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STANDARDS BULLETIN No : S01-066

SUBJECT: Padlockable Circuit Breaker within metering panels

Purpose:

The Installation of a Padlockable Circuit Breaker to replace Service Fuses within Customer Metering Panels.

As per NP010 - Meter manual. Padlockable circuit breakers are now a standard for providing protection/isolation point for customer service within metering panels. Since the implementation of this standard in August 2013, there has been some confusion regarding when this standard applies to existing meter panels. The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify when and where this standard applies.

Reason:

To use a Padlockable circuit breaker for service protection and isolation

Following a review of the Metering Manual, all **new** direct current metering for single phase and three phase domestic and commercial services shall include a Padlockable circuit breaker instead of fuses in the metering panel.

Purpose of the circuit breaker:

The requirement for the circuit breaker as the meter isolator is to provide a safe and convenient isolation point for

- PWC Metering Section staff – to service and maintain the metering installation
- Electrical Contractors - to safely isolate and work on the customers' switchboard
- PWC authorised personnel – to perform disconnections as requested by Retail
- Restoration of power supply by switching ON a tripped circuit breaker by the customer or by PWC personnel.

The circuit breaker also provides graded electrical overcurrent protection for the customer's installation.

Requirements:

Application of circuit breaker:

The requirement to install a Padlockable circuit breaker as meter isolator applies to

- All new direct current metering installations
- A change of meter location
- Existing installations where customer initiated upgrade is carried out including;
 - Meter replacement or upgrade
 - New PV installations or upgrades
 - Fuse housing replacement
 - Meter enclosure replacement
 - Upgrade to consumers mains (or submains in multiple customer installations)

Implementation:

This requirement is to be effective immediately, as this was the original intent of the Meter Manual update and this bulletin is to clarify specific areas of confusion.

Current approved Padlockable circuit breaker suppliers:

- Schneider
- NHP