



PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO.1 COWLITZ COUNTY, WA **STANDARDS** **TECHNICAL NOTICE**

March 2, 2026

Switch Labeling

Summary

The identification numbers for the District's transmission and distribution switches are being updated, both electronically and in the field. The updated numbers will contain a suffix indicating the type of switch.

Background

Switches on the District's system have typically been identified by a number combining only a voltage code and a unique ID number.

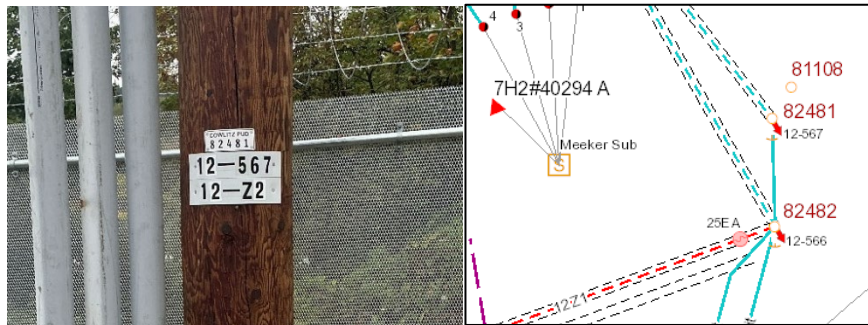


Figure 1 - Field (L) and GIS Mapping (R), indicating a 12.47kV switch with ID number 567

Because the existing label does not indicate the type of switch, there could be confusion about what type of personnel were required to perform a field switching operation. For example: a Gang Operated Switch (GOS) can be opened or closed by a substation wireman, while a Hook Operated Switch (HOS) or In-Line Switch (ILS) must be operated by a line crew.

In addition, many switches did not have unique numbers assigned. These are typically labeled in GIS as "IN-LINE DISC" and in the field as "IL-12" followed by the feeder number.

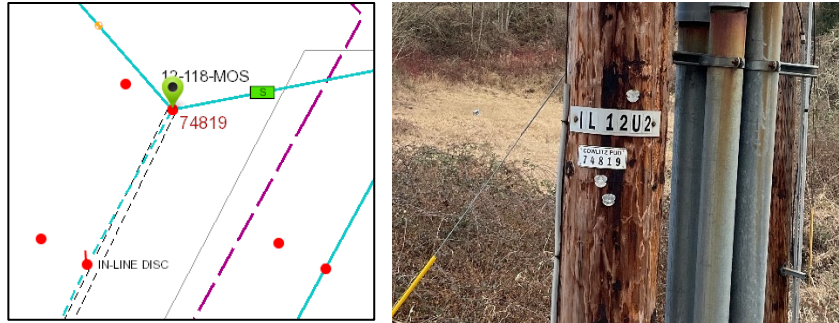


Figure 2 – GIS Mapping (L) and Field (R), Switch with no ID number, on feeder U2

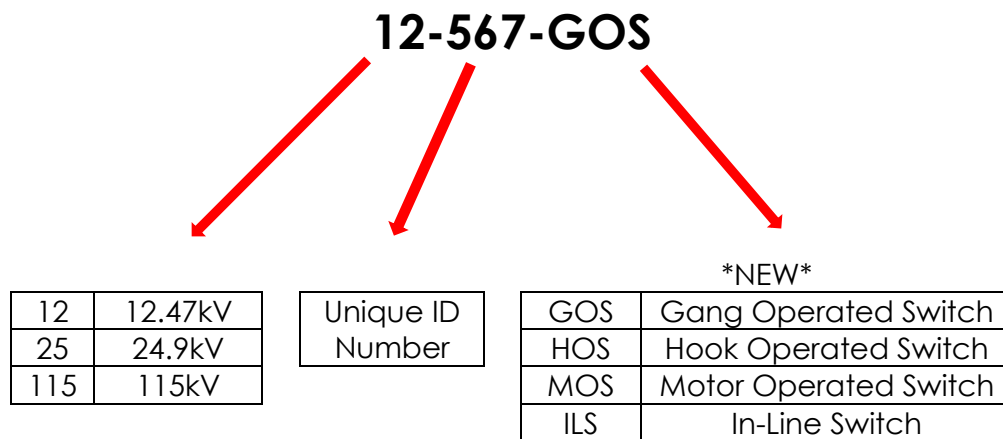
These existing labels were intended for switches that served as main line disconnect points, and do not indicate what type of switch was installed. Field inspection will be needed to determine if the switches are Gang Operated, Hook Operated, Motor Operated, or In-Line Disconnect type:



Figure 3 - (L-R), Gang Operated (pole mount), Hook Operated, Gang Operated (pad mount), In-Line

New Label Configuration

Unlabeled switches will be assigned unique ID numbers, and the identification numbers for all switches are being updated with a suffix that will indicate the type:



Switch labels in the mapping systems and physical labels in the field are in the process of being updated. Larger size placards (3"x18") are available to accommodate the additional label characters.



Figure 4 - Old field label (L) and new field label (R) on pole 75526

Please feel free to contact me with questions, comments, or concerns.

Thank you,

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