

How to protect wind turbines from lightning

Can a lightning protection system be used for wind turbine blades?

Owing to that, the present work introduces a new approach for a lightning protection system for wind turbine blades where preliminary investigations were done using Analysis Systems (ANSYS) Workbench. Two models were developed: one with a conventional type down conductor system and the other with a hybrid conductor system.

Can lightning damage wind turbine blades?

... The probability of being damaged increases with their height, and despite the existing lightning protection systems available for wind turbine blades, there are still many cases reported wherein damage is caused by lightning strikes.

Can a hybrid conductor protect wind turbine blades from lightning?

Two models were developed: one with a conventional type down conductor system and the other with a hybrid conductor system. The recorded findings have been compared and discussed, where it was found that the hybrid conductor system may provide alternative protection from lightning for wind turbine blades.

1. Introduction

Can a wind turbine be hit by lightning?

Photo from Cassie Boca, Unsplash Standing hundreds of feet above ground, wind turbines--like tall trees, buildings, and telephone poles--are easy targets for lightning. Just by virtue of their height, they will get struck. Lightning protection systems exist for conventional wind turbine blades.

What does a wind turbine blade look like after a lightning strike?

A wind-turbine blade showing delamination at the tip following a lightning strike. (Courtesy: Weather Guard Lightning Tech) Regular cleanings and inspections help ensure blades are free of contaminants and buildup. Cleaner blades also mean cleaner drains.

Do wind turbines need protection?

Based on the turbine will be hit at least once during its lifetime. Without any protection, the blade will most likely be destroyed. If the base cost lies between GBP 0.6-0.8 million per MW for an onshore turbine, and power outage caused costs. From this, it is clear that wind turbines require adequate protection

Protection Methods for Blades. There are four main types of lightning protection methods developed as recommended and outlined in IEC 61400-24 [7]. The methods are as follow: (a) receptors placed in the tip and an internal wire (i.e., ...

The general and special requirements for wind power industry applications need to meet the requirements of

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standards IEC 61400-24, which provide requirements for protection of blades, other structural components, and the effects of direct ...

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