

**TECHNO ECONOMIC ANALYSIS ON THE USE OF  
FULLY INSULATED CABLE FOR 33KV OVERHEAD  
POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN SRI LANKA**

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## DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this dissertation does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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## ABSTRACT

Electricity Supply has become a fundamental commodity of present society. Hence, the availability and the reliability of the electricity distribution system have gained an utmost concern. Currently, Sri Lankan electricity distribution system of all over the island other than Colombo and Kandy Cities are networked through the 33kV Bare Overhead (BOH) lines. Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) is being rapidly expanded 33 kV distribution network to cater rural electrification demands and the urban development demands. 33kV network has been constructed with poles and towers, many 33 kV lines pass through jungles and thick vegetation and further expose to the sea and lightning prone areas.

Therefore, nowadays the utility has to face some critical issues along with existing distribution system, especially higher number of feeder tripping during the rainy seasons due to thick vegetation. Even with the new regulations and demands, lines are unable to maintain right-of-way with required safety clearance especially in urban areas. Thus, in my dissertation discussed the 33kV Aerial Bundled Cable (MVABC) system as a more economical alternative to Medium Voltage Bare Overhead (MVBOH) lines. Further, address how to mitigate certain operational, climatic and environmental issues with MVABC. It is presented a comparative economic analysis of MVABC with MVBOH and MVUG systems. The analysis takes into consideration the initial investment costs, net present value (NPV) of operational and maintenance costs and NPV of unserved energy of lines along with their specific lifetime period.

Further, an algorithm has been developed that can be used all over the country to make decision for MVABC adaptation on feeders. Finally, a Software Tool is developed to make easy to generate decision for the same and review each case by doing the Sensitivity Analysis.

The dissertation concludes with few recommendations, technical issues associated with MVABC can be mitigated by purchasing cables according to the finalized specification. Use of MVABC shall improve availability and the reliability of consumers' power supply wherever the decision generated by mathematical model is yes.

**Keywords:** Electricity Distribution System, Medium Voltage, Bare Overhead System, Aerial Bundled Cable

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| <b>Abbreviation</b> | <b>Description</b>        |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| MV                  | Medium Voltage            |
| ABC                 | Aerial Bundle Cable       |
| BOH                 | Bare Over Head            |
| CC                  | Covered Conductor         |
| UG                  | Underground               |
| CEB                 | Ceylon Electricity Board  |
| LECO                | Lanka Electricity Company |
| CMC                 | Colombo Municipal Council |
| GSS                 | Grid Substation           |
| LKR                 | Sri Lankan Rupee          |
| US\$                | United State Dollar       |
| WPN                 | Western Province North    |
| NWP                 | North Western Province    |
| TNB                 | Tenaga Nasional Berhad    |
| O&M                 | Operation & Maintenance   |
| NPV                 | Net Present Value         |
| kWh                 | kilo watt hour            |
| XLPE                | Cross Link Polyethylene   |
| PVC                 | Polyvinyl Chloride        |
| ROW                 | Right of Way              |
| kV                  | kilo Volts                |