CIGRE Study committe B3

PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW WORKING GROUP

JWG B3/C3.75

NAME OF THE CONVENOR
Wallner Christian (GERMANY)

TITLE
Guidelines for End-of-Life Treatment of Substations

THE WG APPLIES TO DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS: YES

ENERGY TRANSITION
4 / Sustainability and Climate Change

POTENTIAL BENEFIT OF WG WORK
1 / commercial, business, social, economic benefits
2 / potential interest from a wide range of stakeholders
3 / likely to contribute to new or revised industry standards
4 / state-of-the-art or innovative solutions or directions
6 / work likely to contribute to improve safety
7 / Adressing environmental requirements & sustainable dev. goals

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
2 / Making the best use of the existing systems
3 / Focus of the environment and sustainability (in case the WG shows a direct contribution to at least one SDG)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL
9 / Industry, innovation and infrastructure

BACKGROUND :

The focus on the WG is to describe procedures and considerations necessary for the proper management of substations at the end of their operational life to ensure circular economy. JWG B3/A3.59 did it already for SF6 gas, now the other materials should be in focus.

- Previous relevant TBs: JWG B3/ A3.59 (2023)
- Other current relevant WGs: JWG B3/A2/A3/C3/D1.66

PURPOSE / OBJECTIVE / BENEFIT OF THIS WORK :

Installations from the 60s – 80s are reaching their end of life and the used materials need to be recycled in a proper way to reduce the environmental impact.

SCOPE :

The scope of this working group is to give practical guidelines for proper end-of-life treatment

Some of the main issues that must be addressed are:

1. Give an overview of existing EoL techniques and practices for different materials except SF6
2. Collect and analyze existing EoL recommendations, specifications, standards, regulations and create recommendations where improvements in standards are needed
3. Establish guidelines for proper, practical EoL-treatment (e.g. removal, storage, transport, final disposal, possible re-use/re-cycle) ensuring minimized EoL emissions while ensuring EoL safety
4. Evaluate CO2 impacts from recycling of the materials to improve LCA calculations

5. Provide guidance and information (e.g. for digital product passport) for easy EoL treatment
6. MV GIS switchgear of the first generation, installed in the 80ies, are reaching their end-of-life.
7. Treatment of AIS equipment specificaly Circuit breakers and Instrament Transformers eg.

DELIVERABLES AND EVENTS

Deliverables Types
Electra report
Tutorial
Webinar
Work Schedule

Deliverables schedule

Work Schedule	Q1	2026	Recruit members (National Committees, WiE, NGN)
Work Schedule	Q2	2026	Develop final work plan
Work Schedule	Q3	2029	Draft TB for Study Committee Review
Work Schedule	Q4	2029	Final TB
Tutorial	Q2	2030	Tutorial
Webinar	Q2	2030	Weninar

APPROVAL BY TECHNICAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN:

Rannveig Loken
March 27th, 2026