



Information Bulletin:

Released ES43 B1-14 and K6-04 and Revised ES43 K6-03

1.0 Items Covered

- ES43 B1-14 R0 Minimum Separation for Flammable Dielectric-Filled Equipment to Buildings
- ES43 K6-03 R1 Cutout-Mounted Current-Limiting Dropout Fuse Selection
- ES43 K6-04 R0 Current-Limiting Dropout Fuses for Overhead Transformers

This advisory and the standards listed above can be found at bchydro.com/distributionstandards.

2.0 Overview

ES43 B1-14 is a new standard that covers the minimum separation of flammable dielectric-filled equipment (transformers) to buildings, and includes the reduction in clearances with use of a current-limiting dropout fuse.

ES43 K6-03 has been revised to R1 to reference ES43 B1-14 and allow a reduction of separation from transformers to buildings with a current limiting dropout fuse.

ES43 K6-04 is a new standard that covers the construction and installation of current-limiting dropout fuses on transformer framing.

Transformers with current-limiting fuses with reduced clearances show up in the Distribution Analysis and Design application (DAD) under 'Zone awareness' once they are designed and installed. This allows BC Hydro to keep track of where these are placed in the distribution system.

New compatible unit groups (CUGs) have been developed for the installation of current-limiting fuses. CUG updates will be available shortly after the release of these standards.

ES43 B1-15 will be updated soon. ES43 B1-15.02 is replaced by ES43 B1-14.

3.0 Action

The standards are effective immediately.

There is a limited supply of current limiting dropout fuses. Stock is expected to increase in March 2026.

Customers

Current-limiting fuses are not installed by default. Customers are expected to meet clearance and separation requirements in accordance with BC Hydro standards and CSA C22.3 No.1:25

Overhead systems. Customers must contact BC Hydro to confirm project eligibility as early as possible to use reduced separation distances between transformers and buildings with a current-limiting fuse. Transformers with current-limiting fuses are identified by a sign mounted on the pole.

Designers and Engineers

Designers and engineers shall:

- a. Follow the customer request process to confirm eligibility of projects to use current-limiting fuses for reduced separation from transformers to buildings:
 - i. Customer requests use of current-limiting fuse;
 - ii. Advise customer the use of current-limiting fuses and reduced separations is acceptable per the standards and have the customer confirm with the municipal electrical inspector, and if there are any additional requirements; and
- b. Coordinate with customers regarding the limited availability of current-limiting fuses until stock is increased.

Power Line Technicians

Power line technicians shall:

- a. Install a sign on the operational side of the cutout when a current-limiting fuse is used to allow easy identification;
- b. Not substitute current-limiting fuse links with other fuse link types; and
- c. Verify the transformer has a pressure relief device for use with a current-limiting fuse.

4.0 Contact

Customer and Customer Representatives

Please direct questions and concerns to your local BC Hydro representative.

BC Hydro Employees and Contractors

Please direct questions and concerns to the author of the standards or to distribution.standards@bchydro.com.

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