

# Reinhold Environmental Ltd.



## 2009 APC Round Table & Expo Presentation

*July 12-14, 2009, in The Woodlands, TX*

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# On-line Inspections

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- **ESP Voltage Controls**
  - Where a control should operate
  - How to review ESP operating data
  - Evaluating a troubled control
  - Locating the problem
  - Getting ready for the outage
- **Rappers**
  - Monthly rapper checks
  - Evaluating a troubled control
- **Fly Ash Removal System**

# ESP Voltage Controls

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- An automatic voltage control (AVC) serves to maintain the voltage level at the optimum value, even when the dust characteristics and concentration exhibit dynamic behavior.

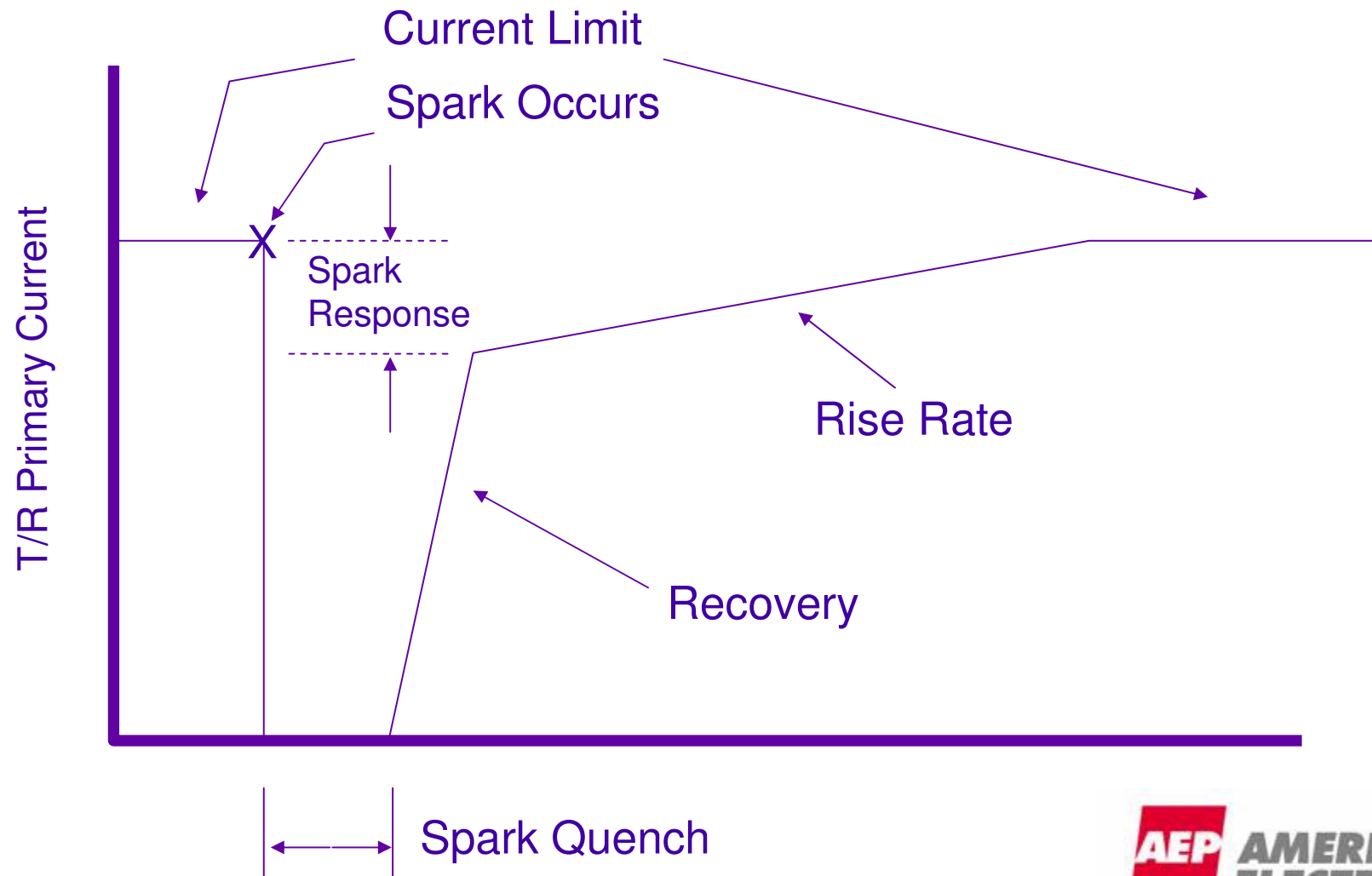
- This is achieved by varying the duration that current is applied to the T/R set.

# Where a control should operate

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- TR set rating
- Artificial limit (manually or energy management)
- Spark limited
- SCR limited (full conduction of the SCRs)

# Control Operation



# Terms for Secondary Current

The terms used for a spark cycle are:

**Steady state** - operation prior to the spark (shown here as current limit)

**Spark** - a short circuit in side the ESP which disturbed the gases between the wire and plate.

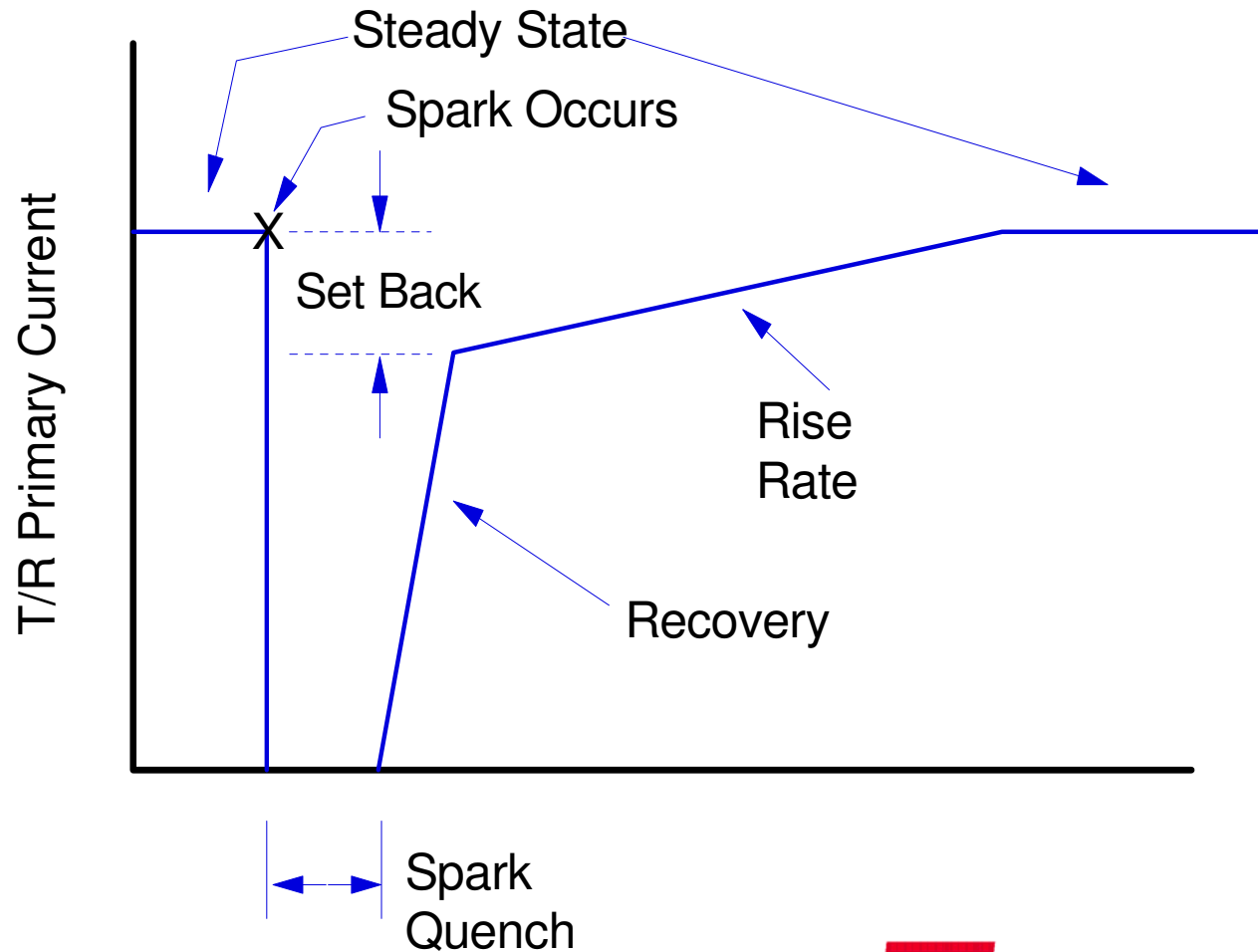
**Quench** - a period of off time which allows the disturbed gas to be dissipated. (Typically 2 cycles)

**Recovery** - a series of half cycles where the ESP returns quickly to near prespark conditions. (Typically 4 half cycles)

**Set Back / Spark Response** - the differential between steady state and recovery operating level. (Typically 3 to 10%)

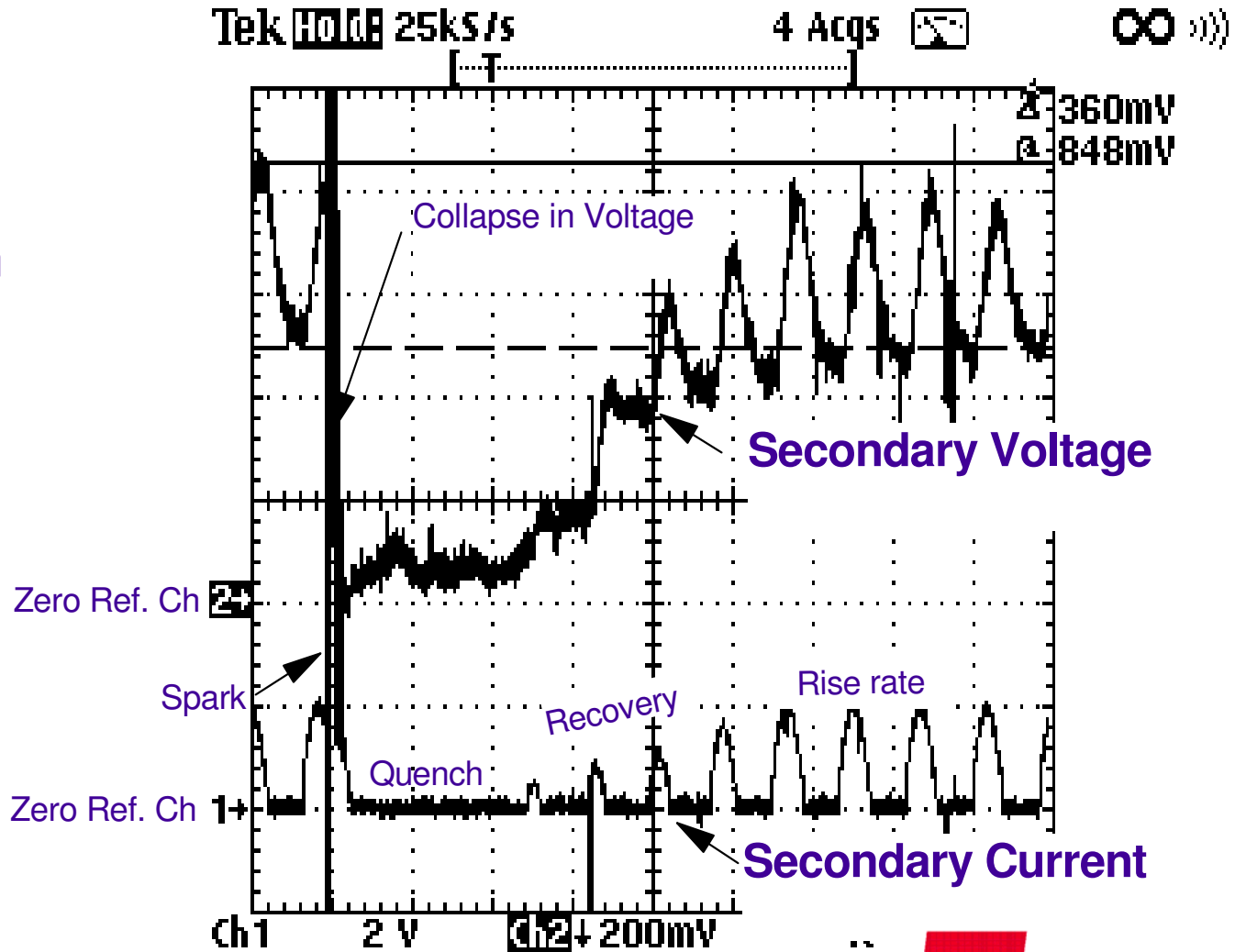
**Slow Ramp / Rise Rate** - the period of time it take the control to return to prespark level. The angle is based on **set back** and **spark rate**. Spark rate should never be greater than 60 sparks/minute (typically 10-30 spm for inlet sets and 1-10 spm for outlet sets)

**Fast Ramp** - a feature on some new controls where the control ramps quickly to induce a spark if one has not occurred based on the preset spark rate. This allows for quicker recovery after an upset inside the ESP.



# Typical Spark Response

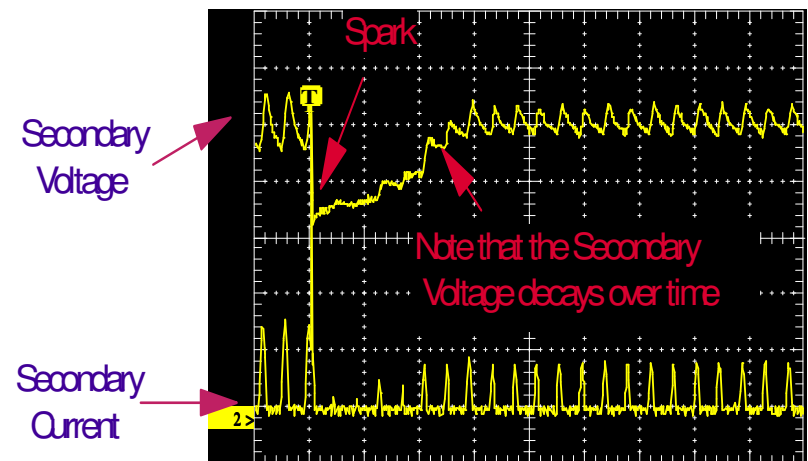
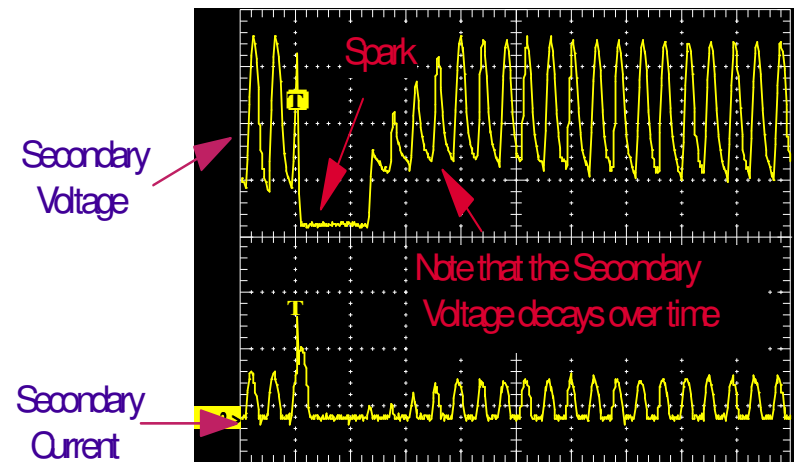
The waveform is a typical trace of a spark response for both secondary voltage (top - shown inverted) and secondary current (bottom). Note the collapse of secondary voltage when the spark occurred. The control quenched and then quickly recovered to a level below the spark point.



# Scope Traces of Back Corona

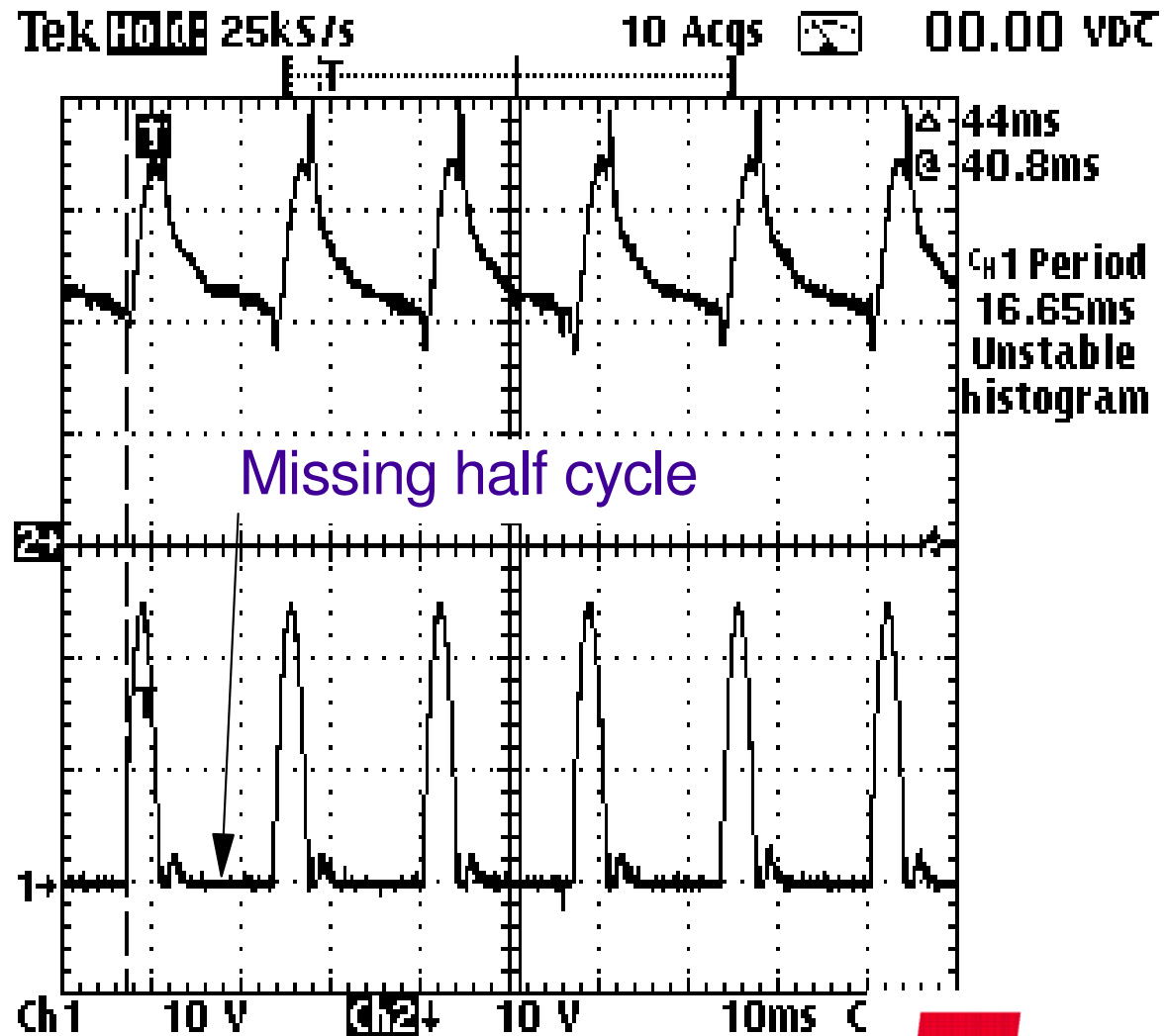
The two scope traces shown here also have signs of back corona. The upper trace has the classic decay in the trough of the KV signal indicating back corona. However it has a second symptom which is a spread between the peaks and troughs as time progresses. Both of the symptoms of back corona noted here at easily noted.

The lower scope trace is a little more difficult to observe the back corona symptoms. If one only looks at the post spark portion of the waveform, it is difficult to note the back corona. However if the steady state condition before the spark is evaluated, it can be seen that the spread between the peak and troughs have increased over time as well as the decay in the troughs. Both are signs that this bus section is in the early stages of back



# Secondary Signals w/only 1 SCR firing

The waveform is a trace of the secondary voltage and current. The significance of this trace is that the period of the half cycles is 16.67 mS. The period should be 8.33 mS. Since the secondary voltage signal corresponds to the current signal, one of the SCRs is not firing.



# Evaluating a troubled control

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- All voltage - no current (open)
- No voltage - but current (short)
- Voltage and current come in together
- Periodic short
- Both current meters peg immediately
- No voltage - no current

# All voltage - no current

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- Open T/R
- Open secondary
- Open primary (if no Secondary voltage)

## No voltage - but current

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- Short in bus section
- Shorted T/R set secondary

## Voltage and current come in together

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- Ash Ground

## Periodic short

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- Broken Wire
- Swinging wire frame

# Both current meters peg immediately

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- Shorted SCR
- Shorted T/R

# No voltage - no current (Control Problem)

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- Bad Firing module
- Open fuse
- Main breaker open

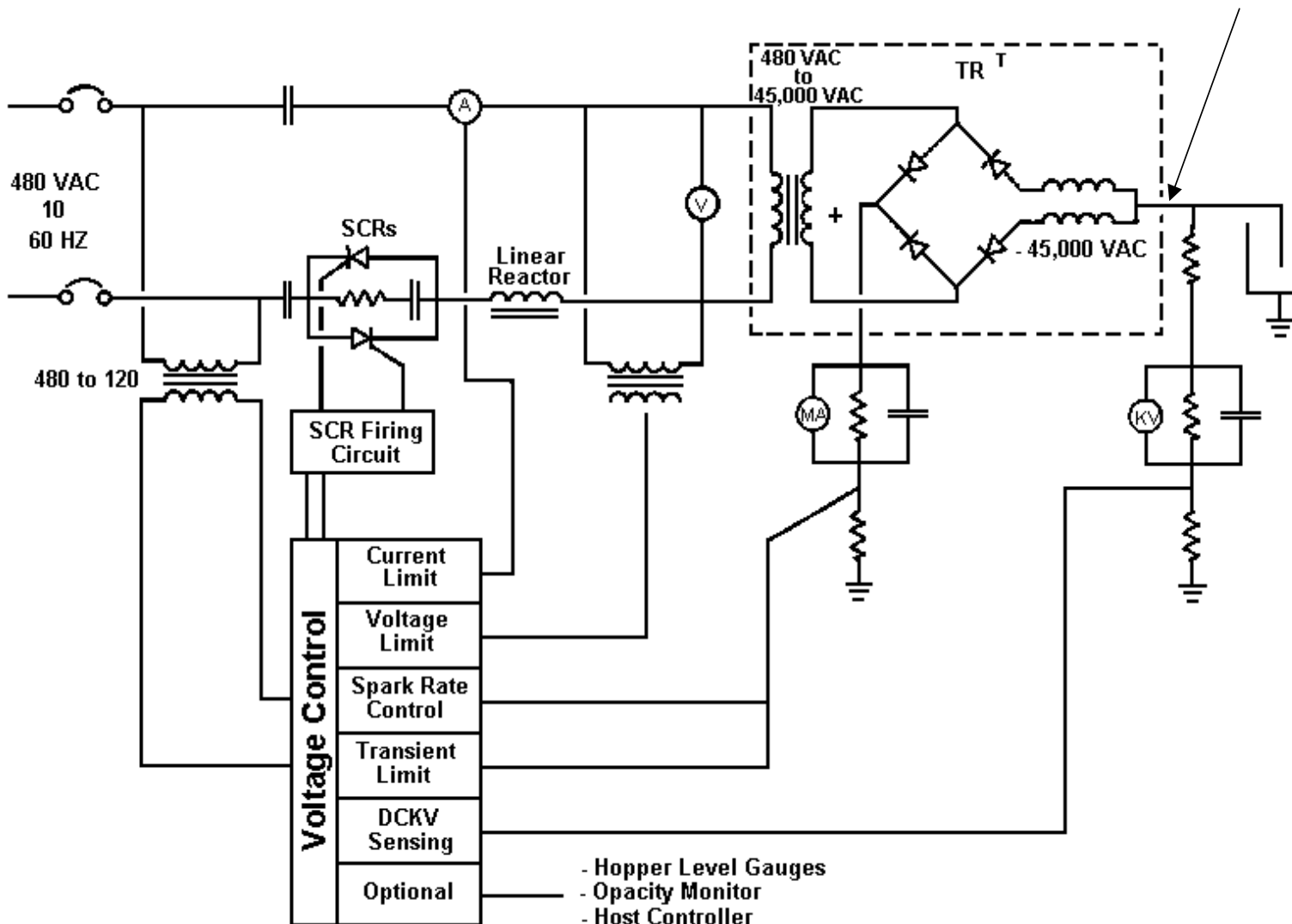
# Procedure for Isolating the Cause of a Grounded Console

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A TR set console indicating a ground (all current and little or no voltage) can be result of problems other than conditions internal to the ESP. To isolate the cause of the ground, the following procedure should be followed.

# Step One

## First Disconnect



Disconnect the lead from the high voltage bushing of the TR set. This will open the secondary side of the TR set. In the case of TR set with internal ground switches this can be accomplished by placing the switch in the ground position with a master key. The ground switch open the TR set and ground the bus section lead inside the tank. See below sketch.

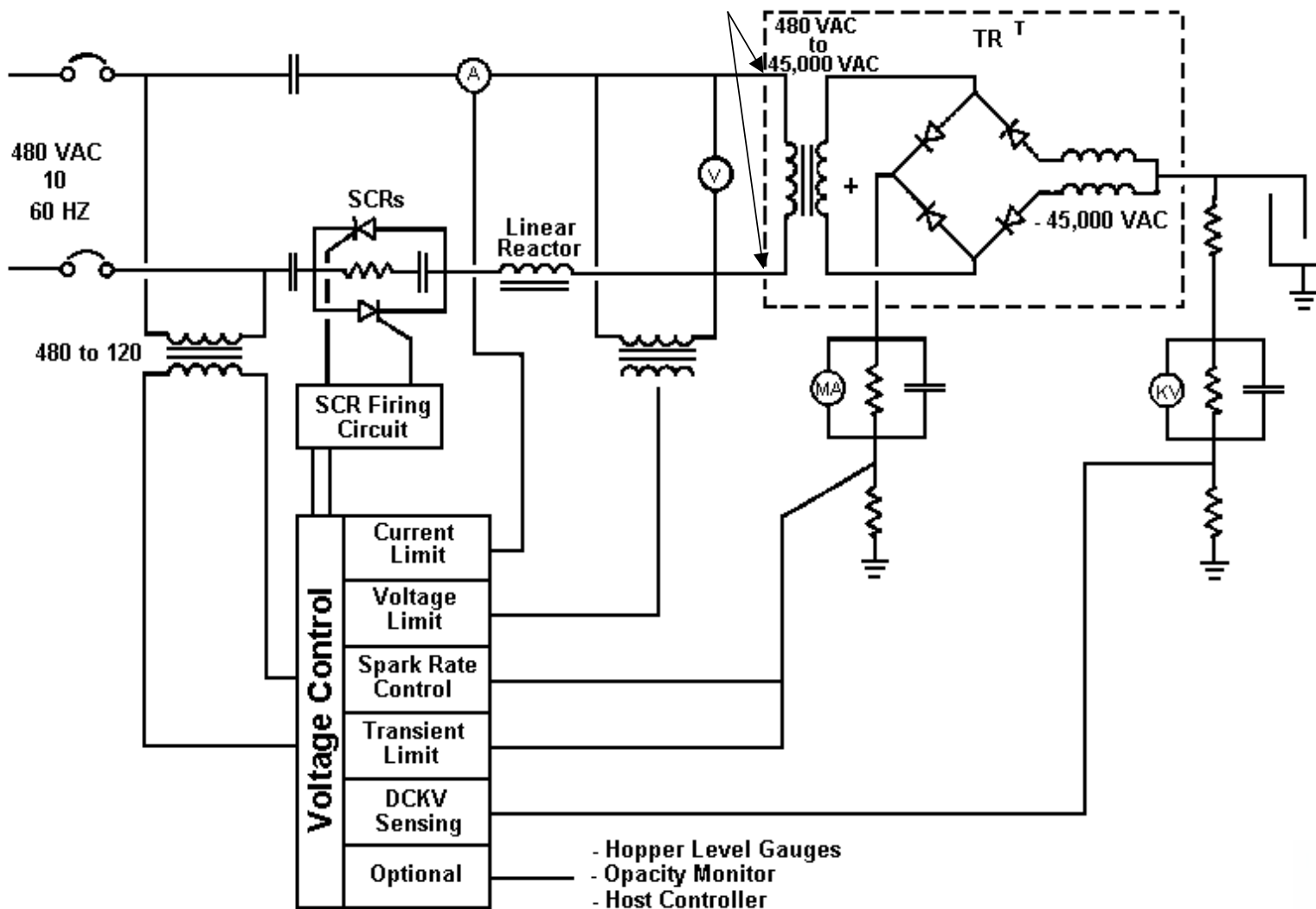
Power the control (only for a few second) to establish the electrical readings.

If the AC voltmeter begins to rise (but don't let it exceed 300V) with no current, then the problem is down stream of the where you disconnected.

If the current meters rise first, proceed to step two.

# Step Two

## Second Disconnect



Disconnect the two 480 or 600V leads in the low voltage terminal housing on the TR set. This will open the lead going to the TR set, thus taking the TR set out of the picture. See sketch below.

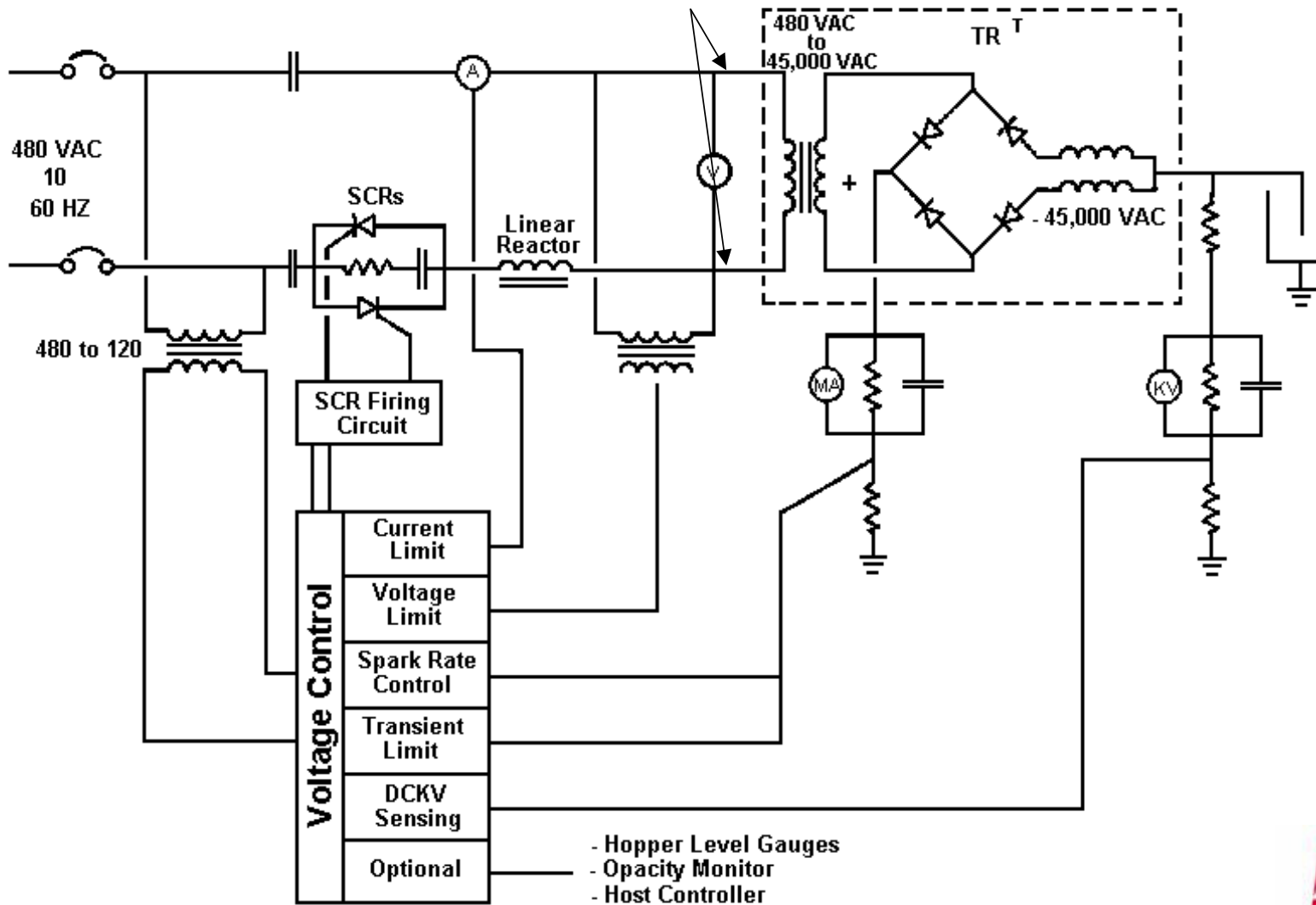
Power the control (only for a few second) to establish the electrical readings.

If the AC voltmeter begins to rise (but don't let it exceed 300V) with no current, then the problem is in the TR set. The fluid should be sampled. If clear then the problem inside the set should be located.

If the current meters rise first, proceed to step three.

# Step Three

## Third Disconnect



Disconnect the two 480 or 600V leads in the TR set control console down stream of the linear reactor (CLR). This will take the TR set feed cables out of the picture. See sketch below.

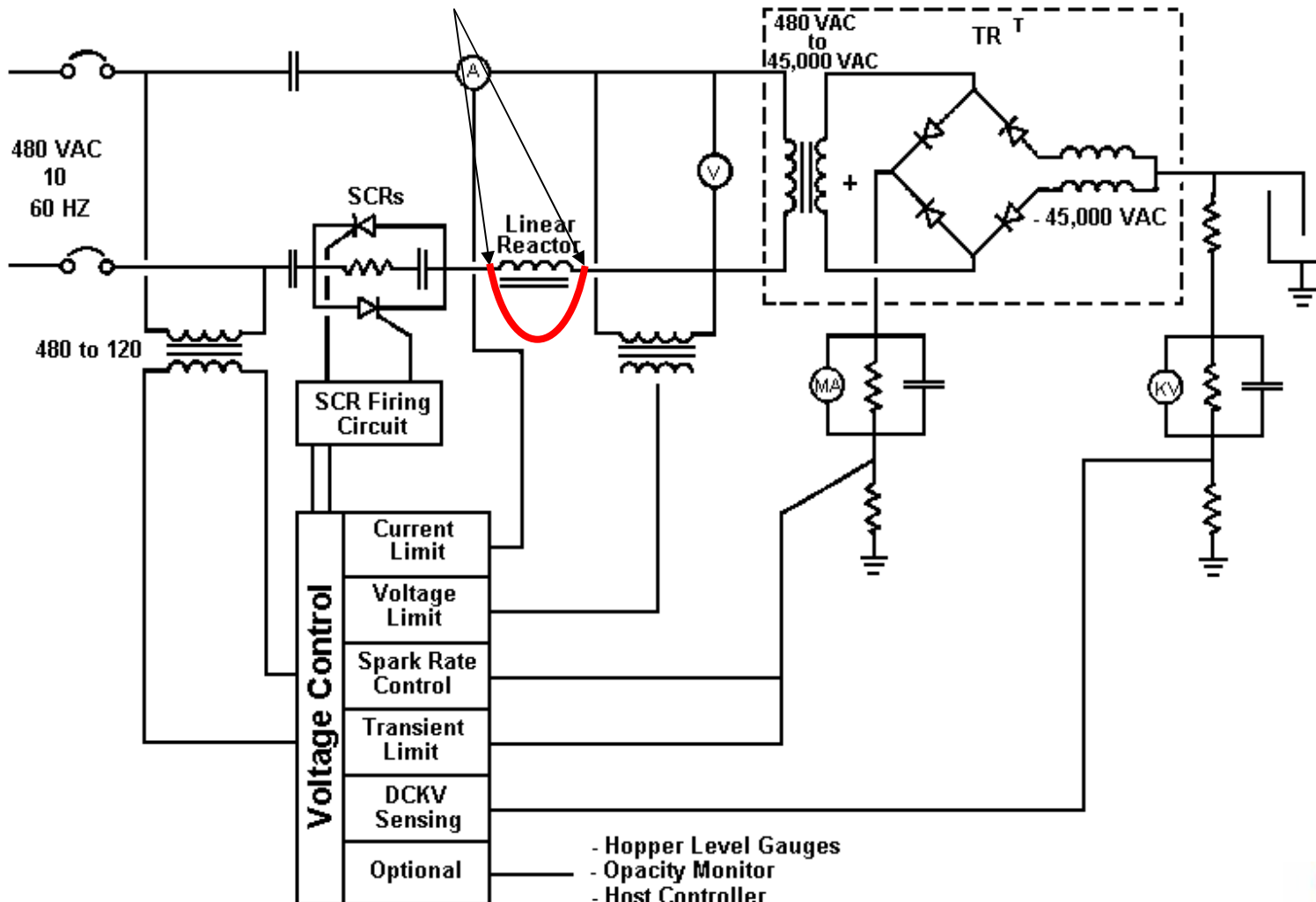
Power the control (only for a few second) to establish the electrical readings.

If the AC voltmeter begins to rise (but don't let it exceed 300V) with no current, then the problem is in cables feeding the TR set.

If the current meters rise first, proceed to step four.

# Step Four

## Fourth Disconnect & Jumper



Disconnect the two 480 or 600V leads in the TR set control console up stream of the CLR. Connect the cable the its down stream partner or install a jumper if the two cable will not mate. This will take the CLR out of the picture. See sketch below .

Power the control (only for a few second) to establish the electrical readings.

If the AC voltmeter begins to rise (but don't let it exceed 300V) with no current, then the problem is in CLR.

If the current meters rise first, only the SCRs are left.

# Locating the Problem

## Evaluating Console Data

- G - Ground
- H - High hopper
- T - TR Defective
- C - Control Console
- NR - Down Not Required
- O - Other

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MUSKINGUM RIVER  
 UNIT 5  
 DATE: 11/10/81  
 TIME: 1315  
 LOAD: 600  
 OPACITY { NORTH: 14%  
 SOUTH: 7%  
 STACK: 11%

Ratings	Legend
45	Sec kV
520	Pri volts
.75	Sec amp
92	Pri amp

T-R No	North	South
Gas temperature inlet	<u>349</u>	<u>350</u>
outlet	<u>335</u>	<u>337</u>

	NORTH						SOUTH						
1	G	G	25 170 400 57				48 310 220 39	49 315 290 42	51 350 330 50				
2	5 48 750 90	16	G	17	22 150 570 70	18	48 335 300 49	45 300 240 36	48 350 440 60				
3	G	4	50 375 540 72	5	54 285 200 30	6	53 400 540 72	4 56 435 650 78	5 45 300 310 39				
4	44 335 410 59	19	50 360 490 67	20	52 370 460 64	21	50 380 460 70	19	47 370 330 50	20	G		
5	42 285 260 41	7	44 320 440 58	8	52 380 480 66	9	44 360 430 63	7	51 375 480 66	8	G		
6	42 300 330 50	22	41 285 270 40	23	C	24	44 295 270 42	22	50 350 560 72	23	42 290 320 47		
7	30 220 110 25	10	43 315 580 76	11	42 360 560 76	12	41 320 440 60	10	47 350 570 73	11	46 335 560 74		
8	37 285 350 54	25	38 385 630 83	26	45 340 520 69	27	47 350 590 73	25	45 330 570 71	26	37 270 290 40		
9	T	13	37 310 530 72	14	41 325 550 74	15	42 350 490 65	13	43 315 550 75	14	38 275 430 62		
10	37 318 530 66	28	37 300 550 73	29	36 340 560 74	30	40 305 570 77	28	40 300 540 71	29	42 300 570 78		
			1880		4030		3330		4310		4280		3250
			A		B		C		A		B		C

# Who, What, When, Where, How

## Basic Questions to Ask the Plant When Suspected Problems Occur with Air Pollution Control Equipment

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I. Background Information<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Where are you calling? (Plant and Unit)</li><li>B. Why are you calling?</li><li>C. Whom did you reach?</li><li>D. What is their position?</li><li>E. When did you call?</li></ul></li><li>II. Generic Operating Information<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Load</li><li>B. Curtailments<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Magnitude</li><li>2. Start and end times</li><li>3. Reason</li></ul></li><li>C. Opacity</li><li>D. Total milliamps</li><li>E. Averager KV</li><li>F. Number of grounds/defective T/R sets<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Reason console(s) are O/S (control problem, defective T/R set, dead ground or close clearance)</li><li>2. Locations (if several are O/S)</li><li>3. Date consoles was removed from service</li><li>4. Date grounds or close clearances were last cleared</li></ul></li><li>G. Exit gas temps.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Economizer/air heater inlet</li><li>2. Air heater exit</li><li>3. ESP outlet</li><li>4. Stack</li></ul></li><li>H. Coal<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Flow</li><li>2. #/MKBTU<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Ash</li><li>b. SO<sub>2</sub></li><li>c. Moisture</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I. Outside Air Temp.</li><li>III. Systems<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Opacity<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Visual reading</li><li>2. Monitor<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Local reading</li><li>b. Remote reading</li><li>c. Calibration<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Date of last calibration</li><li>ii. Type of calibration (in-place or bench)</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li><li>B. Rappers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Is ESP being power-off rapped</li><li>2. Plate rappers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Cycle time</li><li>b. # of rappers O/S</li><li>c. Location of O/S rappers</li></ul></li><li>3. Wire rappers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Cycle time</li><li>b. # of rappers O/S</li><li>c. Location of O/S rappers</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>C. Ash removal<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. # of high hopper</li><li>2. Branch line vacuums<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. No-load</li><li>b. Full load</li></ul></li><li>3. Bag filter differentials (if appl.)</li></ul></li><li>D. Purge air system<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. # of fans I/S</li><li>2. Air heaters I/S</li></ul></li><li>E. SO<sub>3</sub> injection system<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. System leaks</li><li>2. SO<sub>2</sub> Flow Stage temp.</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. When was system place I/S after start-up</li><li>4. Lance temps.</li><li>F. Steam generator<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Feedwater flow</li><li>2. Heater strings O/S</li><li>3. # of pulverizers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. # I/S and location</li><li>b. Any w/fineness problems</li></ul></li><li>4. % excess air</li><li>5. # air heaters I/S</li><li>6. Water loss/make-up rate (tube leak indication)</li><li>7. Slagging indicators<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Attenuator flow</li><li>b. Superheater profile</li></ul></li><li>8. Loading cycle of past several days</li></ul></li><li>G. Start-up<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. ESP energization<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. When</li><li>b. How many fields?</li></ul></li><li>2. F. D. fan rolled<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. When?</li><li>b. Which fan?</li></ul></li><li>3. Oil fire<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Established when</li><li>b. Which lighters?</li></ul></li><li>4. Coal fire<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Established when</li><li>b. Which lighters?</li></ul></li><li>5. Opacity thru start-up</li><li>6. Any unusual events</li></ul></li></ul> |
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NOTE: REFER TO DRAWINGS WHEN EVER POSSIBLE!!!

# Trouble Shooting Guide

## ESP OPERATION/CONTROL

Symptom	Probable Cause	Remedy
No primary voltage No primary current No precipitator current Vent fan on Alarm energized	Overload condition  Misadjustment of current limit control Overdrive of SCR's	Check overload relay settings Check wiring components Check adjustment of current limit control setting Check signal from firing circuit module
No primary voltage No primary current No precipitator current Vent fan off Alarm energized	Relay panel fuse blown Circuit breaker tripped Loss of supply power	Replace reset circuit breaker Check supply to control unit
Control unit trips out on overcurrent when sparking occurs at high currents.	Circuit breaker defective or incorrectly sized Overload circuit incorrectly set Short circuit condition in primary	Check circuit breaker Reset overload circuit Check primary power wiring
High primary current No precipitator current	Transformer or rectifier short	Check transformer and rectifiers
No primary voltage No primary current No precipitator current Vent fan on Alarm no energized	SCR and/or diode failure No firing pulse from firing circuit and/or amplifier	Replace Check signal from firing circuit and/or amplifier
Same as above, even after replacing components or subpanels, changing wires, or repair	SCR's being fired out on phase	Reverse input wires
Low primary voltage High secondary current	High resisting short in secondary circuit or precipitator	Check precipitator for: Interior dust buildup, full hoppers, broken wires Foreign material on H.V. frame or wires Broken insulators
No primary voltage High primary & secondary current	Ground on secondary circuit on precipitator	Check wiring and components in H.V. circuit and pipe and guard Check precipitator for: Broken wires, ground switch left on, ground jumper left on

# Trouble Shooting Guide

## ESP OPERATION/CONTROL (con't)

Symptom	Probable Cause	Remedy
Primary current and secondary current normal, primary voltmeter drops from normal to zero and remains for a second then jumps back to normal, repeating this sequence rhythmically	Broken wire Swinging frame Tracking cracked insulator	Remove broken wire Check for broken anti-sway bushings Replace insulator
Abnormally low precipitator current and primary voltage with no sparking	Misadjustment of current and/or voltage limit controls Misadjustment of firing circuit control	Check settings of current and voltage limit controls. Turn to maximum (clockwise) and check setting of current and voltage limit controls.
Spark meter reads high -- off scale Low primary voltage and current No spark rate indication	Continuous conduction of spark counting circuit  Spark counter counting 60 cycles peak AVC Failure	Deenergize, allow integrating capacitor to discharge, and reenergize.  Readjust Replace
Spark meter reads high; primary voltage and current very unstable	Misadjustment of control circuit Loss of limiting control	Readjust Replace
Neither spark rate, current, nor voltage at maximum	Misadjustment of control circuit AVC failure Failure of signal circuits	Readjust setting Replace AVC Check signal circuits
No spark rate indication; voltmeter and ammeter unstable, indicating sparking.	Failure of spark meter Failure of integrating capacitor Spark counter sensitivity too low	Replace spark meter Replace capacitor Readjust
No response to current limit adjustment; however, does respond to other adjustments.	Controlling on spark rate or voltage limit  AVC failure  Current signal defective	None needed if unit is operating at maximum spark rate or voltage adjustment  Reset voltage or spark rate if neither is at maximum Replace AVC Check signal circuit
No response to voltage limit adjustment; however, does respond to current adjustment	Controlling on current limit or spark rate  Voltage signal defective AVC failure	None needed if unit is operating at maximum current or spark rate. Reset current and spark rate adjustment if neither is at maximum. Check voltage signal circuit Replace AVC
No response to spark rate adjustment; however, does respond to other adjustment	Controlling on voltage or current  AVC failure	None needed if unit is operating at maximum voltage or current. Reset voltage and current adjustment if neither is at maximum. Replace AVC
Precipitator current low with respect to primary current. Low or no voltage across ground return resistors.	Surge arrestors shorted H.V. rectifiers failed H.V. transformer failed Ground or partial ground in the ground return circuit	Reset or replace surge arrestors Replace H.V. rectifiers Replace H.V. transformer Repair ground return circuit



# Rappers

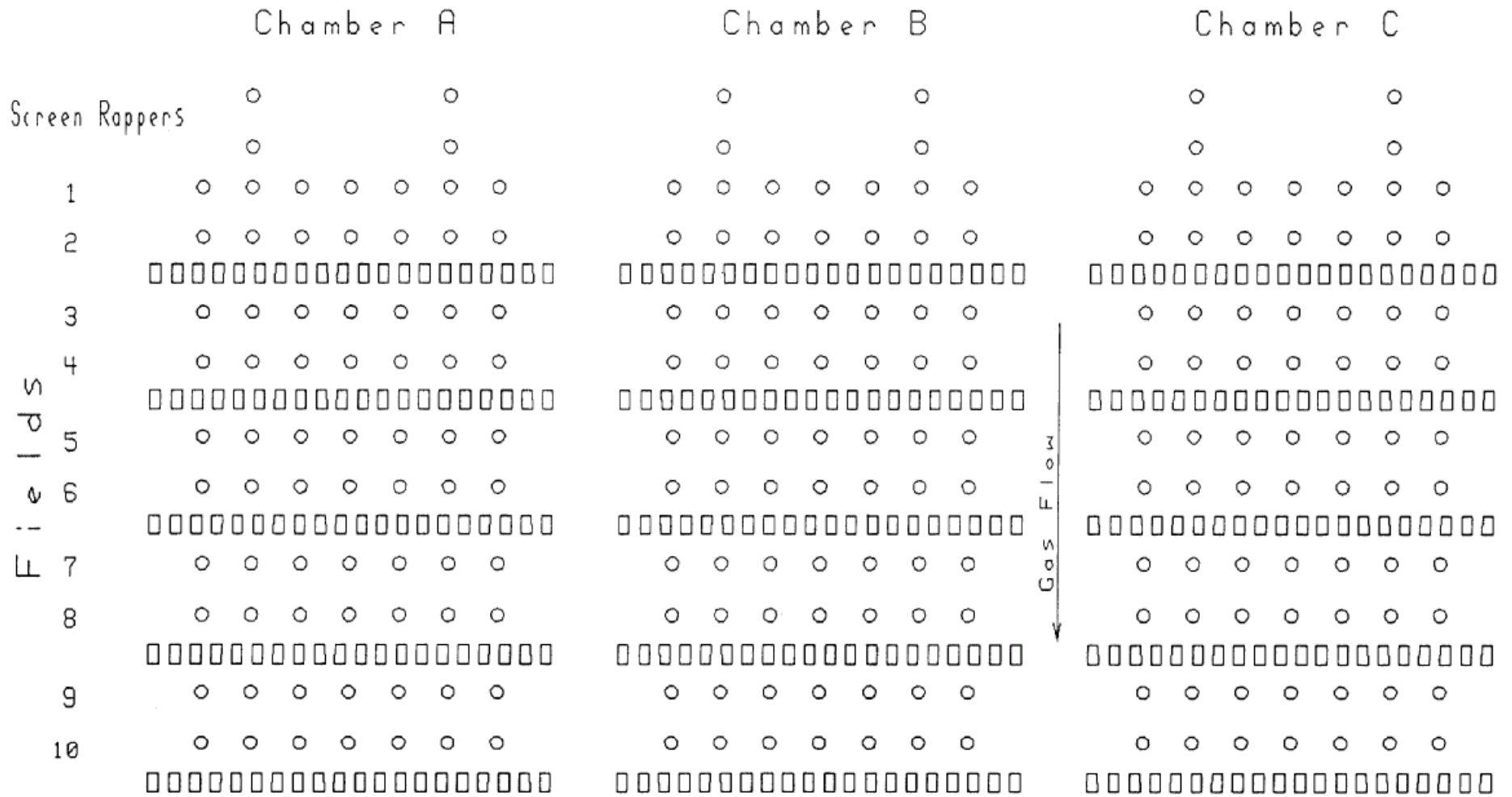
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- Monthly rapper checks
- Evaluating a troubled control

# Monthly Rapper Check

## CARDINAL PLANT

ESP Roof Plan Unit -- Box --



X - Denotes a rapper out of service

# Trouble Shooting Guide

## RAPPER CONTROLS

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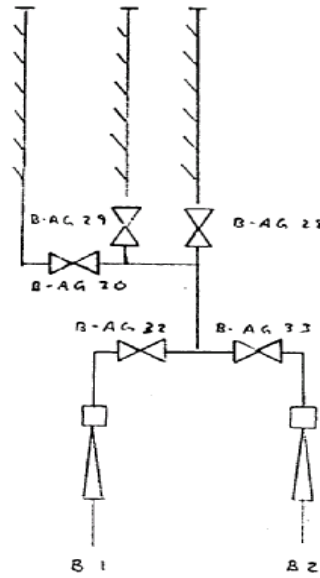
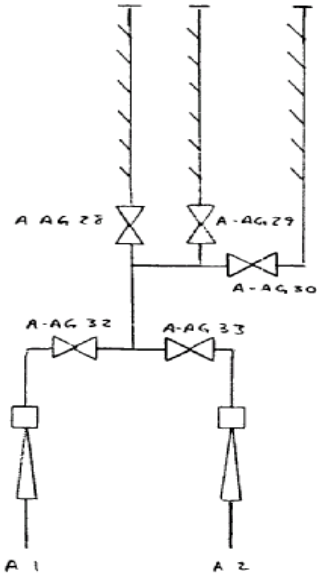
Symptom	Probable Cause	Remedy
Circuit breaker trips	Short circuit or component failure in control circuit or power transformer.	Check wiring and component
Fuses blown, indicator light not flashing	Control circuit failure, rapper coil failure, distributor switch firing two coils at once.	Replace defective component, replace coil, repair or realign distributor switch
Indicator light not flashing, no fuse failure	Control circuit not operating effectively, no rotation of distributor switch	Repair or replace component, check motor and drive train
No manual intensity control	Failed potentiometer, faulty intensity control module Vibrators and controls	Replace potentiometer, replace intensity control module
Vibrator inoperative	Vibrator coil open circuited, vibrator improperly adjusted	Replace coil, adjust vibrator
Abnormal ammeter reading	Vibrator improperly adjusted, vibrator coil short circuited	Adjust vibrator, replace coil
Line breaker trips	Short circuit in control wiring	Check circuit

# Fly Ash System

CARDINAL PLANT  
UNIT  
FLY ASH SYSTEM CHECK SHEET

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATA BY \_\_\_\_\_



PROCEDURE STARTS WITH ALL AG GATES CLOSED. THIS WILL ESTABLISH THE CAPABILITY OF THE HYDROVEYOR.

Box A	SYSTEM 1/2 A1 OR A2	LOCAL	REMOTE
SET-UP			
ALL AG GATES CLOSED			
OPEN AG 32 OR 33 DEPENDING ON SYS 1/2			
OPEN AG 28 PLUG END OF LINE			
CLOSE AG 28 OPEN AG 29 PLUG END OF LINE			
CLOSE AG 29 OPEN AG 30 PLUG END OF LINE			
RETURN SYSTEM TO NORMAL OPERATION			
COMMENTS:			

Box B	SYSTEM 1/2 B1 OR B2	LOCAL	REMOTE
SET-UP			
ALL AG GATES CLOSED			
OPEN AG 32 OR 33 DEPENDING ON SYS 1/2			
OPEN AG 28 PLUG END OF LINE			
CLOSE AG 28 OPEN AG 29 PLUG END OF LINE			
CLOSE AG 29 OPEN AG 30 PLUG END OF LINE			
RETURN SYSTEM TO NORMAL OPERATION			
COMMENTS:			