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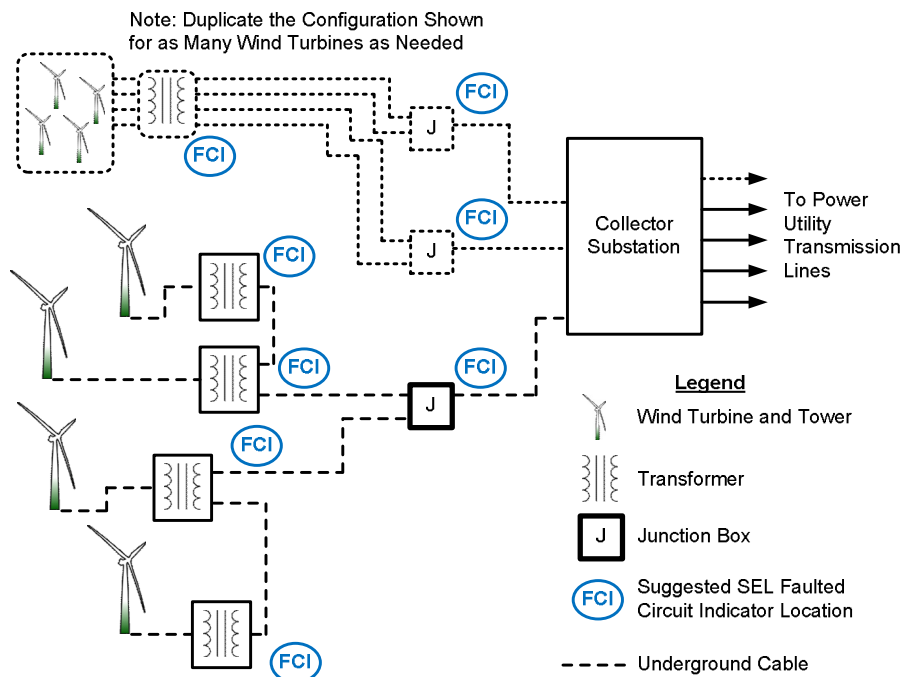
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SEL Announces New Applications for Fault Indicators on Wind Farms

LAKE ZURICH, IL — September 1, 2009 — Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc. (SEL) announced today that E.O. Schweitzer Manufacturing, a division of SEL, is supplying wind farms with fault indicators. Wind farms report that SEL fault indicators are valuable tools in finding cable faults and in quickly restoring system availability. Wind farms may experience faults on their collection systems due to a variety of issues including workmanship and cable burial issues. A fault on such a system can take out an entire line of 15 to 25 turbines, or even shut-down the entire wind farm. For over 50 years, utilities have used SEL fault indicators to reduce fault finding time by up to 50 percent, enabling line crews to restore power faster, thereby improving CAIDI and SAIDI metrics, increasing customer satisfaction.

The SEL fault indicators used most often by wind farms are test points, current reset devices, and electrostatic reset devices, although other SEL sensors may also be used, depending on the application. Completely line powered for longer life and limited maintenance, SEL fault indicators reset automatically upon restoration of system voltage. “Troubleshooting crews like that the reflective display can be mounted so that it is visible outside of the transformer,” reports Dan Clifford, general manager of E.O. Schweitzer Manufacturing. “It eliminates the need to actually open the transformer to determine the fault status of the line, representing a time savings for the crew both day and night.”



To accommodate the projected 39 percent growth in U.S. electricity consumption by the year 2030, municipalities and utilities are searching for reliable alternative energy sources. The current capacity of all U.S. wind farms is approximately 25,000 megawatts. Government initiatives call for the entire United States to be served by 20 percent wind-generated electricity by the year 2030, which represents a requirement of 300,000 megawatts of wind generation. To achieve this level of efficiency, wind farms must have equipment such as fault indicators to increase system reliability as well as reduce outage times.

For more information about SEL fault indicator solutions, please visit www.selinc.com/P102.

Celebrating 25 years of innovation in 2009, SEL serves the electric power industry worldwide through the design, manufacture, supply, and support of products and services for power system protection, monitoring, control, automation, and metering. SEL offers unmatched local technical support, a worldwide, ten-year product warranty, and a commitment to making electric power safe, more reliable, and more economical. E.O. Schweitzer Manufacturing is the electric power industry's market leader in fault indicator and related sensor technology. A division of SEL since 2006, the company began manufacturing fault indicators in 1949 and today produces the widest variety of fault indicators in the industry.

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