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Reduction of SF6 emissions by exchange of SF6 with C4-FN/N2/O2

SC B3 - PS2 - Question P2.2

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Question and our contribution

Question PS2.2

• Much development has taken place to reduce SF₆ impact on the environment from utility application for electrical insulating and interrupting equipment. What are likely to be the enduring initiatives to prevent SF₆ gas leaks and find a possible alternative to SF₆ for GIS applications?

Answer

• To prevent SF₆ gas leaks in the installed base, a "retrofill" solution was developed: The SF₆ can be exchanged with C4-FN/N₂/O₂ gas mixture while leaving the primary equipment (gas-insulated lines GIL) in place. In the contribution we show details of the retrofill procedure as well as of the 420 kV GIL pilot project executed in 2021.

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Reduction of SF₆ emissions by exchange of SF₆ with C4-FN/N₂/O₂

- C4-FN/N₂/O₂ mixture enables to reduce SF₆ of the installed base
- Reduces SF₆ emissions caused by leakage and handling
- World-first replacement of 755kg SF₆ with fluoronitrile based gas mixture in Richborough, UK
- Reduce installed SF₆ by ≈50%, depending on the substation layout
- Fast and effective process



Retrofill

- Swap SF₆ Gas with C4-FN/N₂/O₂
- ELK-3, 420kV bus ducts
- No need to exchange sealings
- No need to deliver new busducts
- Only few changes necessary
 - Gas density monitor
 - Filling valve



Retrofill on-site

