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1.0 PURPOSE

• This document is the methodology developed by Xcel Energy to state methods used in calculating equipment ratings.

2.0 APPLICABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

• This policy is applicable to all Xcel Energy Transmission facilities, including transmission lines and substations. A facility rating determined from this policy shall respect the most limiting applicable equipment rating of the individual equipment that comprises that facility.

3.0 APPROVERS

Name	Title
Benson, lan R	AVP*TRANS STRAT & PLNG
Craig, Byron R	DIRECTOR*SUBS/TRANS ENG & DES
Hargreaves, Roger D	DIRECTOR*SR SYSTEM OPERATIONS

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4.0 VERSION HISTORY

Date	Version Number	Change
04/19/2007	1.0	Was written as rev. 3 in document
07/08/2009	4.0	 Clarify transmission to substation jumper ratings AAC and ACAR conductor temperature maximum updates
07/01/2010	5.0	 Removed Appendices Condensed descriptions Provided clarity to Transmission Line Emergency Ratings
07/01/2011	5.1	 Added CAPX IEEE 738 assumptions Modified winter season for NSP Removed solar heat gain assumption for indoor conductors
08/31/2012	6.0	 Revised to Comply with FAC-008 Replaced Dynamic Line Ratings with Ambient- Adjusted Ratings Added Operational Guidelines
08/01/2013	6.1	 Removed NSP and SPS Unnecessary Assumptions Added Current Split Methodology Minor Rewording for Clarification
11/01/2014	7.0	 Added Strain Bus Rating Cases Added Conservative Rating Removed SPP CT Rating Criteria
11/01/2015	8.0	 Relocated Ambient Assumptions to General Relocated Operational Guidelines to General Added ACCR Rating Relocated formulation under Proximity Effect of Conductors section to Supplement Improved Substation Rating Diagram and removed duplicated information
07/18/2016	9.0	 Fixed Header Revised Table of Contents Renamed Section 5 title to avoid using "Purpose" twice Added Default Ambient Temperature table Modified ACSS 30 Minute Emergency Rating

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9/5/2017	10.0	 Section 6.2 - Clarified split path applicability where there are three or more paths. Section 6.9 – Added table for altitude adjusted ambient temperatures. Section 9.2 - Changed NSP Winter Day used for Substation calculations to 90.
12/1/2017	10.1	 Section 4.0 – corrected version number for 9/5/2017 Section 7.1 – Changed maximum operating temperatures for ACCC and ACCR conductor
9/1/2018	11.0	 Section 6.9 – revised wording to allow for use of altitude adjusted ambient temperatures for all equipment. Section 7.1 – added ZTACSR conductor to the conductor table.
10/1/2019	12.0	 Section 7.0 – added year to IEEE 738 reference and removed PLS CAD reference. Section 9.9 – rewrite section on line trap ratings to remove differentiation between epoxy and dry type. Section 9.16 – added statement to assume 5 amp rating if secondary device rating is unknown.
01/01/2020	13.0	 Table of Contents – renumbered sections in 6.0 General Information Section 6.3 – removed reference to split path method Section 6.4 – removed reference to split path method Section 6.5 – removed – split path method no longer used Section 9.9 – corrected reference to section 6.8
11/15/2020	14.0	 Section 6.1 – Changed 18 to 24 months

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Policy



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Facility Rating Methodology

Version 14.0

November 15, 2020

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5.0 Objective

The objective of this document is to describe the methodologies employed when determining the ratings of transmission facilities on the Xcel Energy Bulk Electric Transmission Systems. The rating methodology includes both Normal and Emergency Ratings. For tables of equipment ratings and example calculations please refer to the Xcel Energy Rating Methodology Supplement. The Supplement is not considered part of the Rating Methodology, because all information pertaining to the method of the calculation is included in the Rating Methodology. The Supplements are in two parts; there are Excel Spreadsheets, which contain tables of calculated ratings, along with word documents explaining the development of the Rating Methodology and example calculations. Xcel Energy is currently developing software to calculate all bulk electric system facility ratings as the primary system. Once the published facility ratings are created with the software, the Supplement tables and example calculations will be secondary.

The Xcel Energy Bulk Electric Transmission Systems includes the combined Northern States Power Company Minnesota and Northern States Power Company Wisconsin (NSPM and NSPW) Transmission System, Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo) Transmission System, and the Southwestern Public Service (SPS) Transmission Systems.

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6.0 General Information

6.1. Updates

Once a revised Facility Rating Methodology has been approved, Xcel Energy will review and update rating information and issue new ratings (if needed) within 24 months.

6.2. Facility Ratings

The Facility Rating shall respect the most limiting applicable Equipment Rating of the individual equipment that comprises that Facility. Ratings of the equipment that comprise the Facility shall be consistent with at least one of the following:

- Ratings provided by equipment manufacturers or obtained from equipment manufacturer specifications such as nameplate rating.
- One or more industry standards developed through an open process such as Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) or International Council on Large Electric Systems (CIGRE).
- A practice that has been verified by testing, performance history or engineering analysis. The equipment shall include, but not be limited to, transmission conductors, transformers, relay protective devices, terminal equipment, and series and shunt compensation devices. The rating for each individual piece of equipment considers the (a) Equipment Rating standard(s) used in development of this methodology; (b) Ratings provided by equipment manufacturers or obtained from equipment manufacturer specifications; (c) Ambient conditions (for particular or average conditions or as they vary in real-time); and (d) Operating limitations; in accordance with good utility practice. Operational limitations may result in a de-rating based on good utility practice. The Facility Rating will include both Normal and Emergency Ratings.

Xcel Energy develops a 30-minute emergency facility rating for all Transmission Lines. The emergency rating timeframes available for transformers are published in the Criteria for Power Transformer Loading. IEEE equipment standards have varying time frames for equipment emergency ratings. If the emergency rating developed for a piece of equipment is for a longer duration than that of the reported rating, then the equipment's emergency rating is utilized in determining the Facility's Emergency Rating. For example, it is acceptable to use a switch's four-hour emergency rating

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when determining the 30-minute emergency rating of a transmission line. However, when the duration of an emergency rating of a piece of equipment is less than the duration of the rating being reported, then the equipment's normal ratings will be utilized. For example, it is not acceptable to use a switch's 4-hour emergency rating when determining the 8-hour emergency rating for a transformer facility. Instead, the switch's normal continuous rating will be used in determining the 8-hour emergency rating for the transformer facility.

6.3. Transmission Line Facility Ratings

When developing a Transmission Line Facility Rating, the set of equipment that comprises the Facility includes:

- a. The transmission line.
- b. All of the equipment that is used to operate or disconnect the line and operated as part of the line. This includes, but is not limited to adjacent circuit breakers, disconnect switches, conductor, relays, and meters that as a result of switching could be operated in series with the line.

The Transmission Line Facility Rating is calculated as the minimum rating of the equipment described above.

6.4. Transformer Facility Ratings

When developing a Transformer Facility Rating, the set of equipment that comprises the Facility includes:

- a. The transformer equipment.
- b. All of the equipment that is used to operate or disconnect the transformer and operated as part of the transformer. This includes, but is not limited to adjacent circuit breakers, disconnect switches, conductor, relays, and meters that as a result of switching could be operated in series with the transformer.

The Transformer Facility Rating is calculated as the minimum rating of the equipment described above.

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6.5. SPP, WECC and MRO

Where SPP, WECC and MRO have requirements for facility ratings, the more conservative rating should be used.

6.6. Jointly-Owned Facilities

Equipment ratings on Jointly-Owned facilities will be communicated between the owners. The Jointly-Owned Facility Rating shall equal the most limiting applicable Equipment Rating of the individual piece(s) of equipment that comprise the Jointly-Owned Facility.

In cases where a facility is owned in segments (such as a line terminal being owned by one party and the line conductor by another party), Xcel Energy rates only those portions of the line/terminal/transformer that it owns and provides that information to the owner(s) of the other segment(s). Xcel Energy takes into account rating data provided by the owner(s) of the other segment(s) of the line or transformer, and applies the most limiting rating as the Facility Rating.

6.7. Conservative Ratings

A limited number of pieces of equipment may not have all the information necessary for developing an equipment rating. However, in order to provide system ratings, a conservative rating may be applied to this equipment. The conservative rating for the equipment must be documented in the equipment attributes. Conservative ratings are defined as those, which produce an ampacity on the low end of the possible range for that equipment and are based upon engineering judgment. A Rating Exception Form must be on file for all conservative ratings developed.

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6.8. Default Ambient Temperature

Design Ambient Temperature	NSP	PSCo	SPS
Summer Ambient Design Temperature	40 °C 104 °F	40 °C 104 °F	40 °C 104 °F
Winter Ambient Design Temperature (used for winter peaking circuits – these circuits peak at very low temps)	0 °C 32 °F	24 °C 75 °F	27 °C 81 °F

For elevations greater than or equal to 5500 feet in the PSCo region, ambient temperatures in the following table may be used for calculating ampacity of conductors & equipment.

Elevation	Summer Ambient	Winter Ambient
(feet)	Design Temperature	Design Temperature
5500-6000	40°C = 104°F	24°C = 75°F
6001-6500	39°C = 101°F	24°C = 75°F
6501-7000	37°C = 99°F	24°C = 75°F
7001-7500	36°C = 97°F	24°C = 75°F
7501-8000	35°C = 95°F	23°C = 73°F
8001-8500	34°C = 93°F	22°C = 71°F
8501-9000	33°C = 91°F	21°C = 69°F
9001-9500	32°C = 89°F	20°C = 67°F
9501-10000	30°C = 87°F	19°C = 66°F
>10001	29°C = 85°F	18°C = 64°F

The Winter Operating Seasons are:

- December 1 March 1 for NSPM and NSPW
- November 1 March 31 for PSCo
- December 1 March 31 for SPS

Ambient temperature assumptions are used for standards that do not state assumptions.

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6.9. Ambient-Adjusted Ratings

Ambient-Adjusted Ratings may be used for real-time operations and near-term planning; however, long-term planning should not rely on Ambient-Adjusted Ratings. Typically, these ratings will rely on weather parameters for ambient temperature but may also be based on wind speed or other ambient-based parameters. In real-time operations, these ambient parameters will be obtained from local meteorological stations or from the weather service in the vicinity of the affected facility. In the case where facilities cross areas of differing weather conditions, the more conservative values will be utilized.

Once the ambient parameters are known, the Ambient-Adjusted Rating for one or more elements of the Facility may be determined by various methods. A few of the common methods are listed but other methods may be used.

- Recalculated Ambient Adjusted Rating tables
- Standalone program utilizing comparable rating calculation
- EMS dynamic rating feature
- Line monitors

If Ambient-Adjusted Ratings are applied to some but not all elements of a Facility, then the normal seasonal ratings are to be used for those elements, which do not have an Ambient-Adjusted Rating when determining the overall Facility rating.

The Ambient-Adjusted Ratings are not to exceed the maximum published facility rating unless a detailed review of relay settings is completed.

6.10. Operational Guidelines

Operating Guidelines may be utilized in cases where recent field verification has identified a potential discrepancy in the assumptions used to determine the rating of an element and the resulting facility de-rate would result in significant risk to the operation of the transmission system. These Operating Guidelines will be temporary, with the assumption that once the resulting remediation project is complete, then the Operating Guideline will be removed and the calculated rating will be implemented.

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7.0 Transmission Line Rating Methodology

Xcel Energy uses the IEEE 738-2006 standard for calculating bare overhead conductor ratings. Xcel Energy will use the lesser of the Conductor Maximum Operating Temperature and the Clearance/Hardware thermal limits for conductor operating temperature in the IEEE 738-2006 calculation. The remainder of this section lists assumptions.

7.1. Conductor Maximum Operating Temperature

Xcel Energy adheres to the following table for maxin	num operating temperature of its
conductors. The table shows normal and emergency l	limits.

Conductor type	Normal (Operating Temperature)	30 Minute Emergency Rating
ACSR*	100 °C	Normal Rating X 110%
ACAR	100 °C	Normal Rating X 110%
AAC	100 °C	Normal Rating X 110%
Cu	95 °C	Normal Rating X 110%
Copper Weld	95 °C	Normal Rating X 110%
ACCC	180 °C	200 °C
ACSS	200 °C	250 °C
SCACAR	100 °C	Normal Rating X 110%
ACCR	210 °C	240 °C
ZTACSR	210 °C	240 °C

*ACSR may be permitted to run at higher temperatures see "General Guidelines when considering up-rating ACSR beyond 100 degrees C" in Rating Methodology Supplement.

7.2. Permitting/Other

Conductor may be rated below the maximum operating temperature listed in section 7.1 for the following reasons:

- Permitted ROW agreements (ex. railroad or waterway crossing).
- Ampacity (ex. NESC clearance limitation).
- EMF calculations.

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7.3. Clearance/Hardware Limit

The Clearance/Hardware thermal rating of a transmission line is the maximum temperature, (regardless of the current) which a conductor can attain without violating code-mandated clearances or damaging temperature limited hardware. Short-term limitations due to clearance restrictions will be considered on a case by case basis.

7.4. Kemaning Assumptions			
Variables	NSP – Assumption	PSCo – Assumption	SPS – Assumption
	Southwire Overhead	Southwire Overhead	Southwire Overhead
Conductor properties	Conductor Manual 2nd	Conductor Manual 2nd	Conductor Manual 2nd
Conductor properties	Edition and other various	Edition and other various	Edition and other various
	sources	sources	sources
Cooling Wind	Maximum of 4 ft/sec @	Maximum of 4 ft/sec @	Maximum of 6 ft/sec @
	90deg to conductor *	90deg to conductor	90deg to conductor
Elevation	Actual Elevation (or use	Actual Elevation (or use	Actual Elevation (or use
Lievation	default of 1100')	default of 5200')	default of 3700')
Emissivity	0.5	0.5	0.5
Absorptivity	0.5	0.5	0.5
Latitude	Actual Latitude (or use	Actual Latitude (or use	Actual Latitude (or us
Lallude	default of 43°N)	default of 40°N)	default of 35°N)
Summer Day Solar Calc	172	172	172
Winter Day Solar Calc	90	90	90
Time of Day	12:00 PM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM
Orientation of Line	Actual Orientation (or use default of East to West)	East to West	East to West
Atmosphere	Clear	Clear	Clear

7.4. Remaining Assumptions

*Excludes Buffalo Ridge Wind Rated Lines

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7.5. CAPX Assumptions

CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota and the surrounding region to construct region transmission lines. These lines are to be owned jointly as a percentage share in the line. The following assumptions have been agreed upon by the utilities for rating calculations.

Variables	CAPX2020 – Assumption
Conductor properties	Southwire Overhead Conductor Manual 2nd Edition and other various sources
Cooling Wind	2 ft/sec @ 90deg to conductor
Emissivity	0.7
Absorptivity	0.9
Summer Day Solar Calc	July 8th
Winter Day Solar Calc	April 30th
Time of Day	12:00 PM
Orientation of Line	East to West
Atmosphere	Clear

7.6. Buffalo Ridge Wind Rated Lines

A few transmission lines in southwestern Minnesota that provide outlet to wind generators have a rating based on a higher wind speed than is typical throughout the rest of the NSP system. Higher output from the wind generators is only available during the time periods where the wind speed is higher than used in normal transmission line ratings. Thus a higher wind speed was used to rate these lines. The higher wind speed was approved at the time of development by the Design Review Subcommittee of the then existing NERC Reliability Region "Mid-Continent Area Power Pool (MAPP).

The transmission line circuits in the NSP Transmission System with wind ratings are the following 115kV lines: Split Rock-Pipestone and Chanarambie-Pipestone.

7.7. Underground Lines

Underground lines have been and will be rated on an individual basis using engineering analysis. The ratings are developed and based on the soil conditions, conductor type, and installation methods.

Underground cable and the associated terminators are engineered as a system and the ampacity rating is determined for the system. The ampacity rating provided for underground cable and terminator systems shall equal the most limiting element of the system.

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8.0 Transmission Line Equipment Rating Methodology

8.1. Line Switches

The line switch ratings are based on the manufacturer's assigned nameplate rating and ACCC designation. The maximum ampacity to operate the switch is based on the IEEE C37.37 loading guide.

8.2. Line Jumpers

The rating methodology for line jumpers is the same as that used as for Xcel Energy's Transmission Lines, which references IEEE STD. 738. The ratings communicated for transmission lines will represent the rating of the line including all jumpers in the line. If the rating of a jumper is the limiting equipment in a line, then the rating of the line will be limited to the jumper rating.

Jumpers between transmission lines and the substation equipment should be rated per the transmission line rating methodology unless restricted by the equipment or hardware that the jumper is attached to.

8.3. Hardware

Hardware for transmission lines is temperature limited and is designed for the operating temperature of the line. The equipment manufacturer provides hardware ratings.

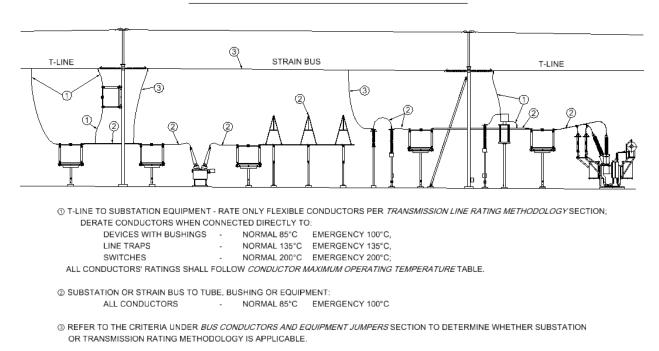
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9.0 Transmission Substation Equipment Rating Methodology

Transmission Substations are comprised of several pieces of equipment. Each piece of equipment is identified below along with its ratings methodology.

The following diagrams are to be used as reference for the Substation Equipment Rating Methodology.

9.1. Substation Rating Diagrams



SUBSTATION RATING DIAGRAM

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9.2. Bus Conductors and Equipment Jumpers

The rating methodology is as outlined in IEEE Standard 605 for tubular bus and IEEE Standard 738 for wire bus and jumpers. Assumptions made for conductors are as follows:

Variables used for Bus Conductor (Tube, Wire & Jumpers) Ampacity Calculations			
Variables	NSP	PSCO	SPS
Summer Ambient Temperature (Deg. C)		pient Temperature	e under General
Winter Ambient Temperature (Deg. C)		section	
Emissivity Outdoors(e)	0.5	0.5	0.5
Emissivity Indoors(e)	0.35	N/A	N/A
Absorptivity (a)	0.5	0.5	0.5
Degrees North Latitude	Actual (or 43)	Actual (or 40)	Actual (or 35)
Time	12	12	12
Atmosphere	Clear	Clear	Clear
Elevation (ft.)	Actual (or 1100)	Actual (or 5900)	Actual (or 3700)
Wind Speed (ft./S) – indoor	0	0	0
Wind Speed (ft./sec.) - enclosed substation	2	2	2
Wind Speed (ft./sec.) - open substation	4	4	6
Wind Direction Factor (deg.)	90	90	90
Azimuth of Conductor (deg.)	90	90	90
Day of the year - Summer (Variable N from IEEE 738)*	172	172	172
Day of the year - Winter (Variable N from IEEE 738)*	90	90	90

*No solar heat gain for indoor conductors

All tube and bare overhead conductors inside the substation will have a normal rating of 85° C and an emergency four hour rating of 100° C. Jumpers between transmission lines and the substation equipment should be rated per the transmission line rating methodology unless restricted by the equipment or hardware that the jumper is attached to. Strain bus consisting of bare overhead conductor may be rated per the Transmission Line Rating Methodology if all of the following are true:

1. The strain bus is considered an extension of the transmission line due to the fact that one end of the strain bus terminates on the transmission line dead-end structure.

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- 2. The strain bus terminations inside the substation are at the same height as or higher than the transmission line termination into the substation or minimum conductor ground clearance greater than 25 feet above surface grade.
- 3. The strain bus is in an open substation and is expected to be exposed to the same wind speed as the transmission line.
- 4. Structures and hardware used to install the strain bus are rated for the maximum conductor temperature and tension as outlined by the Transmission Line Rating Methodology.
- 5. Clearances to ground and other substation equipment can be maintained at maximum sag based on company standards when designed.

Connectors and terminations used on substation conductors will be given a rating equal to that of the conductor to which they are attached. Therefore, the ratings communicated for substation conductors will include the rating of the conductor itself as well as the connectors and terminations connected to it.

9.3. Proximity Effect of Conductors

Conductors spaced less than six inches apart are subject to reductions of capacity due to proximity effect. Xcel Energy has used Engineering Analysis to develop proper ratings for these conductors. Xcel Energy has developed ratings on these conductors based on three sources. "Skin Effect and Proximity Effect in Tubular Conductors", "Skin Effect in Tubular and Flat Conductors," and "Bessel Functions for A-C Problems" were used in formulating the calculation.

9.4. Circuit Breakers, Circuit Switchers, and Line-Switchers

The rating methodology is as outlined in ANSI/IEEE C37.010. Breakers pre 1964 utilize a 55 degree C Hot Spot temperature rise and 1964 – present utilize a 65 degree C Hot Spot temperature rise.

9.5. Disconnect Switches

The rating methodology is as outlined in ANSI/IEEE C37.30 and ANSI/IEEE C37.37. Xcel Energy has contacted switch manufacturers about connecting conductors, which will operate at 200°C to switch pads. The manufacturers have provided test data and

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have stated that this will not adversely affect the operation of the switches.

9.6. Transformers

The rating methodology is as outlined in ANSI/IEEE C57.12.00. Loading/rating for loading above transformer nameplate is in accordance with ANSI/IEEE C57.91. The ratings for transformers are determined by the Criteria for Power Transformer Loading.

9.7. Current Transformers (CT's)

The overload capacity of a Current Transformer (CT) is determined by its continuous thermal rating factor (RF). The continuous thermal rating factor is defined in IEEE C37.110. The maximum secondary current of a CT is the rated value of the CT secondary*RF or as limited by other elements in the circuit.

Itap = Itap_r * RF

Itap = adjusted rated continuous current of specific CT tap under consideration

Itap_r = rated continuous current of tap

RF = Continuous thermal rating factor (Manufacturer should be consulted for value of continuous current rating factor. Assume 1 if not available.)

9.7.1. Autotransformer neutral winding CTs

CTs on the neutral winding of an autotransformer do not experience the same current flows as the H or X windings. The method of calculating the flow in the common winding uses the following formula:

$$CommonWindingAmps = \frac{TopRating(KVA)}{\sqrt{3} * V_{lowside}(kV)} - \frac{TopRating(KVA)}{\sqrt{3} * V_{highside}(kV)}$$

This formula is applied to find the amperage flowing through the common winding when the transformer is operating at its top rating.

9.8. Power Apparatus Bushings

This section applies to power apparatus bushings as defined by IEEE C57.19.00 that have basic impulse insulation levels of 110 kV and above for use as components of oil-

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filled transformers and oil-filled reactors. Bushings supplied with other equipment will be rated using the same methods as the equipment they are attached to.

Bushings can be loaded up to their specified ampere rating. The overload rating of the equipment on which the bushing is installed could be limited by the bushing ampere rating. If the bushing rating cannot be confirmed by name plate or contacting manufacturer, the equipment will be rated at its nameplate rating or calculated rating with no overload. However, if the equipment was specified to have an overload rating, or if the equipment manufacture has documented an overload rating, this overload rating may be used.

9.9. Line Traps

The terms Line Traps and Wave Traps are used interchangeably throughout this document.

The ratings methodology for the wave trap is according to IEEE Std C93.3-2017 The wave trap allows for loadability to change due to ambient temperature and emergency operating conditions. The maximum terminal temperature for a wave trap is 135 degrees C. Altitude derating factors in C93.3-2017 include an elevation adjustment with a lower mean (24 hour) maximum temperature. Line traps should therefore not be ambient adjusted per the elevation table in section 6.8 above.

9.10. Shunt Reactors

The ratings methodology for shunt reactors (oil filled) is according to ANSI/IEEE C57.21. There is no emergency or overload rating for shunt reactors. Shunt reactors may be operated up to 105% of the rated voltage.

9.11. Shunt Capacitors

IEEE standard 18 specifies the technical requirement of individual capacitor units and IEEE 1036 provides the application guidelines for shunt capacitor banks.

9.12. Series Capacitors

All series Capacitors will be rated per manufacture specifications for normal and emergency conditions.

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9.13. SVC (Static Var Compensators)

SVC's will be rated per the manufacturers recommended ratings for normal and emergency conditions.

9.14. DC Tie Equipment

DC Tie equipment will be rated per the manufacturers recommended ratings for normal and emergency conditions.

9.15. GIS Equipment

All Gas Insulated Substation (GIS) equipment will be rated per manufacture specifications for normal and emergency conditions.

9.16. Protective Relay & CT Secondary Devices

All secondary devices will be operated within their specified manufacturer limits. If the rating for a secondary device cannot be determined then assume the rating is 5 amps.

Protective relay settings on all equipment in the bulk electric transmission system should be designed and set to permit the emergency loading of equipment per NERC standard PRC-023 where applicable. PRC-023 shall be followed with respect to any settings that may affect facility ratings.

The over-current relays on the transmission lines used for "switch-onto-fault" should be designed and set above the maximum loading of the line.

Over-current relays on transformers should be designed and set above the maximum emergency loading.