SECTION 26 05 13
MEDIUM-VOLTAGE CABLES

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Delete between //-----// if not applicable to project. Also delete any other item or paragraph not applicable in the section and renumber the paragraphs.

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 DESCRIPTION

A. This section specifies the furnishing, installation, and connection of medium-voltage cables, indicated as cable or cables in this section, and medium-voltage cable splices and terminations.

1.2 RELATED WORK

A. Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS: Requirements that apply to all sections of Division 26.

B. Section 26 05 26, GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Requirements for personnel safety and to provide a low impedance path for possible ground fault currents.

C. Section 26 05 33, RACEWAY AND BOXES FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Conduits for medium-voltage cables.

D. Section 26 05 41, UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION: Manholes and ducts for medium-voltage cables.

E. Section 26 12 19, PAD-MOUNTED, LIQUID-FILLED, MEDIUM-VOLTAGE TRANSFORMERS: Medium-voltage cable terminations for use in pad-mounted, liquid-filled, medium-voltage transformers.

1.3 QUALITY ASSURANCE

A. Quality Assurance shall be in accordance with Paragraph, QUALIFICATIONS (PRODUCTS AND SERVICES) in Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

1.4 FACTORY TESTS

A. Factory Tests shall be required.

B. Factory Tests shall be in accordance with Paragraph, MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS in Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS, and the following requirement:

1. A representative sample of Medium-voltage cables from each lot shall be factory tested per NEMA WC 74 to ensure that there are no electrical defects in that specific lot of cable.

1.5 SUBMITTALS

A. Submit in accordance with Paragraph, SUBMITTALS in Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS, and the following requirements:

1. Shop Drawings:
   a. Submit sufficient information to demonstrate compliance with drawings and specifications.
   b. Submit the following data for approval:
      1) Complete electrical ratings.
      2) Installation instructions.
2. Samples:
   a. After approval of submittal and prior to installation, Contractor shall furnish sample in accordance with Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.
3. Certifications:
   a. Factory Test Reports: Submit certified factory production test reports for approval.
   b. Field Test Reports: Submit field test reports for approval.
   c. Compatibility: Submit a certificate from the cable manufacturer that the splices and terminations are approved for use with the cable.
   d. Two weeks prior to final inspection, submit the following.
      1) Certification by the manufacturer that the cables, splices, and terminations conform to the requirements of the drawings and specifications.
      2) Certification by the Contractor that the cables, splices, and terminations have been properly installed and tested.
      3) Certification by the Contractor that each splice and each termination were completely installed in a single continuous work period by a single qualified worker without any overnight interruption.
4. Qualified Worker Approval:
   a. Qualified workers who install cables, splices, and terminations shall have a minimum of five years of experience splicing and terminating cables, including experience with the materials in the approved splices and terminations. Qualified workers who perform cable testing shall have a minimum of five year of experience performing electrical testing of medium-voltage

cables, including the ability to understand, interpret test results and develop test report.

b. Furnish satisfactory proof of such experience for each qualified worker who splices or terminates the cables.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: The A/E shall confirm with the electric utility company as to whether the Government or the utility company specifies, purchases, furnishes, installs, inspects, and approves medium-voltage service entrance cabling.

//5. Electric Utility Company Approval:

a. Prior to construction, obtain written approval from the electric utility company for the following items:

1) Service entrance cables, splices, and terminations.

2) A list of qualified workers who will install, splice, and terminate the service entrance cables.//

1.6 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS

A. Publications listed below (including amendments, addenda, revisions, supplements, and errata) form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. Publications are referenced in the text by designation only.

B. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):

B3-13.....Standard Specification for Soft or Annealed Copper Wire

C. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE):

48-09.....Test Procedures and Requirements for Alternating-Current Cable Terminations Used on Shielded Cables Having Laminated Insulation Rated 2.5 kV through 765 kV or Extruded Insulation Rated 2.5 kV through 500 kV

386-06.....Separable Insulated Connector Systems for Power Distribution Systems above 600 V

400-12.....Guide for Field Testing and Evaluation of the Insulation of Shielded Power Cable Systems

400.2-13.....Guide for Field Testing of Shielded Power Cable Systems Using Very Low Frequency (VLF)

404-12.....Extruded and Laminated Dielectric Shielded Cable Joints Rated 2500 V to 500,000 V

D. National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA):

WC 71-14.....Non-Shielded Cables Rated 2001-5000 Volts for Use in the Distribution of Electric Energy

WC 74-12.....5-46 KV Shielded Power Cable for Use in the Transmission and Distribution of Electric Energy

E. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

70-17.....National Electrical Code (NEC)

F. Underwriters Laboratories (UL):

1072-06 .....Medium-Voltage Power Cables

1.7 SHIPMENT AND STORAGE

A. Cable shall be shipped on reels such that it is protected against physical, mechanical and environmental damage. Each end of each length of cable shall be hermetically sealed with manufacturer’s end caps and securely attached to the reel.

B. Cable stored and/or cut on site shall have the ends turned down, and sealed with cable manufacturer’s standard cable end seals, or field-installed heat-shrink cable end seals.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Indicate the cable type abbreviation on the drawings. Edit the paragraphs below to conform with project requirements.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 CABLE

A. Cable shall be in accordance with ASTM, IEEE, NEC, NEMA and UL, and as shown on the drawings.

B. Single conductor stranded copper conforming to ASTM B3.

C. Voltage Rating:

//1. 5,000 V cable shall be used on 4,160 V distribution systems.//

//2. 15,000 V cable shall be used on all distribution systems with voltages ranging from 5,000 V to 15,000 V.//

//3. 25,000 V cable shall be used on 25,000 V distribution systems.//

//4. 35,000 V cable shall be used on 35,000 V distribution systems.//

D. Insulation:

1. Insulation level shall be 133%.

2. Types of insulation:

a. Cable type abbreviation, EPR: Ethylene propylene rubber insulation shall be thermosetting, light and heat stabilized.

b. Cable type abbreviation, XLP, XLPE, or TR-XLPE: cross-linked polyethylene insulation shall be thermosetting, light and heat stabilized, and chemically cross-linked.

E. Insulation shield shall be semi-conducting. Conductor shield shall be semi-conducting.

F. Insulation shall be wrapped with copper shielding tape, helically-applied over semi-conducting insulation shield.

G. Heavy duty, overall protective polyvinyl chloride jacket shall enclose every cable. The manufacturer's name, cable type and size, and other pertinent information shall be marked or molded clearly on the overall protective jacket.

H. Cable temperature ratings for continuous operation, emergency overload operation, and short circuit operation shall be not less than the NEC, NEMA WC 71, or NEMA WC 74 standard for the respective cable.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Select termination type as required by project requirements. Note that loadbreak terminations are not available in larger medium-voltage cable sizes.

2.2 SPLICES AND TERMINATIONS

A. Materials shall be compatible with the cables being spliced and terminated, and shall be suitable for the prevailing environmental conditions.

B. In locations where moisture might be present, the splices shall be watertight. In manholes and pullboxes, the splices shall be submersible.

C. Splices:

1. Shall comply with IEEE 404. Include all components required for complete splice, with detailed instructions.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Choose type of terminations to meet project requirements.

D. Terminations:

1. Shall comply with IEEE 48. Include shield ground strap for shielded cable terminations.

//2. Class 1 terminations for indoor use: Kit with stress-relief tube, molded-silicone rubber insulator modules, and compression-type connector.//

//3. Class 1 terminations for indoor use: Kit with stress-relief tube, nontracking insulator tube, shield ground strap, compression-type connector, and end seal.//

//4. Class 3 terminations for outdoor use: Kit with stress cone and compression-type connector.//

//5. Load-break terminations for indoor and outdoor use: 200 A loadbreak premolded rubber elbow connectors with bushing inserts, suitable for submersible applications. Separable connectors shall comply with the requirements of IEEE 386, and shall be interchangeable between suppliers. Allow sufficient slack in medium-voltage cable, ground, and drain wires to permit elbow connectors to be moved to their respective parking stands.//

//6. Dead-break terminations for indoor and outdoor use: 600 A deadbreak premolded rubber elbow connectors with bushing inserts, suitable for submersible applications. Separable connectors shall comply with the requirements of IEEE 386, and shall be interchangeable between suppliers. Allow sufficient slack in medium-voltage cable, ground, and drain wires to permit elbow connectors to be moved to their respective parking stands.//

7. Ground metallic cable shields with a device designed for that purpose, consisting of a solderless connector enclosed in watertight rubber housing covering the entire assembly.

8. Provide insulated cable supports to relieve any strain imposed by cable weight or movement. Ground cable supports to the grounding system.

2.3 FIREPROOFING TAPE

A. Fireproofing tape shall be flexible, non-corrosive, self-extinguishing, arcproof, and fireproof intumescent elastomer. Securing tape shall be glass cloth electrical tape not less than 0.18 mm (7 mils) thick, and 19 mm (0.75 inch) wide.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 GENERAL

A. Installation shall be in accordance with the NEC, as shown on the drawings, and manufacturer’s instructions.

B. Cable shall be installed in conduit above grade and duct bank below grade.

C. All cables of a feeder shall be pulled simultaneously.

D. Conductors of different systems (e.g., 5kV and 15kV) shall not be installed in the same raceway.

E. Splice the cables only in manholes and pullboxes.

F. Ground shields in accordance with Section 26 05 26, GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS.

G. Cable maximum pull length, maximum pulling tension, and minimum bend radius shall conform with the recommendations of the manufacturer.

H. Use suitable lubricating compounds on the cables to prevent pulling damage. Provide compounds that are not injurious to the cable jacket and do not harden or become adhesive.

I. Seal the cable ends prior to pulling, to prevent the entry of moisture or lubricant.

3.2 PROTECTION DURING SPLICING OPERATIONS

A. Blowers shall be provided to force fresh air into manholes where free movement or circulation of air is obstructed. Waterproof protective coverings shall be available on the work site to provide protection against moisture while a splice is being made. Pumps shall be used to keep manholes dry during splicing operations. Under no conditions shall a splice or termination be made that exposes the interior of a cable to moisture. A manhole ring at least 150 mm (6 inches) above ground shall be used around the manhole entrance to keep surface water from entering the manhole. Unused ducts shall be plugged and water seepage through ducts in use shall be stopped before splicing.

3.3 PULLING CABLES IN DUCTS AND MANHOLES

A. Cables shall be pulled into ducts with equipment designed for this purpose, including power-driven winches, cable-feeding flexible tube guides, cable grips, pulling eyes, and lubricants. A sufficient number of qualified workers and equipment shall be employed to ensure the careful and proper installation of the cable.

B. Cable reels shall be set up at the side of the manhole opening and above the duct or hatch level, allowing cables to enter through the opening without reverse bending. Flexible tube guides shall be installed through the opening in a manner that will prevent cables from rubbing on the edges of any structural member.

C. Cable shall be unreeled from the top of the reel. Pay-out shall be carefully controlled. Cables to be pulled shall be attached through a swivel to the main pulling wire by means of a suitable cable grip and pulling eye.

D. Woven-wire cable grips shall be used to grip the cable end when pulling small cables and short straight lengths of heavier cables.

E. Pulling eyes shall be attached to the cable conductors to prevent damage to the cable structure.

F. Cables shall be liberally coated with a suitable lubricant as they enter the tube guide or duct. Rollers, sheaves, or tube guides around which the cable is pulled shall conform to the minimum bending radius of the cable.

G. Cables shall be pulled into ducts at a reasonable speed. Cable pulling using a vehicle shall not be permitted. Pulling operations shall be stopped immediately at any indication of binding or obstruction, and shall not be resumed until the potential for damage to the cable is corrected. Sufficient slack shall be provided for free movement of cable due to expansion or contraction.

H. Splices in manholes shall be firmly supported on cable racks. Cable ends shall overlap at the ends of a section to provide sufficient undamaged cable for splicing.

I. Cables cut in the field shall have the cut ends immediately sealed to prevent entrance of moisture.

3.4 SPLICES AND TERMINATIONS

A. Install the materials as recommended by the manufacturer, including precautions pertaining to air temperature and humidity during installation.

B. Installation shall be executed by qualified person trained to perform medium-voltage equipment installations. Tools shall be as recommended or provided by the manufacturer. Installation shall comply with manufacturer’s instructions.

C. Splices in manholes shall be located midway between cable racks on walls of manholes, and supported with cable arms at approximately the same elevation as the enclosing duct.

D. Where the Government determines that unsatisfactory splices and terminations have been installed, the Contractor shall replace the unsatisfactory splices and terminations with approved material at no additional cost to the Government.

3.5 FIREPROOFING

A. Cover all cable segments exposed in manholes and pullboxes with fireproofing tape.

B. Apply the tape in a single layer, wrapped in a half-lap manner, or as recommended by the manufacturer. Extend the tape not less than 25 mm (1 inch) into each duct.

C. At each end of a taped cable section, secure the fireproof tape in place with glass cloth tape.

3.6 CIRCUIT IDENTIFICATION OF FEEDERS

A. In each manhole and pullbox, install permanent identification tags on each circuit's cables to clearly designate the circuit identification and voltage. The tags shall be the embossed brass type, 40 mm (1.5 inches) in diameter and 40 mils thick. Attach tags with plastic ties. Position the tags so they will be easy to read after the fireproofing tape is installed.

3.7 ACCEPTANCE CHECKS AND TESTS

A. General:

1. Perform tests in accordance with the latest IEEE 400 and 400.2, manufacturer's recommendations, and as specified in this specification.
2. Contractor shall make arrangements to have tests witnessed by the //Resident Engineer// //COR//. Contractor shall proceed with tests only after obtaining approval from the //Resident Engineer// //COR//.

B. Visual Inspection: Perform visual inspection prior to electrical tests.

1. Inspect exposed sections of cables for physical damage.
2. Inspect shield grounding, cable supports, splices, and terminations.
3. Verify that visible cable bends meet manufacturer’s minimum bending radius requirement.
4. Verify installation of fireproofing tape and identification tags.
5. At the time of final acceptance, Contractor shall provide the //Resident Engineer// //COR// visual field inspection notes, findings, and photographs detailing accessible inspection locations.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Cable tests are performed under electrical power shutdown condition. Contractor shall request and schedule electrical power shutdown to accommodate the tests.

C. Electrical Tests - New Cables: Perform preparation and tests in order shown below:

1. Preparation Prior to Testing: Splices and terminations applied to new cables shall be completed prior to testing. For renovation installation, ends of new cables intended to be spliced to existing service-aged cables shall be prepared (cut back) to allow testing without flashover or tracking. Cables shall not be connected to other equipment while under test.
2. Perform Insulation-Resistance Test. Test all cables with respect to ground and adjacent cables. All adjacent cables shall be grounded during testing.
   a. Apply test voltage for a period sufficient to stabilize output voltage and insulation resistance measurement.
   b. Test data shall include megohm, applied test voltage, and leakage current readings.
   c. Further testing shall not continue unless the insulation resistance test results meet or exceed the values listed below. Test voltages and minimum acceptable resistance values shall be:

Voltage Class	Test Voltage	Min. Insulation Resistance
5kV	2,500 VDC	1,000 megohms
15kV	2,500 VDC	5,000 megohms
25kV	5,000 VDC	20,000 megohms
35kV	15,000 VDC	100,000 megohms

3. Perform Tan Delta test. Review test readings with the //Resident Engineer// //COR// prior to proceeding with the Very Low Frequency (VLF) Withstand test
4. Perform Very Low Frequency (VLF) Withstand test. Utilize test voltages in accordance with IEEE 400.2.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Electrical tests for service-aged cables are optional for renovation project. A/E shall consider and specify the tests when conditions of service-aged cables are unknown for reason such as lack of cable testing, or extended cable service life.

//D. Electrical Tests - Service-Aged Cables: Tests shall be performed for serviced-age cables before inter-connecting to new cables. Perform tests in order shown below:

1. Preparation Prior to Testing: Splices and terminations applied to cables shall be completed prior to testing. Ends of cables intended to be spliced to existing service-aged cables shall be prepared (cut

back) to allow testing without flashover or tracking. Cables shall not be connected to other equipment while under test.

2. Perform Insulation-Resistance Test. Test all cables with respect to ground and adjacent cables. All adjacent cables shall be grounded during testing.
   a. Apply test voltage for a period sufficient to stabilize output voltage and insulation resistance measurement.
   b. Test data shall include megohm, applied test voltage, and leakage current readings.
   c. Further testing shall not continue unless the insulation resistance test results meet or exceed the values listed below. Test voltages and minimum acceptable resistance values shall be:

Voltage Class	Test Voltage	Min. Insulation Resistance
5kV	2,500 VDC	1,000 megohms
15kV	2,500 VDC	5,000 megohms
25kV	5,000 VDC	20,000 megohms
35kV	15,000 VDC	100,000 megohms

3. Perform Tan Delta test. Review test readings with the //Resident Engineer// //COR// prior to proceeding with the VLF Withstand test.
4. Perform VLF Withstand test. Utilize test voltages in accordance with IEEE 400.2. //

SPEC WRITER NOTE: For renovation project where new and service-aged cables are inter-connected, electrical tests are required. A/E shall specify the tests below for the entire run of the inter-connected cables.

//E. Electrical Tests – Inter-connected New Cables and Service-Aged Cables: After successful Tan Delta and VLF Withstand testing of new cables //and service-aged cables//, perform final splicing inter-connecting between new and service-aged cables. Once new and service-aged cables are completely inter-connected, conduct Tan Delta and VLF Withstand tests for the entire inter-connected cable. Utilize maintenance test voltage for VLF Withstand testing.//

F. Field Test Report: Submit a field test report to the //Resident Engineer// //COR// that includes the following information:
   1. Project Name, Location, Test Date.
   2. Name of Technician and Company performing the test.
   3. Ambient temperature and humidity at time of test.

4. Name, Model Number and Description of Test Equipment used.
5. Circuit identification, cable length, cable type and size, insulation type, cable manufacturer, service age (if any), voltage rating, description of splices or terminations.
6. Visual field inspection notes, findings, and photographs.
7. Insulation Resistance Test results:
   a. Test voltage.
   b. Measurement in Megohms.
   c. Leakage current.
8. Tan Delta results:
   a. Test voltage.
   b. Waveform (sinusoidal or cosine-rectangular).
   c. Mean Tan Delta at V_0.
   d. Stability measured by Standard Deviation at V_0.
   e. Differential Tan Delta.
   f. IEEE Condition Assessment Rating.
9. VLF Withstand results:
   1) Test voltage.
   2) Waveform (sinusoidal or cosine-rectangular).
   3) Pass/Fail Rating.
10. Conclusions. If any deficiency is discovered based on test results, provide recommendations for corrective action.

G. Final Acceptance: Final acceptance shall depend upon the satisfactory performance of the cables under test. No cable shall be put into service until all tests are successfully passed, and field test reports have been approved by the //Resident Engineer// //COR//.

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