

Underground Construction Standard Updates

by

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Current RUS Bulletin 50-70 (U-1)

“RUS Specification for 15 kV and 25 kV Primary
Underground Power Cable”

- * Conductor – solid or stranded
- * Acceptable Insulation Material – XLPE,
XLPE-TR, or EPR

Current RUS Bulletin 50-70 (U-1)

- * 25 kV Minimum Insulation Thickness – 345 mils
- * Primary Cable Reference Sources:

AEIC CS-5 and ICEA S-66-524 for XLPE cables

AEIC CS-6 and ICEA S-68-519 for EPR cables

Proposed RUS Bulletin 1728F-U1

“RUS Specification for 15 kV, 25 kV, and 35 kV Primary Underground Power Cable”

- * Conductor – Solid; strand fill (sealant) would be required in all stranded conductors.
- * Acceptable Insulation Material – XPE-TR or EPR. Plain XLPE would no longer be accepted.

Proposed RUS Bulletin 1728F-U1

- * 25 kV Minimum Insulation Thickness – 345 mils would be reduced to 260 mils.
- * 35 kV will be included as an operating medium voltage. The minimum insulation thickness will be 345 mils.
- * Primary Cable Reference Source:

ICEA Publication S-94-649-1997, “Standard for Concentric Neutral Cables Rated 5,000 – 46,000 Volts.

A Very Important Change in the 2002 NESC

Rule 354 - Random Separation

New Rule 354.A.2 prohibits radial separation of less than 300 mm (12 in) between supply and communications cables or conductors from steam lines, gas, and other fuel lines.

Safety Signs

*“Caution” Sign is obsolete and has been replaced by “Warning” Sign.

*RUS will no longer specify the design of safety signs.

*RUS requires the ANSI Z535 on Safety Signs be used as the standard specification.