

INSULATOR PERFORMANCE AT CRAIGENDORAN 1973-1974 AND COMPARISON WITH ACCELERATED TESTING

The high voltage insulator test rig at Craigendoran has been in operation for a year. Weekly records of discharge currents, rainfall, and pollution have been maintained and inspection of samples has been carried out every 6 weeks. This report describes the results obtained so far and compares them with the accelerated tests on similar samples carried out in Derby.

The report concludes that:

- The outdoor site at Craigendoran has functioned well over the first year and all the electronic discharge monitoring equipment works correctly.
- All the butyl rubber coated samples show the effects of weathering and 3 have tracks on the surfaces.
- In spite of being incorrectly specified, the Raychem Heatshrink material does not appear to have suffered at all.
- Accelerated test results indicate that if the Raychem material is correctly specified it performs 15-20 times better as a high voltage insulator than butyl rubber.