earthing procedures are very important. However, it has been noted that

this piece is frequently overlooked. Every practicing engineer in control of substations should be aware of them [9],[10]. Therefore, while determining the size of an earthing mat, it must be simple to maintain and take future growth into mind. Substation earthing systems are crucial for maintaining the proper operation of the electrical system as well as protecting those who operate near earthed facilities as well as equipment from the risk of electric shock.

1.1. Importance of Substation of Earthing System:

A plant or facility's earthing system is crucial for several reasons, many of which pertain to either the safety of people and/or equipment or the efficient running of the electrical system. These consist of: The presence of harmful voltages between items is prevented by the equipotential connections of conductive objects (such as metallic machinery, structures, pipelines, etc.) to the earthing system (and earth). Both people and equipment are protected by the earthing system, which offers a low-resistance return channel for earth faults inside the facility. A change in resistance earthing grid compared to distant earth eliminates harmful ground potential spikes for earth defects with return pathways to off-site generating sources (touch and step potentials). In comparison to remote earth, this earthing system offers a low resistance channel for voltage transient conditions such as surges and high-voltage. Equipotential bonding aids in avoiding electrostatic buildup as well as discharge, which can result in sparks with sufficient force to startle combustible atmospheres. The earthing system gives electronic circuits a reference potential as well as helps electronics, instrumentation, and communications networks cut down on electrical noise.

2. DISCUSSION

Earthings have a significant part in substations in this modern, technologically advanced period. A network of electrical components that may be utilized to produce, distribute, and transport electrical energy over transmission lines makes up an electric power system. An electrical power system component called a substation can shift the voltage from high to low either from low level to high level. It aids in the system's power transmission, distribution, as well as switching. A power transformer, bus bar, lightning arresting gear, insulator, as well as circuit breaker are among the essential parts of an electric substation. Substations may be categorized according to how electricity is transferred via them, and some examples of these categories include step-up substations, step-down power stations, distribution-type transformers, underground distribution-type power stations, switchyards, customer power stations, and system stations.

2.1. Methods for Grounding Substations:

There are various strategies for establishing a substation. The association with the earth can be made in three ways ring, outspread, and framework frameworks.

2.1.1. Radial System:

The outspread framework comprises an association with every gadget present in the substation matched with at least one establishing terminal. This technique is exceptionally conservative however least palatable because of the presence of tremendous surface potential inclinations produced during a ground shortcoming.

2.1.2. Ring System:

The ring framework is made out of a guide that encompasses the substation hardware and designs and is associated employing short connects to everyone. This technique for substation

earthling is conservative and proficient because ground shortcoming flows are given a coordinated way for movement, diminishing the surface expected slope.

2.1.3. Grid System:

A framework includes establishing a substation, where all hardware in the substation should be independently grounded, to shape an earth mat. Earth mat is an earthling framework where every one of the guides is covered on a level plane, shaping a lattice-like construction to disseminate the shortcoming current in the earth. This structure is a potential holding guide framework to keep up with the earth obstruction for all hardware under a predetermined worth. This framework is exceptionally successful and costly when contrasted with different frameworks. The framework balances the possible inclinations of the surface and safeguards individuals and hardware from shortcomings.

2.2. Parameters Considered for Earthling of Substation:

2.2.1. Ground Potential Rise:

An earthling mat is an establishing framework shaped by a network of guides covered on a level plane and gives a low impedance way to the world's shortcoming current to disseminate into the earth. The earthling framework present in the substation is an electrical association with the earth at zero potential reference point. The association where the earth mat is covered isn't ideal because of the resistivity of soil that prompts the progression of current employing the framework to the earth, during a run-of-the-mill earth shortcoming condition prompting a possible ascent in the framework, making an expected slope inside and around the substation ground region. Ground Potential Rise (GPR) can be characterized as the result of ground terminal impedance concerning zero earth and the ongoing coursing through that cathode impedance.

$$GPR = I_0 \times R \times g$$

GPR can be constrained by keeping the obstruction of the earthling framework as low as could be expected, so the earth's shortcoming conditions are restricted for keeping up with the step and contact possible cutoff points. Step potential, network potential, and moved potential assume a fundamental part in the computation of the earthling framework and guarantee hardware security as well as human wellbeing.

2.2.2. Step Potential:

The expected distinction between the two focuses on the outer layer of the earth isolated by a distance of one speed that is ordinarily thought to be one meter toward the most extreme potential inclination is known as Step Potential. Taking into account a consistent body impedance of 1000ω Step potential can be determined as.

$$E_{STEP} = I_b (R_b + 6.25 \rho_s C_s)$$

Where ρ_s - resistivity of the surface layer and C_s - scaling factor because of the defensive surface layer.

2.2.3. Touch potential:

The possible distinction between a grounded metallic construction and a point on the world's surface a good ways off equivalent to the ordinary most extreme level reach is roughly one meter.

$$E_{TOUCH} = I_b (R_b + 3.125 \rho_s C_s)$$

Where ρ_s - resistivity of the surface layer and C_s - scaling factor because of the defensive surface layer. Moved voltage is an extraordinary instance of touch potential where the voltage produced is moved to/from an outside highlight of the substation.

2.2.4. Mesh Potential:

Network potential is the most extreme touch voltage produced inside a cross-section of an earth framework. The cross-section potential is characterized as the result of the dirt resistivity (ρ), the design of the framework (Km), a rectification factor (K_i), mistakes that happened because of suppositions, and the typical current per unit coursing through the establishing guide.

2.3. Components of the Earthling System:

A successful substation earthling framework ordinarily comprises earth poles, associating links from covered earthling lattice to metallic pieces of designs and hardware, associations with earthed framework neutrals, and the earth surface protecting covering material momentarily talked about in. Current streaming into the earthling framework from easing up arrester activity motivation or changing flood flashover of protectors and line to ground shortcoming current from the transport or associated transmission lines all cause expected contrasts between earthed focuses in the substation. Without an appropriately planned earthling framework, enormous potential contrasts can exist between various focuses inside the actual substation. Under ordinary conditions, it is the current that comprises the fundamental danger to the individual.

2.3.1. Fault Clearing Time:

The shortcomings clearing time is administered by framework steadiness thought and rely upon insurance and switchgear hardware. For the most part, worth of 0.5 seconds is expected. The size of the guide depends on a period of 1 second.

2.3.2. Selection of Electrode Material:

The material for establishing a framework ought to have great conductivity, be precisely rough, and oppose the intertwining and disintegration of joints. Copper was ordinarily utilized previously. It has high conductivity and is impervious to underground consumption. Be that as it may, a framework of copper shapes a galvanic cell with other covered construction and lines and is probably going to hurry the consumption of the last option. Aluminum isn't utilized as a result of consumption issues.

2.3.3. Factors on Which the Design of the Earth Mat Depends:

Materials utilized for earth terminals and guides should be selected cautiously considering physical, synthetic, and financial requirements. The ground guide should be satisfactory for shortcoming current (taking into account consumption). Fundamental prerequisites are completely concentrated on in the paper [4]. Guide estimating relies upon shortcoming current and conductivity as well as the mechanical strength of the material utilized. The resistivity of soil and surface layer decides the step and contact possibilities, which decide the safe upsides of activity as portrayed in reference. Likewise, multi-facet resistivity has been a subject of persistent consideration by specialists. A decent establishing framework gives a low obstruction to limit GPR (ground possible ascent). Framework calculation is a main consideration in deciding the step, contact, and cross-section expected shapes and current dissemination in the lattice. The restrictions on the actual boundaries of a ground framework depend on financial matters and the actual constraints of the establishment of the network.

3. CONCLUSION

The plan of establishing a substation is a progressing and significant cycle as the security of the hardware, as well as the workforce, are reliant upon the plan boundaries. The legitimate establishment of substations gives a protected climate to the workforce around grounded offices. A portion of different components engaged with the most common way of planning incorporate plan refinements, impacts of straightforwardly covered pipes, control of force link establishing, flood arrester establishing, and establishment contemplations. An ideal grounded substation is an ideally planned safe framework, planned utilizing exactly demonstrating strategies, empowering material and work investment funds while satisfying all well-being guidelines. It further develops field well-being, worked on quality establishment, development effectiveness, and productivity in a wide range of weather patterns. It recommended that the earthling framework comprises a low impedance way made of transmitters between the metallic designs and the earth. A foreordained circuit is accommodated ground-shortcoming current to stream rather than through irregular ways. These ways need mechanical strength and warm ability to convey shortcoming current and jeopardize the existence of people, harm hardware, and in the most pessimistic scenario, cause a fire. This organization should be unbending and shortcoming free as any aggravation in the ground association makes the security hardware hazardous.

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