Mark Cook OEB 2007

General Manager

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin



\$ 1.1 million Daggett vs WEPCO



Tommy Campaign Promise

Task Force 1987 21 people Testimonials >100 farmers Run for cover Must do something

Nine farm study 1988 Selection of farms Staffing (SVAT free) Standardized Protocol Investigations Report to TT SV Concern, Yes!

Start Program 1989 Vet Farmer 2 Electrical 2 support staff Open PSCW Docket 106 Hearings (statewide) Orders Issued 1990

Order points

- 1. Research
- 2. State LOC
- **3. Set Policy and Procedures**
- 4. Produce Standardized Testing
- 5. Cooperweld
- 6. Isolation
- 7. Who Pays?
- 8. Mitigation, Ownership?
- 9. Staff Testing, Authority
- **10. Motor starting**
- 11. Special needs
- 12. Mitigate on farm for off farm

PSC Docket 115 definition:

Stray voltage is a special case of voltage in which the neutral to earth voltage is present across points (generally grounded metal objects) in which a current flow is produced when an animal comes into contact with them. ...These two contact points can include any two conductive points which the animal may simultaneously contact to complete a circuit which allows current to flow. Stray voltages are low-level voltages and should be distinguished from painful shocks felt by humans.

AUG 18 2005

Stray Voltage (SV)

- Special case of Neutral to Earth Voltage (NEV)
- 2 points simultaneously contacted by a cow
- Steady-state 60 Hz
- Level of concern is 2 mA
 - 1 mA or 0.5 volt from utility
- Not damage level
- SV is not debilitating shock or electrocution

CURRENT = (VOLTAGE) / (RESISTANCE)



COW RESISTANCE ~ 500 OHMS

COW CONTACT VOLTAGE MEASUREMENTS:



From the 1996 PSCW docket 05-EI-115, the "level of concern" is defined as 2 milliamps, AC, rms (root mean square), steady-state or 1 volt, AC, rms, steady-state across a 500-ohm resistor in the cow contact area.

("steady-state" is defined by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) as "the value of a current or voltage after all transients have decayed to a negligible value")

The State of Wisconsin deems that this level of voltage/current is an amount of electricity where some form of mitigative action is taken on the farmer's behalf, although only some small percentage of cows may actually perceive its presence. The "level of concern" is not a damage level. Instead, it is a <u>very</u> conservative, pre-injury level, below the point where moderate avoidance behavior is likely to occur and well below where a cow's behavior or milk production would be harmed.





SV Investigation Database

8,000 farm investigations in PSC database REPS program and utility investigations 1299

Reporting required of regulated Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) and volunteered by Rural Electric Cooperatives (RECs).

Farms Requesting Investigations

Statistics 1988 to 2007:
16% increase in RHA at investigation

Average RHA of fame 2007 = 20,293
lbs./cow/yr.

14% decrease of SSC at time of investigation

Average SCC of farms 2006 = 319,000 count

84% increase of herd size being investigated

Average herd size 2007 = 105 cows
62% of ALL farm tested used DHIA

Status of Farm Wiring

Statistics 1988 to 2007:

- 100% more farms have or getting 4-wire system ~ "updated" code compliant wiri
 5% more farms installing Equalpoting Planes (EPP) ~ a major safety feat for the system of the
 - Neutral Voltage (SNV) BAD NEV
 - 29% decrease in SNV from 2001 to increase attendon on on-farm wird

Upgrading Farm Electric & Utility Service

tatistics

80% of fames tested getting larger transformers
20% of fames are served with 3-phase,
voltage conversion programs in place to help more upgrade as becomes feasible.
46% reduction of supply conductor resistance per mile
39% increase in grounds per mile in place

\$1.5 Billion of rate of a random structure spent softar
Specific initiatives to push system upgrade
Split bolt removal program
Cooperweld conductor inventory reporting
10,400 miles by Invest Owned Utilities
Eural Electric Cooperative a new reporting
Rural distribution rebuild programs
1,500 miles per year

perading Rural

Impact on Primary Neutral Voltage (NEV) NOTE: A parameter influencing off-farm contribution to SV

71% reduction in NEV from 1988 to 2007
1.2 volts at transformer is WI average
0.47 volts away from load is WI average
33% reduction of number of farms isolated
9% of all farms tested are isolated today
"Isolation on Demand" policy is working
At utility expense if they can not reduce their contribution below .5 volt limit at cow contact

Overall Impact on SV

- 76% reduction in magnitude of str found at 1st test from 1989 200
- 93% of investigations fine voltage PSC's level of concern.
- 1.6% of investigations find to bages level 3 times the PSCS level cond
- 0.3 volts is the average measured SV in contact locations





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Trend in calc. Vne from primary profiles







Distribution neutral characteristics SV database: 1988-2006



Education Efforts - REPS Staff

Investigator training
Intro, Interme
Rural Electric Technical College
Various workshops speaker and classro
618 today

Sourses with UW d Advance Courses rse with WI stem (WTCS) eminars, guest m presentations.



The dollars used to fund the new Farn Re-wiring Assistance Programs are

recovered from rate payers. The use of the funds (Investor Owned

Utilities for family requires

Commission approval.

Vested interest in safety, energy conservation and reducing SV on farms in

Utility Farm Re-wiring Programs

State-wide uniform farm re-wiring program elements developed.

Loans Grants Pre-upgrade plan/bid required Final wiring state inspected, before payment Electricians doing work expected to have taken WTCS Farm Re-wiring Course Clearly defined specific coverage of uniform elements covered by programs

Utility Farm Re-wiring Programs

\$9.,800,000.00 as of now

 Utilities with programs:
 Alliant Energy, Public Service Corp., Rural Electric Cooperatives, We Energies, Xcel Energy

RESEARCH

- Investor Owned Utilities and Cooperatives have contributed \$1,500,000 towards SV research
- UW has conducted various research trials looking at specific SV questions with guidance from REPS
- Various formal and informal field studies of specific meters or equipment have been conducted over the years.
- Newly published research reports and news stories are constantly being reviewed.

Policy / Regulatory Must Do! Supporting certification of rural electricians Supporting inspection of farm wiring Control code review Facilitate the activities of the issue

DATCP REPS program's Direct Farmer Assistance

Veterinary Assistance

 Diagnostic support for dairy farmers facing herd performance issues directly or indirectly associated with concerns over SV

SV Liaison and Mediation

A resource person to help supplement or troubleshoot exchange of information between farmer, utility, PSC and other involved parties.

eterinary Assistance

65-70 farms usits per year above the cases and covers are return viets.
No lap cost to farmer for diagnostic sting of feed forage blood and other factors.
Effort to involve all service professionals to answer operation and herd questions.
Most frequent concerns are increased SCC, low milk production and cow losses.
Veterinary Assis

The goal is to help farmers regardless of the causes and symptoms of their concerns.
Continue to educate the farm support profession's (vets, nutritionist, milking equipment dealers, etc.) knowledge of stray voltage and other diagnostic tools or solutions to the common problems observed.

A Veterinarian's Perspective

•There is not a single animal health, production, or behavioral issue or veterinary test that can be used to indicate the presence of stray voltage on a farm.

•Stray voltage is an electrical issue and can only be identified through standardized electrical testing protocols.

th non-traditional SV concerns Improve quality of on farm wiring quipment installation and maintenance Improve quality of service by farm and energy service professionals Continue maintaining and ving the vice provided by the utility a ongoing maintenance requirement, a one-time effort by ALL involved.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

* REPS also works with both primary and secondary system inspections, power quality, accuracy of meter(s), disconnect notices, energy bill payment assistance, renewable energy topics, weatherization assistance, and agricultural electrical equipment performance.

Program Strengths??

* Authority, Authority, Authority * Ability to work with the best and the worst

* No fear of litigation

* 20 years of experience! This is very difficult to learn

Program Weaknesses?? Catch all for the junk scientists, and carpetbaggers.

And no other!!!!!!!

COW CONTACT VOLTAGE

FACTS OF UNIVERSAL LAW All currents return to their source. All paths have resistance. a Therefore, some primary and secondary Neutralto-Earth, as well as cow-contact voltage, will exist. These voltages can be reduced, but... By how much? Cost vs. Benefit?

C.C.V. MEASUREMENTS

Measurement Set Up A) Cow Contact Points B) Good Measurements C) Primary & Secondary Points and Reference Rod Locations

DIGITAL MULTIMETER



Selecting the site



Criteria for Selection

Highest possible cow contact voltages
Non-interference by animals
Animal contact location





COW CONTACT VOLTAGE MEASUREMENTS:







$V_{W/O SHUNT} = V_S$

In an open circuit situation, there is no current flowing in the circuit. Without current, there is no voltage drop in the R_{source}. $V_{w/o \ shunt}$ has to be equal to V_s

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Source Resistance Measurement:



Sample Data Table:

V =	Measured	Demand
E =	Estimated	Demand

Μ	
E	a.m.
kW :	p.m.

Lo	cation of Readings in Building of Concern:	V wo	V_{Rsh}	mA
رم س	Waterline to Rear Hoof Area			
mal	Pipeline to Rear Hoof Area			
Anii Cor	Stanchion to Rear Hoof Area			
sts	Service Entrance Ground to Waterline			****
J Te:	Service Entrance Ground to Pipeline			****
Iding	Service Entrance Ground to Stanchion			****
Bor	Service Entrance Ground to Rear Hoof Area			****
	Service Entrance Ground to Remote Ground Rod			****
	Transformer Ground to Remote Ground Rod			****
	Transformer Ground to Service Entrance Ground			****

COW CONTACT VOLTAGE MEASUREMENTS:





Earth Reference

Utility & Farm Circuit

Alexandra and

	Μ	
M = Measured Demand	Х	
E = Estimated Demand	E	a.m.
	kW : 12	5:45 p.m.

Lo	ocation of Readings in Building of Concern:	V wo	V _{Rsh}	mA
nal itacts	Waterline to Rear Hoof Area	0.75	0.53	
	Pipeline to Rear Hoof Area	0.63	0.21	
Anii Cor	Stanchion to Rear Hoof Area	0.66	0.39	
sts	Service Entrance Ground to Waterline	0.08	0.08	****
Tes	Service Entrance Ground to Pipeline	0.42	0.06	****
ding	Service Entrance Ground to Stanchion	0.10	0.08	****
Bon	Service Entrance Ground to Rear Hoof Area	0.74	0.52	****
	Service Entrance Ground to Remote Ground Rod	1.62	1.38	****
	Transformer Ground to Remote Ground Rod	1.40	1.21	****
	Transformer Ground to Service Entrance Ground	0.22	0.22	****

	<u> </u>		
M = Measured Demand	Х		
E = Estimated Demand	E	х	a.m.
	kW:12	10.45	p.m.

Lo	ocation of Readings in Building of Concern:	V wo	V _{Rsh}	mA
S	Waterline to Rear Hoof Area	0.76	0.51 (0.001
mal	Pipeline to Rear Hoof Area	0.76	0.39	
Ani Cor	Stanchion to Rear Hoof Area	0.76	0.44	
sts	Service Entrance Ground to Waterline	0.01	0.01	****
T e	Service Entrance Ground to Pipeline	0.03	0.03	****
ding	Service Entrance Ground to Stanchion	0.09	0.09	****
Bon	Service Entrance Ground to Rear Hoof Area	0.76	0.47	****
	Service Entrance Ground to Remote Ground Rod	0.72	0.50	****
	Transformer Ground to Remote Ground Rod	1.54	1.30	****
	Transformer Ground to Service Entrance Ground	0.82	0.82	****

Μ	
х	
E	a.m.
kW: 16	5.55 p.m.
	M x E kW: 16

Lo	ocation of Readings in Building of Concern:	V wo	V _{Rsh}	mA
S	Waterline to Rear Hoof Area	1.08	0.26	
nal Itact:	Pipeline to Rear Hoof Area	0.88	0.09	
Ani Cor	Stanchion to Rear Hoof Area	0.92	0.21	
sts	Service Entrance Ground to Waterline	0.02	0.02	****
T e	Service Entrance Ground to Pipeline	0.09	0.08	****
ding	Service Entrance Ground to Stanchion	0.10	0.06	****
Bon	Service Entrance Ground to Rear Hoof Area	1.09	0.29	****
	Service Entrance Ground to Remote Ground Rod	2.06	1.77	****
	Transformer Ground to Remote Ground Rod	2.11	1.79	****
	Transformer Ground to Service Entrance Ground	0.05	0.05	****

Example Case #4:

M = Measured Demand	Х		
E = Estimated Demand	E		a.m.
	kW : 12	6:15	p.m.

N/I

Lo	cation of Readings in Building of Concern:	V wo	V _{Rsh}	mA
S	Waterline to Rear Hoof Area	0.53	0.53	
mal itact	Pipeline to Rear Hoof Area	0.09	0.003	
Anii Cor	Stanchion to Rear Hoof Area	0.38	0.36	
sts	Service Entrance Ground to Waterline	0.02	0.02	****
j Te	Service Entrance Ground to Pipeline	0.00	0.00	****
ding	Service Entrance Ground to Stanchion	0.02	0.02	****
Bon	Service Entrance Ground to Rear Hoof Area	0.53	0.52	****
-	Service Entrance Ground to Remote Ground Rod	1.22	0.97	****
	Transformer Ground to Remote Ground Rod	1.25	0.99	****
	Transformer Ground to Service Entrance Ground	0.09	0.09	****

Load Box Test

In Wisconsin, a phase two test includes a test of simply the primary system. This test is accomplished with the use of a 240 volt load box. This 240 volt load is applied at the transformer serving the farm. The farm is completely deenergized. Consequently, any cow contact voltage that is measured in this condition is due to off-farm sources.



Current Ratio Measurement



Load Box OFF

		1 o Lo	ad Box Test	Phase	П							
Customer. fa	amer		Date:	1/1	/1999		Rep:	Ag Rep				
Comments:												
Time Off.	10:15 AM				Time On:		10:22 AM					
	All off	Low load	High load			High+Farr	n	Вс	ix off			
Load Box KW						_				кw		
0 7.2 🖲 14.4	1	I Lbox	I Lbox		I Lbox	ı famn 1	ı famn2	ı farm1	ı farm 2			
I sec	na									A		
I pri phase	na									Amps		
I pri neut	0.083			Add						A		
I sec neut	0.102			Farm						A		
I sn net	na	na	na	Load						A		
∨ pn-ref	0.052		k	====>						Volts		
V sn-ret	0.052											
	0.004									V		
	0.000									J .		
Rt = [Ω	Rpn =			Ω	CR =[]%		
Rf = [Ω	K =	(If K > (50% do VI	% २ test)						
			VR TE	ST							LA 2000 St. J. M.	
VpnRef =		IPGmeas =		mΑ	RPGm	eas =						
Vpncalc= (IP	Gmeas * RF	Gmeas)/1000	0	m∨	(∨pnref/∨	pncalc)				%		
Comments:					(If VR <9	0% move i	ref. gm.)					

Load Box LOW

		1 Φ Lo	ad Box Test	- Phase							
Customer.	farmer		Date:	1/1	/1999]	Rep:	Ag Rep			
Comments:											
	40.45.004	1			T	[40.00 414	1			
lime On L	10:15 AM	l ow load	High load		lime Un:	 High_Eom	10:22 AM	 Br	v off		
Load Box KW	All OIL	17	nigirillau			ingini all				ww.	
072 14	4	τιbox	T Lbox		TLbox	т farm 1	⊤ farm2	т farm 1	⊤ farm2	1744	
T sec	na	67.20	1 2004			1 Ianni	1 miniz	1 Ianni	1 iann2	A	
t pri phase	na	1.12								Amps	
T pri neut	0.083	0.87		Add						A	
I sec neut	0.102	0.12		Farm						А	
I sn net	na	na	na	Load						A	
∨ pn-ref	0.052	0.172		====>						Volts	
∨ sn-ref	0.052	0.168			L					Ľ.	
Va pri-sec	0.004	0.006			├ ──					V.	
V COW CONL.	0.009	0.024								Jv.	
Rt = [0 1536	10	Rnn =			lo	CR =			1%	
···· [0.1000] 2 2	(Spri] 9 4				1,0	
Rf = [ໄດ	K =			%					
				(If K > :	50% do VI	, R test)					
			VR TE	ST							
VpnRef =		IPGmeas =		mA	RPGm	eas =					
∨pncalc= (IF	Gmeas * RF	-Gmeasy1000	U	lm∧	(Vpnref/V	phcalc)	unt cum l			%	
Comments:					(If VR <9	u% move	rer. gm.)				

Load Box HIGH

		1	ad Box Test	Phase	Ш					
Customer.	farmer		Date:	1/1	/1999]	Rep: [Ag Rep		
Comments:										
								à		
Time Off.	10:15 AM				Time On:		10:22 AM			
F F	All off	Low load	High load			High+Fam	n	Bo	ox off	
Load Box KW		17	34							KW
07.2 🖲 14.	4	I Lbox	I Lbox		I Lbox	ı famn 1	ı farm2	ı farm 1	I farm 2	
I sec[na	67.20	132.90							A
I pri phase	na	1.12	2.215						•	Amps
I pri neut	0.083	0.87	1.78	Add						A
I sec neut	0.102	0.12	0.235	Farm						A
I sn net	na	na	na	Load						A
∨ pn-ref_	0.052	0.172	0.269	====>						Volts
V sn-ref	0.052	0.168	0.266							Ľ
Va pri-sec	0.004	0.006	0.008							Ľ.
	0.009	0.024	0.04							_ ~
Rt = [0.0886	Ω	Rpn =	0.	1066]Ω	CR =[8	3.11]%
Rf = [0.8522	Ω	K =[1: (If K > (5.04 50% do Vi	% R test)				
			VR TE	ST						
VpnRef =	0	IPGmeas =		mA	RPGm	eas =				
∨phcaic= (IF	Gmeas * RF	Gmeasy 1000	U	mν	(Vpnref/V	pricale) DV(marter				%
Comments:					(IFAK <9)	u% move i	rer: gm.)			

Load Box HIGH + Farm and continuation of Load Box

		1	ad Box Test	Phase	11					
Customer.	farmer		Date:	1/ 1/	/1999		Rep:	Ag Rep		
Comments:										
						\mathbf{k}				
Time Off	10:15 AM	1		-		- V 	10:22 AM			
nine on.	All off Low load High load High load High - High + Farm Box of					xoff				
Load Box KW	d Box KW 17 34 34 kw						кw			
07.2 01/	4.4	I Lbox	т Црох		I Lbox I f	farm 1	ı farm2	ı farm 1	⊥ farm 2	1
I sec	na	67.20	132.90		129.90 83	3.00	93.20	78.70	88.20	A
I pri phase	na	1.12	2.215		3.633	333333	33	1.390	333333	Amps
I pri neut	0.083	0.87	1.78	Add	2	2.94		1.	15	A
I sec neut	0.102	0.12	0.235	Farm	1	14.7		1	1.9	A
I sn net	na	na	na	Load	0.7 0.94 A				A	
∨ pn-ref	0.052	0.172	0.269	====>	0.391 0.212 Volts		Volts			
∨ sn-ret	0.052	0.168	0.266		0.299 0.108 V		Ľ.			
Va pri-sec		0.006	0.008		0.142 0.125					
V COW CONE.	0.005	0.024	0.04		0	072		0.	01	_ *
Rt =	0.0886	ໄດ	Rpn =	0.1	1066 DQ		CR =	83	.11	1%
		,								-
Rf =	0.8522]Ω	K =	15	5.04 %					
				(lf K > 5	50% do VR te:	st)				
VepDet -			VR TE	ST m.A	DDCmccc	_ [
Vpncalc= (PGmeas * DI	PGmeas / 1000	0	mV	(VnnrefA/nnc	in l				0
Commente:	r Officas - Kr	Chicasy 1000	0		(If VR <90%)	mover	ef. am.)			/0
Comments.					(on griny			

SRV4.EXE - FROZEN







Secondary Neutral Voltage Drop Test

Turn off all services to all buildings

- Then one at a time turn on the service and run a 10 amp load only on each service individually.
- Measure the voltage of the primary to remote, secondary neutral of the panel tested to remote, primary to secondary, cow contact voltage, and the current coming back on THAT PARTICULAR SERVICE WIRE, not necessarily the service wire from the transformer.
Secondary Neutral Voltage Drop Test Form

Stray Voltage Investigation - Phase II Secondary Neutral Voltage Drop Test						
Name:	Date:			Rep	:	
	1	2	3	4	5	
Site Location	MlkHse	Grannary	House	Calf Barn	Garage	
Site Location Code	В	D	С	В	D	Units
Sec. Wire Size	# 2 AL	# 4 AL	# 2 AL	# 4 AL	# 2 AL	Ga.
Sec. Length	197	217	212	220	172	Ft.
Res./100'	0.027	0.042	0.027	0.042	0.027	Ohms
Total Res.	0.05319	0.09114	0.05724	0.0924	0.04644	Ohms
Neut. Current						Amps
Calc. Voltage Drop						Volts
Vpnref Load OFF	0.171					Volts
Vpnref Load ON						Volts
Vsnref Load OFF	0.172					Volts
Vsnref Load ON			Note that	the		Volts
Vpn - Vsn Load OFF	0.006		voltage dr	on		Volts
Vpn - Vsn Load ON			should be			Volts
Actual Meas Vpn-Vsn ON	Osomething					Volts
Cow Contact OFF	0.0240			.9		Volts
Cow Contact ON						Volts
V Drop Variance						Volts
Actual Serv. Resistance						Ohms

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Primary Profile

In this test we are looking to see the condition of the utility grounding system. We use the AEMC meter, which can measure the resistance of a single ground rod. We measure the resistance of the ground rods and the current through said ground rod. By knowing the resistance of the ground rod and the current through the ground, we can calculate the voltage on the primary neutral, V=I*R

Primary Profile Notes

- USE HIGH VOLTAGE GLOVES when working on a pole with a transformer, capacitor setting, recloser or arresters. Again if that connection to ground is loosened up it may be the last good connection and if loosened can potentially energize that ground to line voltage.
- REMEMBER to turn on the load box before you leave for the test. We want that on so that we have a good sized load on the neutral to measure neutral voltage.
- Beacons and flashers on the truck should be turned on and an orange vest can be worn because we are working on the road.

Bad Primary Neutral Connection



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Motor Start Test

We have the **farmer** start each of his large motors one at a time, noting the time of the start and end times of running. This way we can isolate the one motor that may be having a hard time starting. You will look for large voltage drops when starting or large elevations of the secondary neutral voltages. And as always watch for the cow contact voltages.

SRV4.EXE - FROZEN







Millions of rate-payer dollars have been spent on farm wiring that does not meet the minimum codes in this state

MARA

State wide uniform farm re-wiring program developed

E 1811

All dairy farms in Wisconsin can participate

 Loans

 Range from \$5000 to

 \$14,000

 Interest rates from

 0% to 4%

Grants

First \$1k grant Grants range from \$2,500 to \$11,000

All new wiring must be inspected.

State Inspector paid by \$1000 up front grant. No cost to the farmer for inspections

New re-wiring programs are

Conservation driven

Safety

Stray Voltage

mitigation

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Isolation Your first admission of quilt

Isolation

1. Findings above the LOC

- 1. Five days, or isolate
- 2. No more than 90 days
- Must reduce to <LOC
- 4. No permanent isolation
- 5. Electronic only

IOD

- 1. Inspection
- 2. Application
- 3. Hold harmless
- 4. Cost causer, cost payer
- 5. Monthly fee of \$35

Isolation

Moves and covers on farm sources You own them forever

All litigation involves isolation

97D, Spark gap, unsafe for farms *Fails open *Reacts slow *Requires high voltage unsafe for other systems (300-3000v) *Not intended use







Positives

- Reduces on farm source voltages at cow contact
- Eliminates cyclical 120 volt load problems (no load balance required).
- Reduces amount of secondary neutral current returning through the earth.

Equipotential Plane

- 1. Improves personnel/animal safety
- 2. Relatively inexpensive in new installations
- 3. Retrofit possible
- 4. Provides grounding to lower NEV, cow contacts, and transients
- 5. Reduces motor start effects
- 6. Include feed bunks and waterers
- 547-9. Bonding and Equipotential Plane









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Load balancing

Balance 120 volt circuits on farm
 Replace 120 volt loads with 240 volt

Cyclical nature of loads can be a problem (see four-wire system)





Electronic

Grounding System

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EGS (?)

Repair service
 Work well on farms
 Needs good wiring
 Agrivolt



Ungrounded Transformer

- Expensive (some, very)
 Code violations and safety concerns common
- 3. Increases electrical consumption (really!)
- 4. Raises primary NEV

Isolation Transformer



9/26/2007

•Dead cows


No over current protection

1. 1 43"

What Do We Mean By.....?

Remote Reference Rod
Neutral-to-Earth Resistance
Neutral-to-Earth Voltage
Ground Current
Earth Current

REMOTE REFERENCE ROD

A reference electrode driven at a location sufficiently distant from existing electrodes so that it is not significantly within the influence of them.



NEUTRAL-TO-EARTH RESISTANCE

The electrical resistance of all interconnected conductive parallel paths between the neutral conductor at the location being measured and a properly established remote reference.

GROUNDING ROD RESISTANCE



1Resistance of the electrode itself and connections to it.

2Contact resistance between the electrode and the soil adjacent to it.

3. Resistance of the surrounding earth.

NEUTRAL-TO-EARTH VOLTAGE (NEV)

Voltage measured between the neutral conductor and a remote reference rod.

The voltage drop across the neutral-to-earth resistance.



The Utility Circuit

GROUND CURRENT

System return current, either normal or abnormal, that flows on the conductive pathways between the neutral conductor and earth.

EARTH CURRENT

 System return current, either normal or abnormal, that flows in the earth from or to existing electrodes.