

Greenwood Utilities: Restoring Reliable Service in Glendale with Novinium Cable Injection

Highlight

- Injection stops 5-6 outages per year in Glendale subdivision
- Vaults untouched since the 1970s were completely rehabilitated
- Utility plans further cable rejuvenation projects based on results

Overview

The Glendale Subdivision had experienced numerous faults—as many as five or six a year dating as far back as 1984. Greenwood Utilities hired Novinium to rehabilitate the utility’s vaults and treat the cable line in the area. After the project was finished, the subdivision experienced no faults.

The company and situation

Greenwood, Mississippi is a small town about 100 miles north of Jackson. Greenwood Utilities provides power to about 10,000 customers. The Glendale subdivision had experienced numerous faults—as many as five or six a year—dating back to 1984. Greenwood Utilities needed a solution to this reliability problem that fit within the utility’s modest budget.

Many of Greenwood’s vaults had not been touched since the time the cables were initially installed in the late '60s/early '70s, and the submersible transformers had non-switchable bushings.

“

Novinium is a very good contractor and the project came in under budget. We haven’t experienced any more faults in the treated subdivisions and we are hoping to have Novinium back next year to rejuvenate cables in two apartment complexes where we have had a lot of problems. ”

– Mike Nix
Vice President of Electrical Distribution
Greenwood Utilities



Company

Greenwood Utilities

Location

Greenwood, MS, USA

Website

www.greenwoodutilities.com

Cable Sizes and Length

#2 XLPE, 11,551 feet

Method

Sustained Pressure Rejuvenation (SPR) process using Cablecure® 732 fluid

Evaluation process

Novinium cable rejuvenation was identified as a cost-effective alternative to cable replacement and it had the added benefit of a 40-year warranty. Because the Greenwood vaults were full of water and debris, Nix asked Novinium to perform a complete vault rehabilitation.

At the onset of the project, the Novinium regional operations manager gave Greenwood Utilities' staff a presentation to educate them about the cable injection process. Mike Nix, Vice President of Electrical Distribution at Greenwood, said, "It was great to get such a thorough presentation and to know in advance what to expect."



Solution

The project crew was comprised of two Novinium linemen and a three-person Greenwood line crew. Novinium engaged Badger as a subcontractor to vacuum out the vaults. Novinium then rerouted the neutrals in an orderly way, so that the top of each submersible transformer was easily accessible.

Since the subdivision had numerous splices, Novinium used vacuum excavation to quickly open pits when a splice was identified by the time-domain reflectometer (TDR) test. This saved time, minimized the length of the customer outage and ensured that no power cables or other utilities were damaged during the digging.

Results

The Glendale subdivision is now enjoying more reliable power and Greenwood Utilities can switch single segments rather than taking half the subdivision down for any maintenance.

"They made the project very easy for us to complete," said Nix. "Novinium is a very good contractor and the project came in under budget. We haven't experienced any more faults in the treated subdivisions and we are hoping to have Novinium back next year to rejuvenate cables in two apartment complexes where we have had a lot of problems."

