

Wanted

The Reason for Grey Colored Arresters

For years I have used the color of arresters in the US as a means of estimating their age. It is possible to at least determine if they are manufactured before or after 1965 using this method. During the mid 60s, the color of most electrical products found on poles and in substations along US highways changed from brown to sky blue grey.

I was told as a young arrester designer that the arrester color change was a federal mandate that came out of "The Highway Beautification Act of 1965", a brain child of "First Lady" Lady Bird Johnson. .

While recently contemplating arrester color and its wholesale change in the 60s I decided to finally look for the actual mandate in the Highway Act for the clause that has been driving a design criteria for many years.

Well Guess What??

Nowhere does there appear to be a mandate for sky blue grey color on electrical equipment in US Law.

Does anyone have a hint about this?

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