

Worldwide Pollution Control Association

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Advanced On-line ESP Diagnostics

By John Jannone



Topics

- **Electrical Readings and What They Mean**
- **Things to Look for While Walking Around**
- **What Historical Data Can Tell Us**



Electrical Readings and What They Mean



“Normal Meter Readings”

1st Field



2nd Field



3rd Field



4th Field



Electrical Readings and What They Mean



Indication

One “meter” has abnormal reading while others are within normal ranges

Cause

Metering problem

Electrical Readings and What They Mean



Indication

Under Voltage Trip

Low or no primary and secondary voltage, high or rated primary and secondary current

Cause

Electrical ground within precipitator

Electrical ground within TR tank

Electrical Readings and What They Mean

Indication

Over Current Trip

Cause

SCR shorted

Control malfunction

Electrical Readings and What They Mean

Indication

SCR Imbalance Trip

Cause

One or more bad SCRs

Failure of the SCR firing circuit

Electrical Readings and What They Mean



Indication

No primary or secondary current, high or rated voltages

Cause

No load on TR

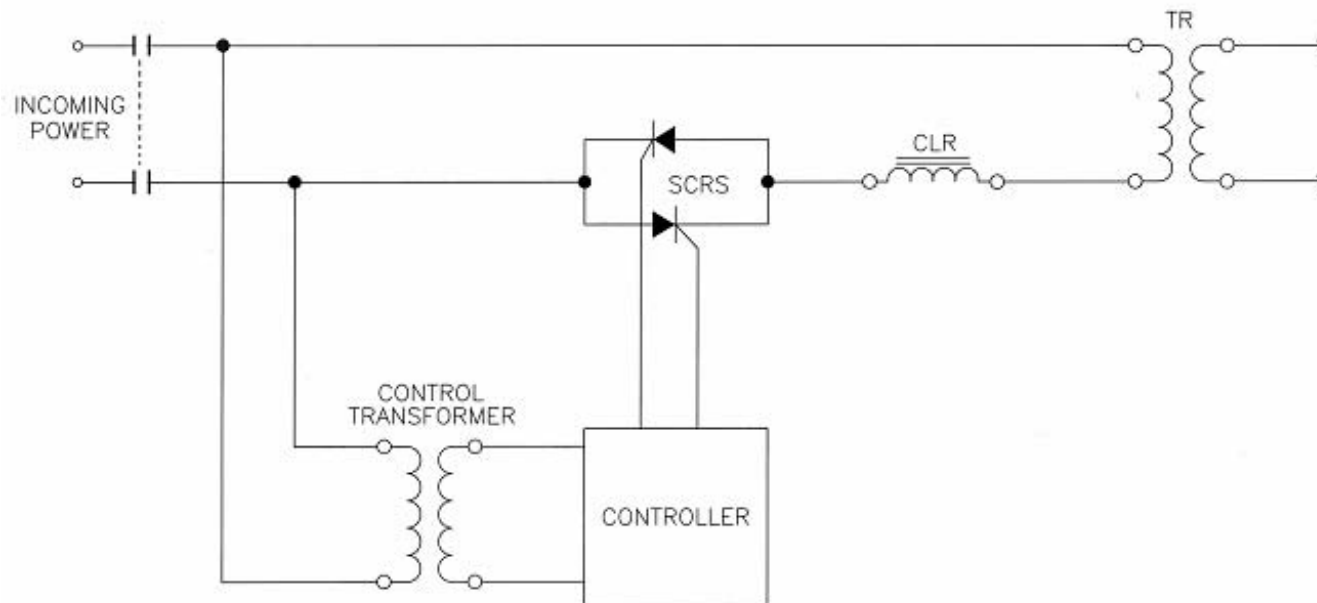
Electrical Readings and What They Mean

Indication

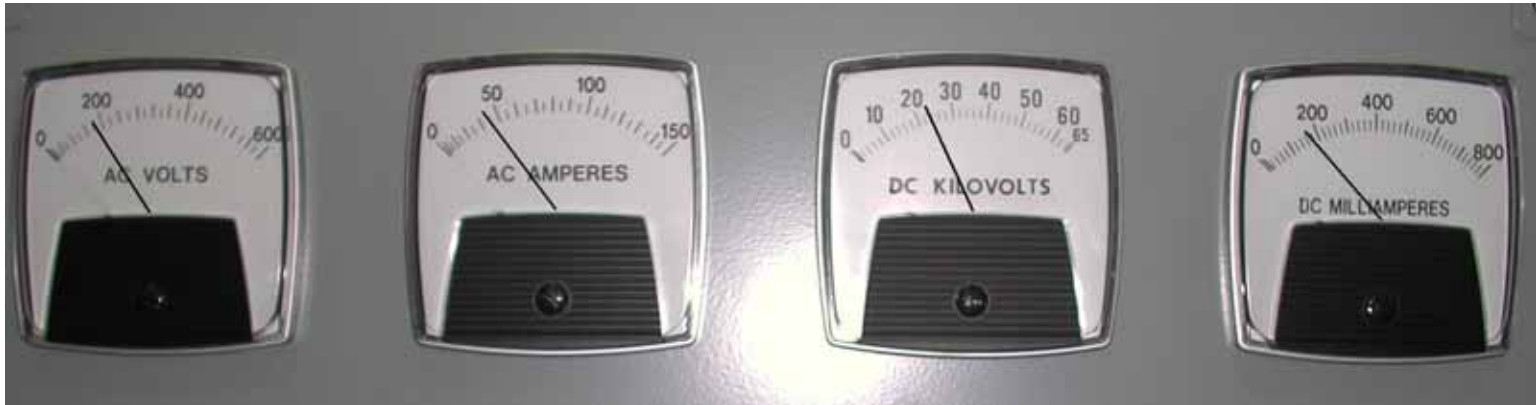
Breaker trips

Cause

Short to ground before SCRs



Electrical Readings and What They Mean



Indication

Low voltages and low currents

Cause

Excessive sparking in precipitator

Electrical noise on return signal (s)

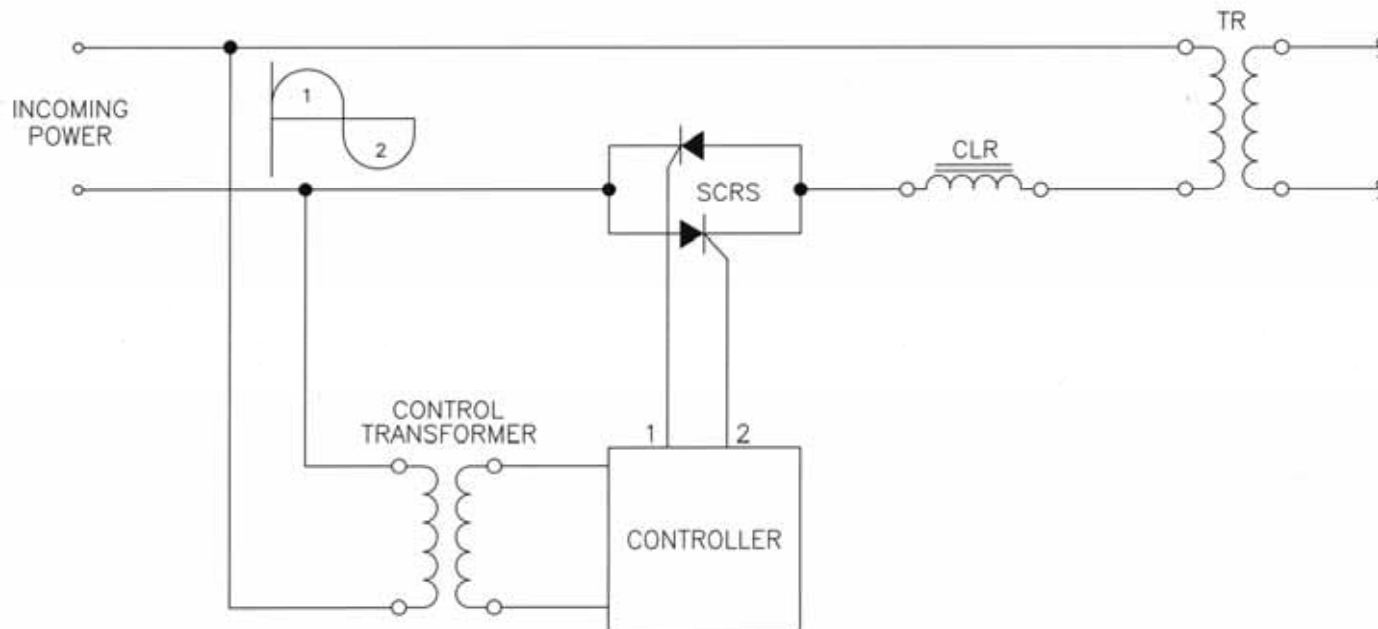
Electrical Readings and What They Mean

Indication

No power after electrical repairs in control cabinet

Cause

Power phasing has been switched



Electrical Readings and What They Mean



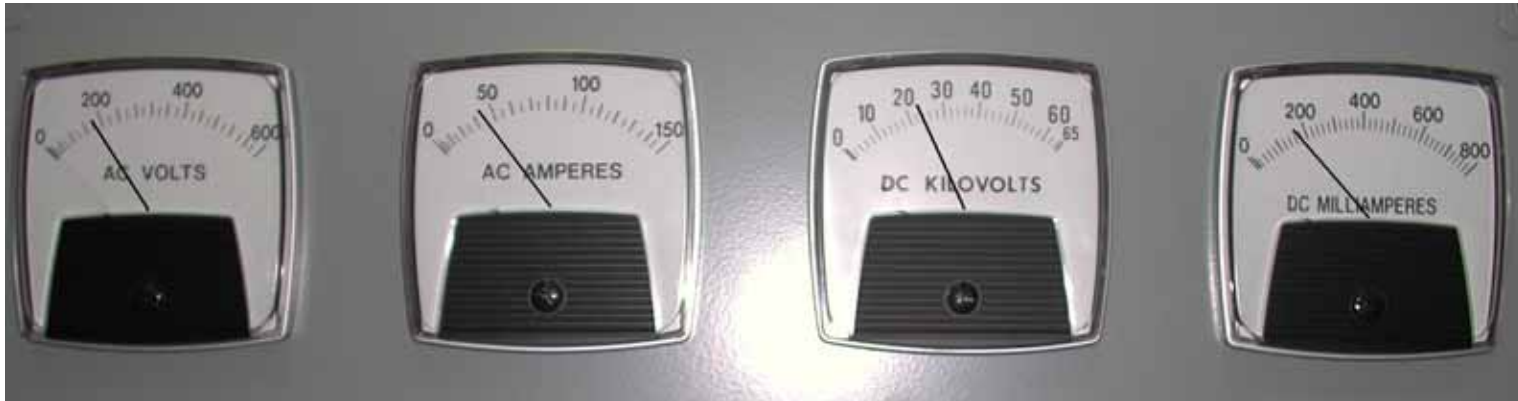
Indication

Primary volts are normal, while the secondary and primary currents are much lower than normal

Cause

Heavy particulate buildup on discharge electrodes causing corona quenching and reduced free electron formation

Electrical Readings and What They Mean



Indication

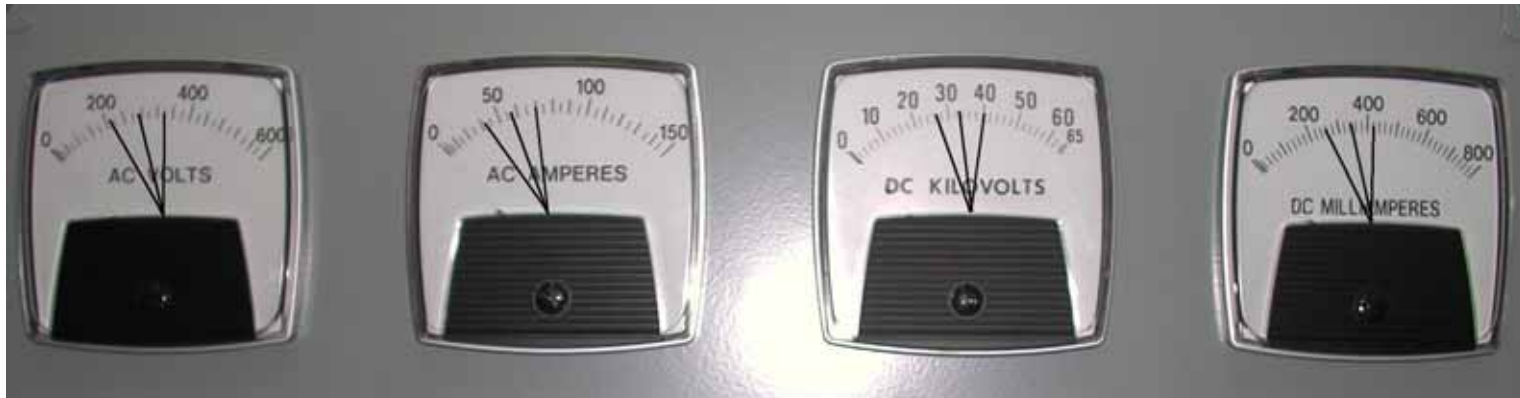
No sparking is occurring and no electrical limit is being reached

Cause

Defective control components

Defective or improperly sized CLR

Electrical Readings and What They Mean



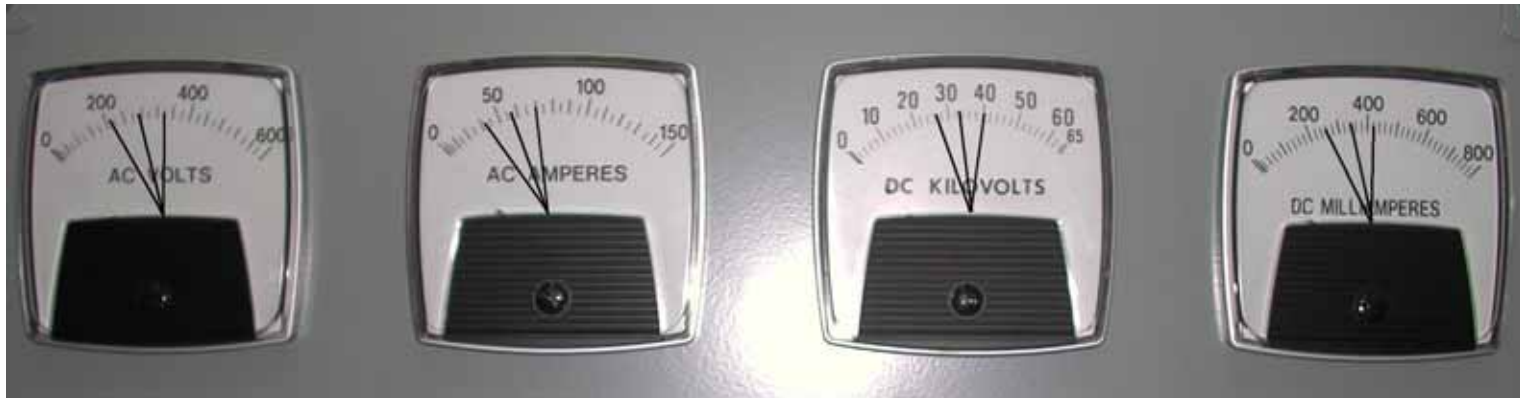
Indication

Readings oscillate on a
2 to 3 second cycle

Cause

Broken and swinging
discharge electrode

Electrical Readings and What They Mean



Indication

Readings oscillate on a
10 to 15 second cycle

Cause

Swinging discharge
electrode lower
steadying frame

Things to Look for While Walking Around

- Roof Level
- Mid Level
- Hopper Level

Things to Look for While Walking Around Roof Level (keep your eyes and ears open)

- Pressurizing Fan**
- Purge Air Heaters**
- Overall Rapper Condition**
- Rapper Rod Elevations (especially on HT)**
- Leaking TRs**
- Corroded Bus Duct / Sparking in Bus Duct**
- Air Switch Integrity**
- Noisy TR / CLR**
- Access Doors**



Things to Look for While Walking Around

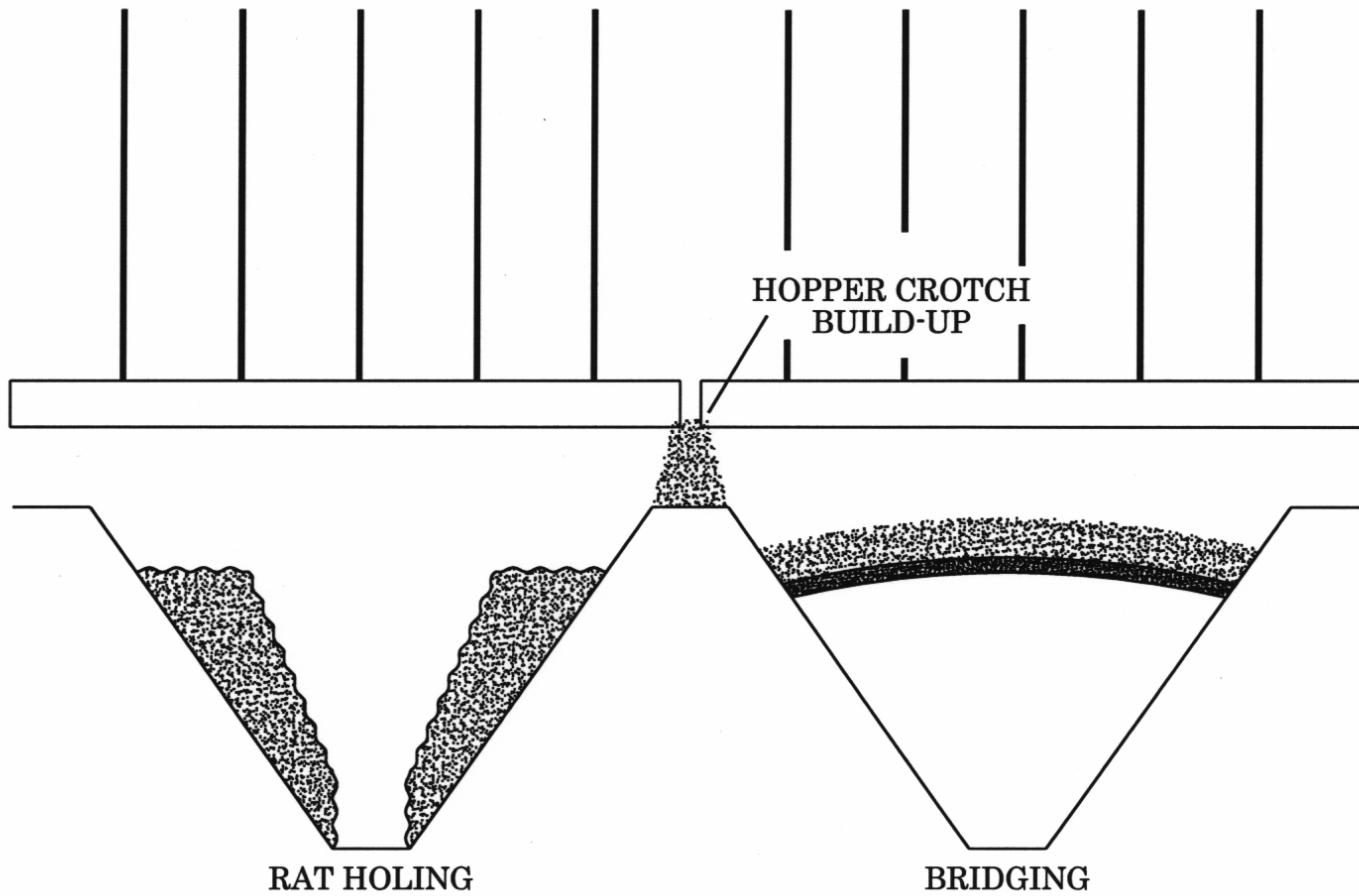
- **Mid Level**
 - Access Doors
 - Loose Insulation
 - Corroded Shell Steel



Things to Look for While Walking Around

- Hopper Level
 - Air Inleakage
 - Inoperative “vibrators”
 - Access Doors Safety Chains
 - Hopper Heaters

Hopper Problems

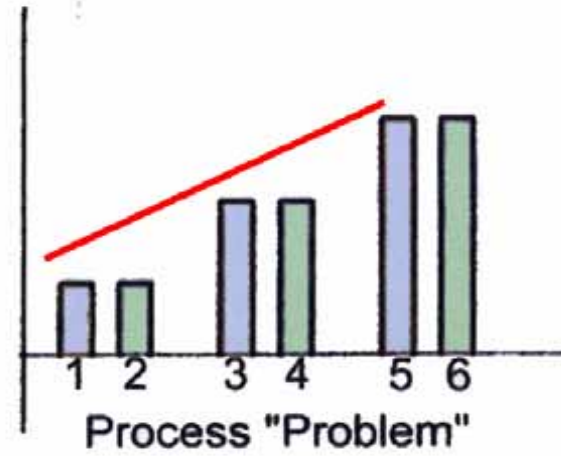
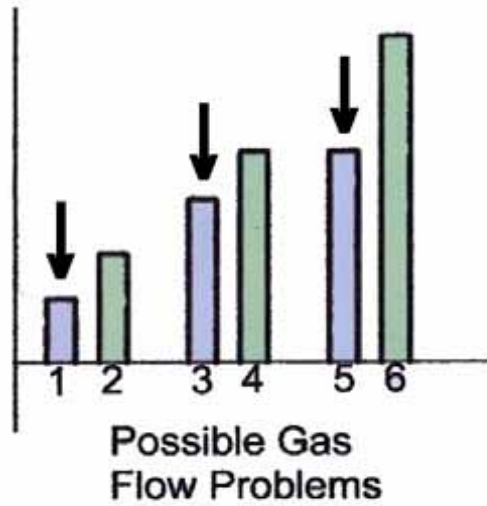
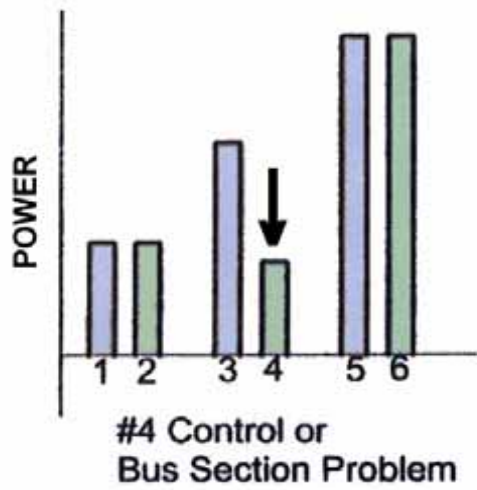
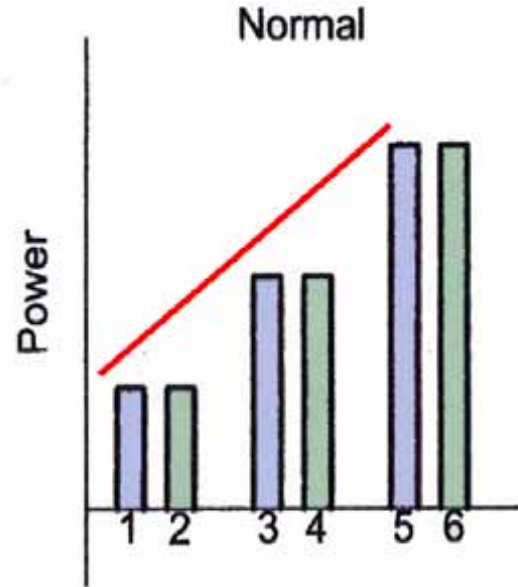


What Historical Data Can Tell Us

- **Historical Data Forms the Basis of Comparison for Determining Problems**
 - Electrical Levels of TR Sets
 - Rapper Operating Programs
 - Inspection Maps
 - Process Trends

5	6
3	4
1	2

Gas Flow ↑

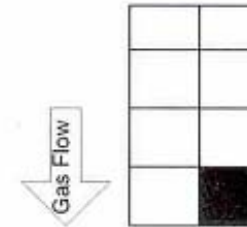
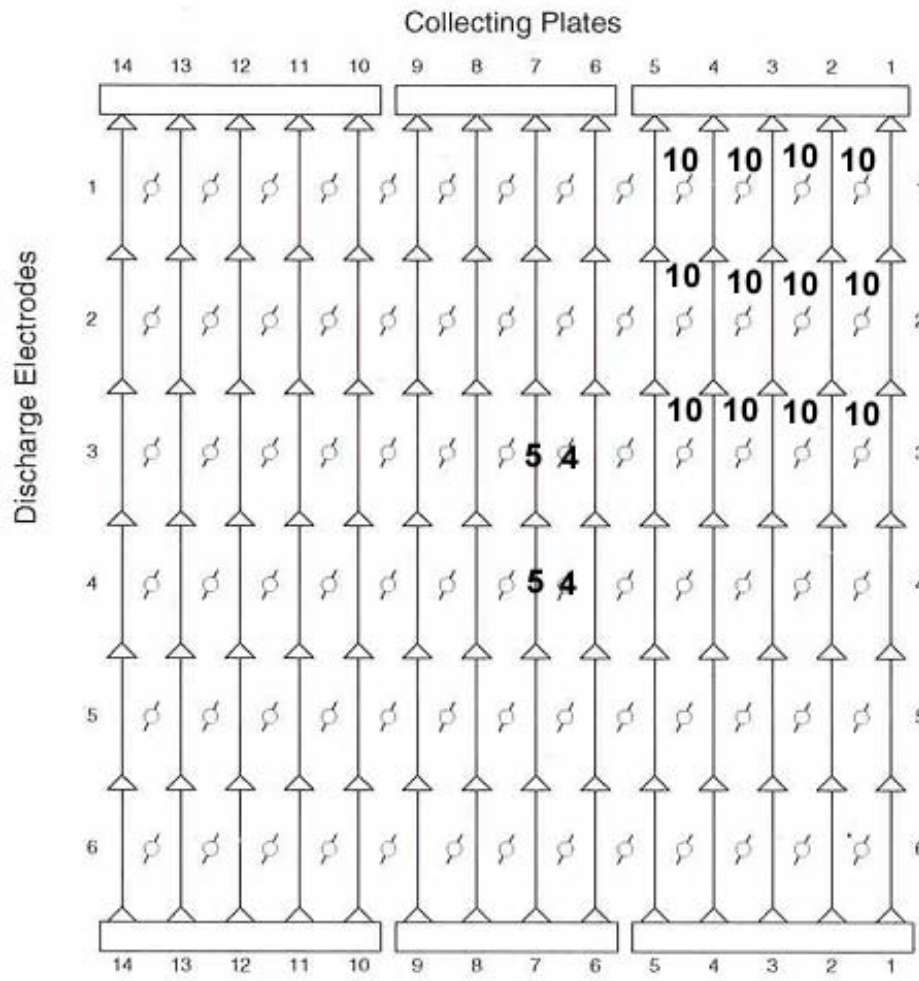


Rapper Operating Program

- Cycle Time by Field
- Energy by Field
- Failed Rappers

Inspection Maps

Inspected By: _____ Date: _____



Legend

1	Kinked Discharge Electrode
2	Warped Discharge Electrode Frame
3	Broken Discharge Electrode Frame
4	Broken Discharge Electrode
5	Bowed Collecting Electrode
6	Heavy dust Build-Up
7	Heavy Corrosion
8	Rapper Alignment Off-Center
9	Improper Collecting Electrode Spacing
10	Improper Discharge Electrode-To-Collecting Electrode Spacing
11	Other

Process Trends

- **Boiler Load - Inlet Loading**
- **Boiler Load - Gas Velocity**
- **Coal Grind - Particle Size**
- **Process Moisture - Ash Stickiness**
- **Soot Blowing - Particulate Re-entrainment**
- **Fuel - Resistivity**

Possible Internal Problems

- **Collecting Plate to Discharge Electrode Alignment**
- **Plate Build-up**
- **Discharge Electrode Build-up**
- **Corrosion**
- **Build-up on Internal Surfaces**



In a Nutshell

- **Evaluate Present Electrical Operation**
- **Keep Your Eyes and Ears Open**
- **Compare with Historical Data**

Questions?