Interpretation Request #1

Relevant Clause: Table 8; Footnote 2 Interpretation Number 1: Topic: Circuit breakers and recloser dielectric test: Subclause: 5.5.3

“For systems over 1000 V, the EUT shall be tested in accordance with the power frequency dielectric withstand rating specified in Table 4 of ANSI C37.06 and the procedures specified in 4.4.3.1 of IEEE Std C37.09.”

ANSI C37.06 and ANSI Std C37.09 are for circuit breakers. Reclosers are manufactured and tested per IEEE Std C37.60™. Does this mean that I cannot use a recloser unless I have it tested to the circuit breaker standards?

Interpretation Response #1

Dielectric withstand is not the only criteria for evaluation of any class or type of component to determine its suitability for use in a system of components for the interconnection of distributed generation with the electric power system. The standards for design of circuit breakers for low and medium voltage power systems provide adequate device evaluation to assure that the device is suitable for this intended service. If a device other than a breaker is proposed for use as the connecting/disconnecting device in a distributed generation interconnection system, that device should be suitable for the intended service. Such criteria as switching capability for endurance, overload, etc. must also be evaluated.
It is beyond the scope of this standard to evaluate the multiplicity of devices which might be proposed for application in an interconnection system. For issues such as that raised in this inquiry, it is left to the authority having jurisdiction over the approval of the specific application to evaluate the design parameters of any given device in comparison to those in this standard to determine suitability of that device for service in the distributed generation interconnection system.