
AC Mitigation & Cathodic Protection: How Decouplers Make a Difference

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OUTLINE

- ✓ Introduction to AC interference
- ✓ Why are decouplers needed?
- ✓ AC mitigation case study
- ✓ Capacitance Effect on waveforms



DAIRYLAND



1990 — ISP

Dairyland created the first solid-state device for high-power utility decoupling.



1994 — PCR

Dairyland introduced the first solid-state decoupling device for the corrosion industry.



DAIRYLAND

Today

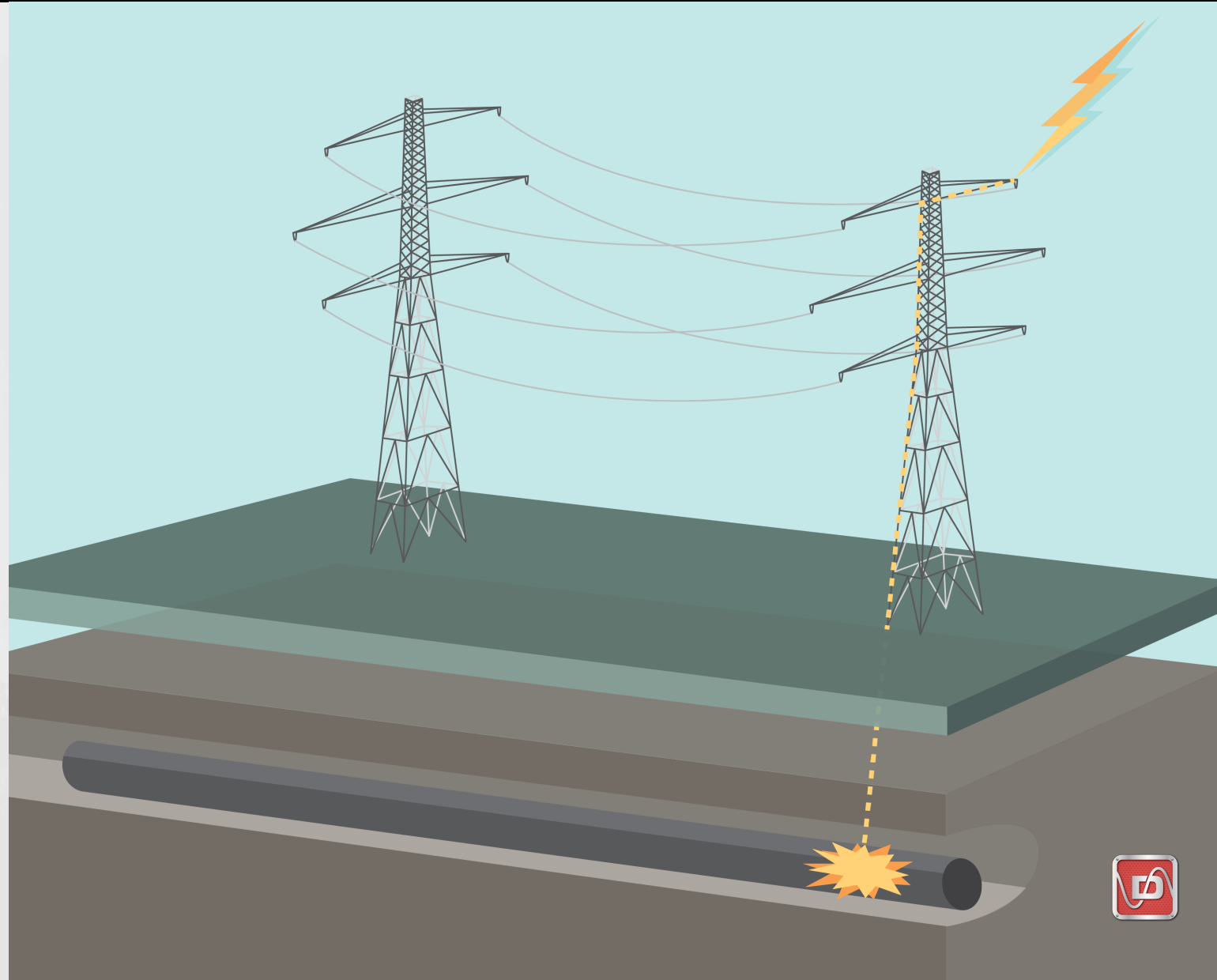
Dairyland is the world's leading manufacturer of solid-state decouplers, with products installed in over 90 countries around the world.



SOURCES OF AC INTERFERENCE

Conductive Coupling

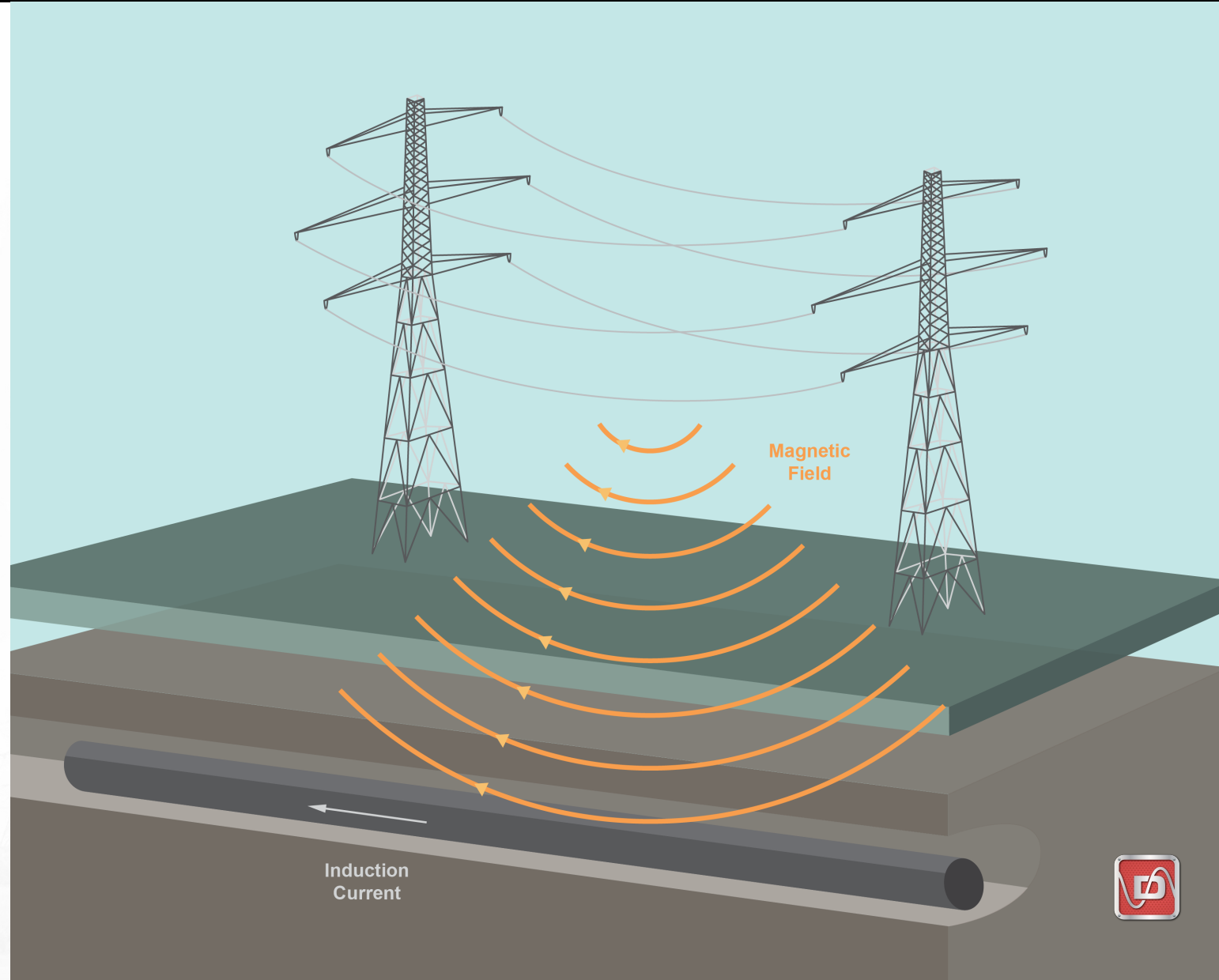
- Lightning or AC fault
- AC current flows onto pipe
- Arcing on the pipe



SOURCES OF AC INTERFERENCE

Inductive Coupling

- Power line has magnetic field
- Magnetic field interacts with pipeline
- Newer coatings are more susceptible

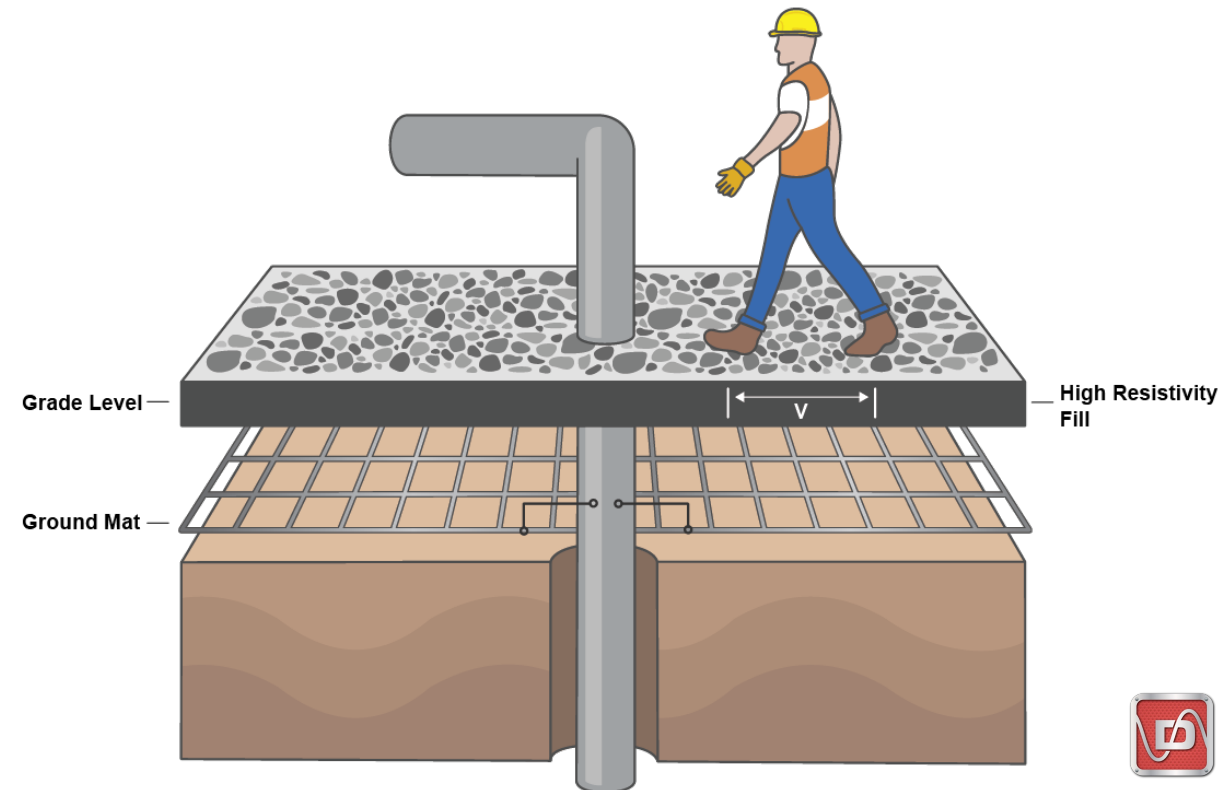
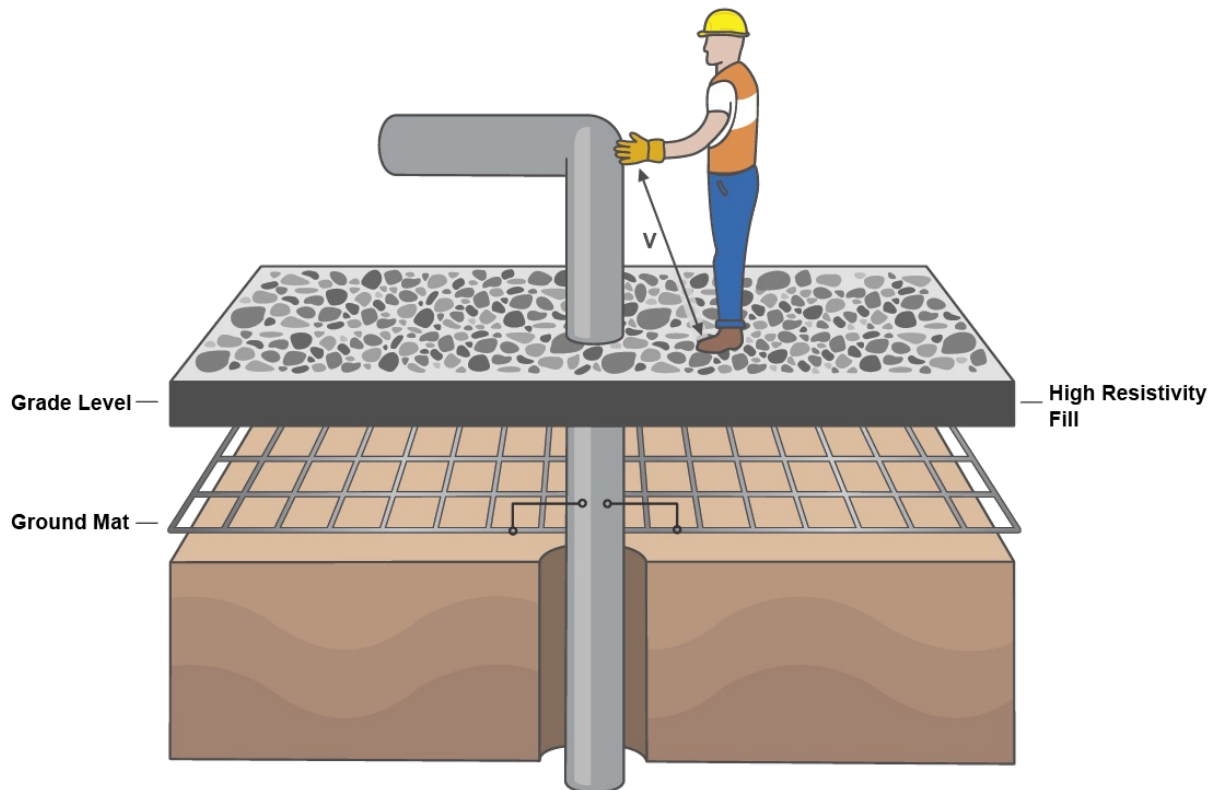


AC INTERFERENCE - ISSUES

Personnel Safety Hazard – Touch and Step Voltages

CRITERIA: NACE SP0177-2019 & EN 50443

Maximum allowed range: 15 Volts-AC to 60V



AC INTERFERENCE - ISSUES

AC Corrosion

- Caused by discharge of AC current at coating defects
- More damaging at smaller defects
- AC current can cause DC depolarization



AC INTERFERENCE - ISSUES

AC Corrosion

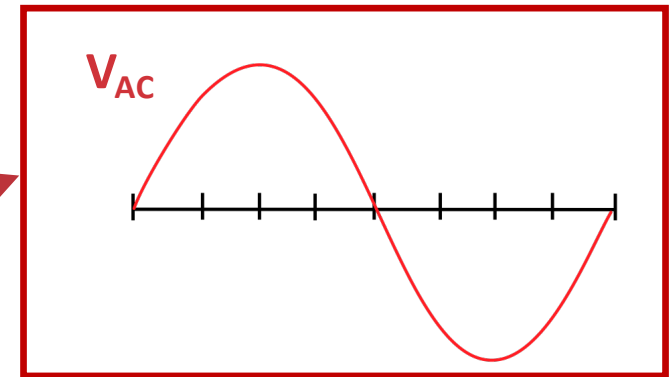
CRITERIA: AC corrosion current density (I_{AC})

Options for determining I_{AC}

- Calculations:

$$I_{AC} = \frac{8V_{AC}}{\rho\pi d}$$

Pipeline AC Potential



Soil Resistivity



Defect Size



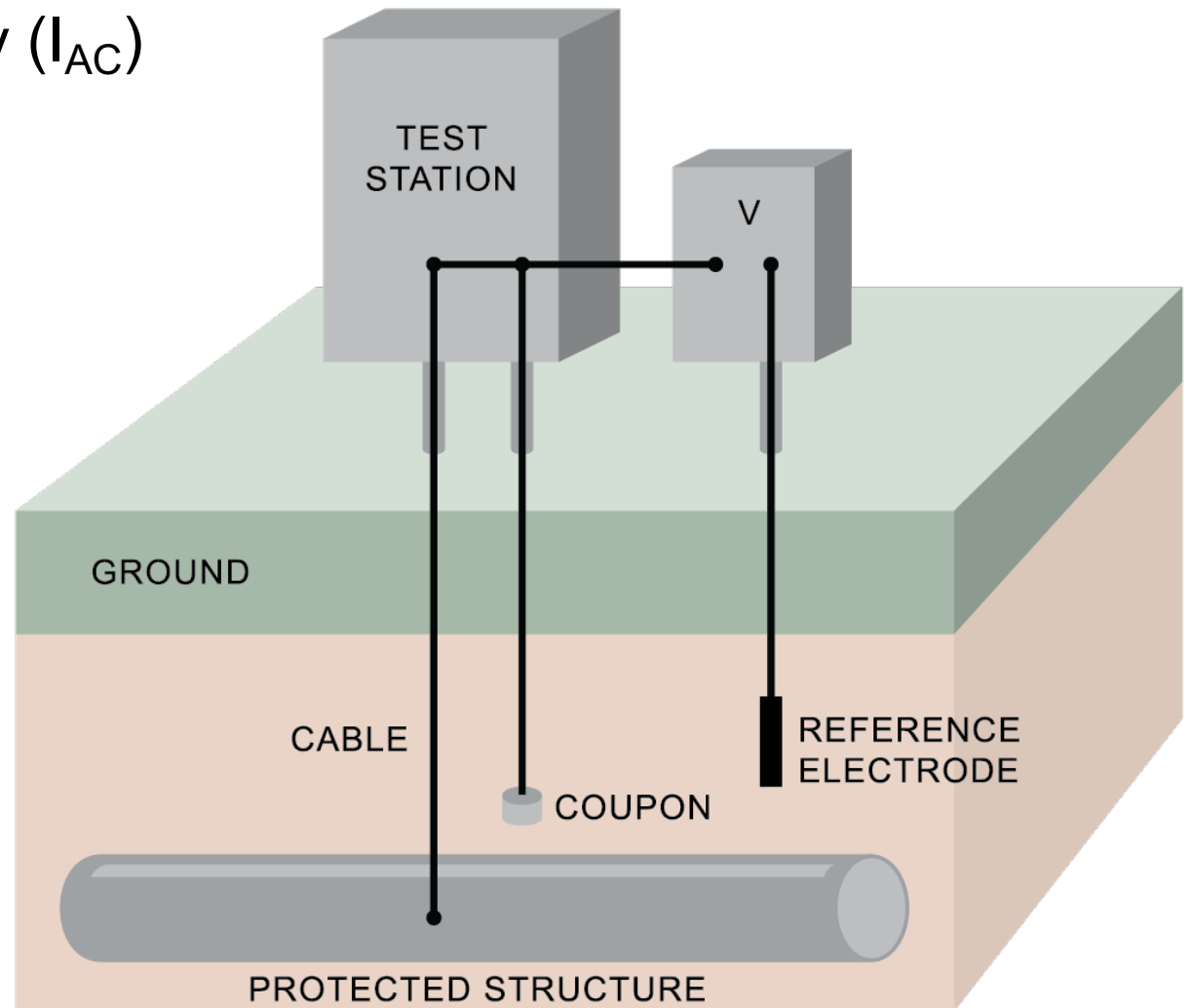
AC INTERFERENCE - ISSUES

AC Corrosion

CRITERIA: AC corrosion current density (I_{AC})

Options for determining I_{AC}

- Calculations
- Directly Measure I_{AC} with Coupon



AC INTERFERENCE - ISSUES

AC Corrosion

CRITERIA: AC corrosion current density (I_{AC})

- I_{AC} current density limits:

	DC Current Density > 1 A/m ²	DC Current Density < 1 A/m ²	AC/DC Current Density Ratio
NACE Limits (SP21424)	AC Current Density < 30 A/m ²	AC Current Density < 100 A/m ²	
European Limits (EN 15280:2013)	AC Current Density < 30 A/m ²	No Limit Stated	<5 (Lowest Possible)
CFR 192.473	AC Current Density < 100 A/m ²	AC Current Density < 100 A/m ²	

FACTORS OF INDUCED AC

Geospatial

Lateral Separation

Colocation Length

Crossing Angle

HVAC System

HVAC Current

HVAC Voltage

Fault Current

Environment

Soil Resistivity

Seasonal Changes

Pipeline

Coating Resistance

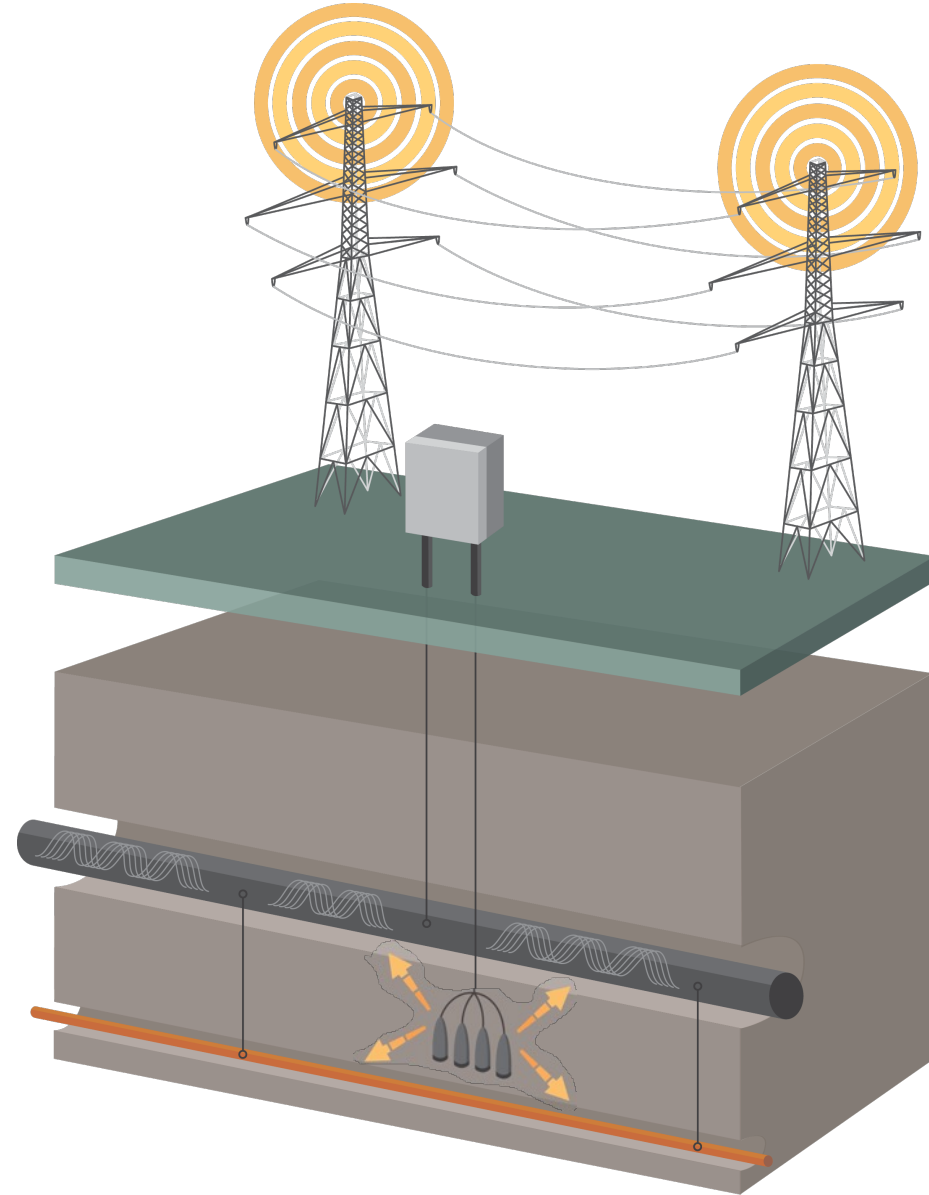
Diameter



WHY ARE DECOUPLERS NEEDED?

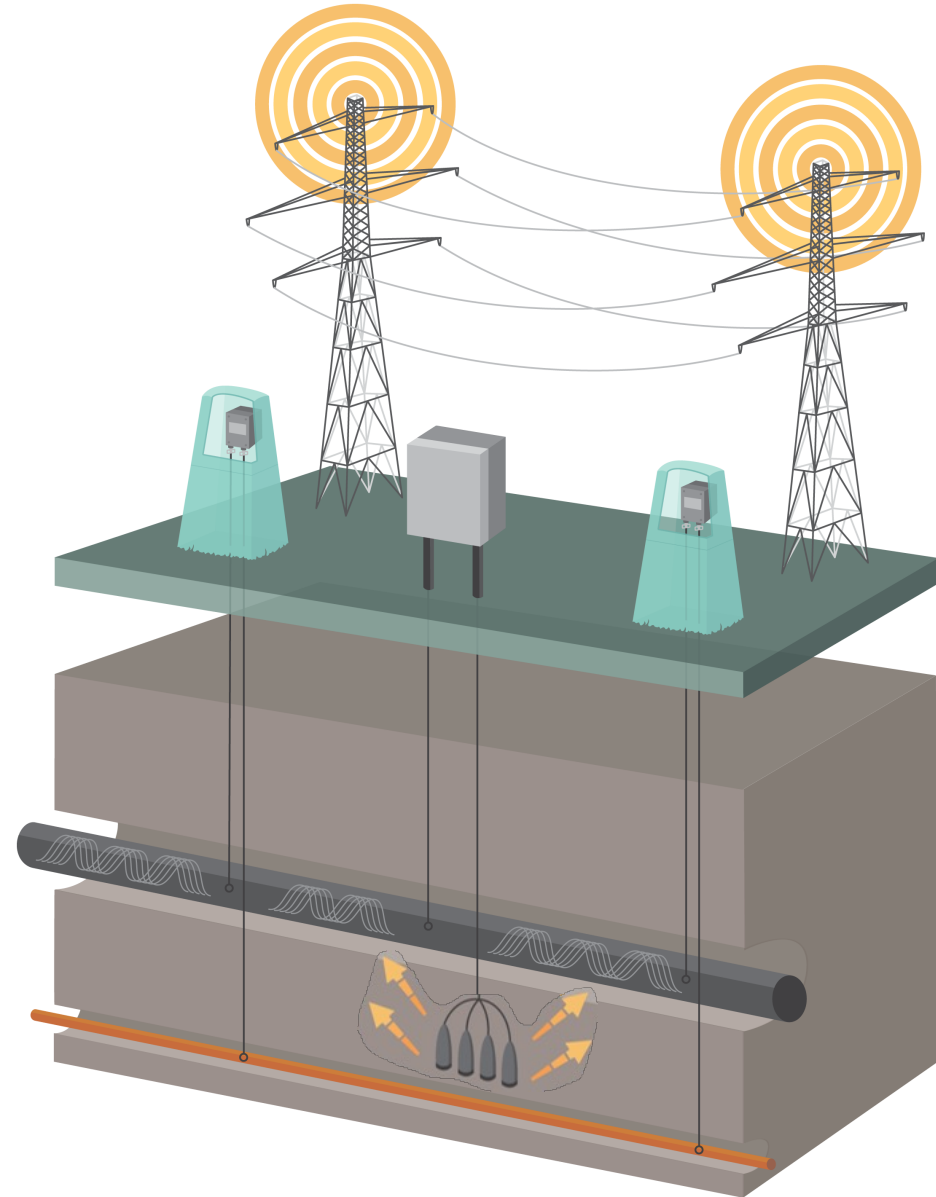
WHY ARE DECOUPLERS NEEDED?

AC mitigation
WITHOUT decoupling



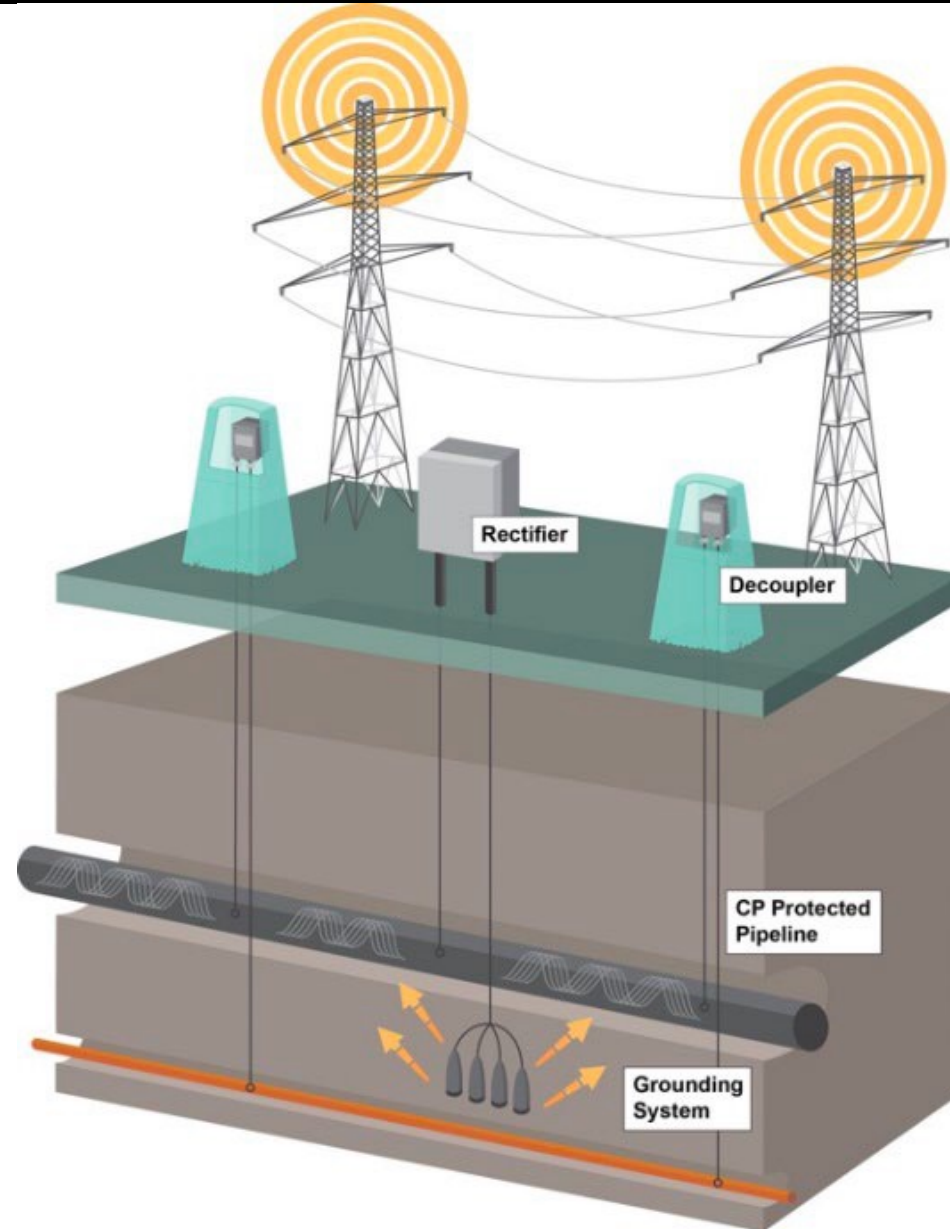
WHY ARE DECOUPLERS NEEDED?

AC mitigation
WITH decoupling



WHY ARE DECOUPLERS NEEDED?

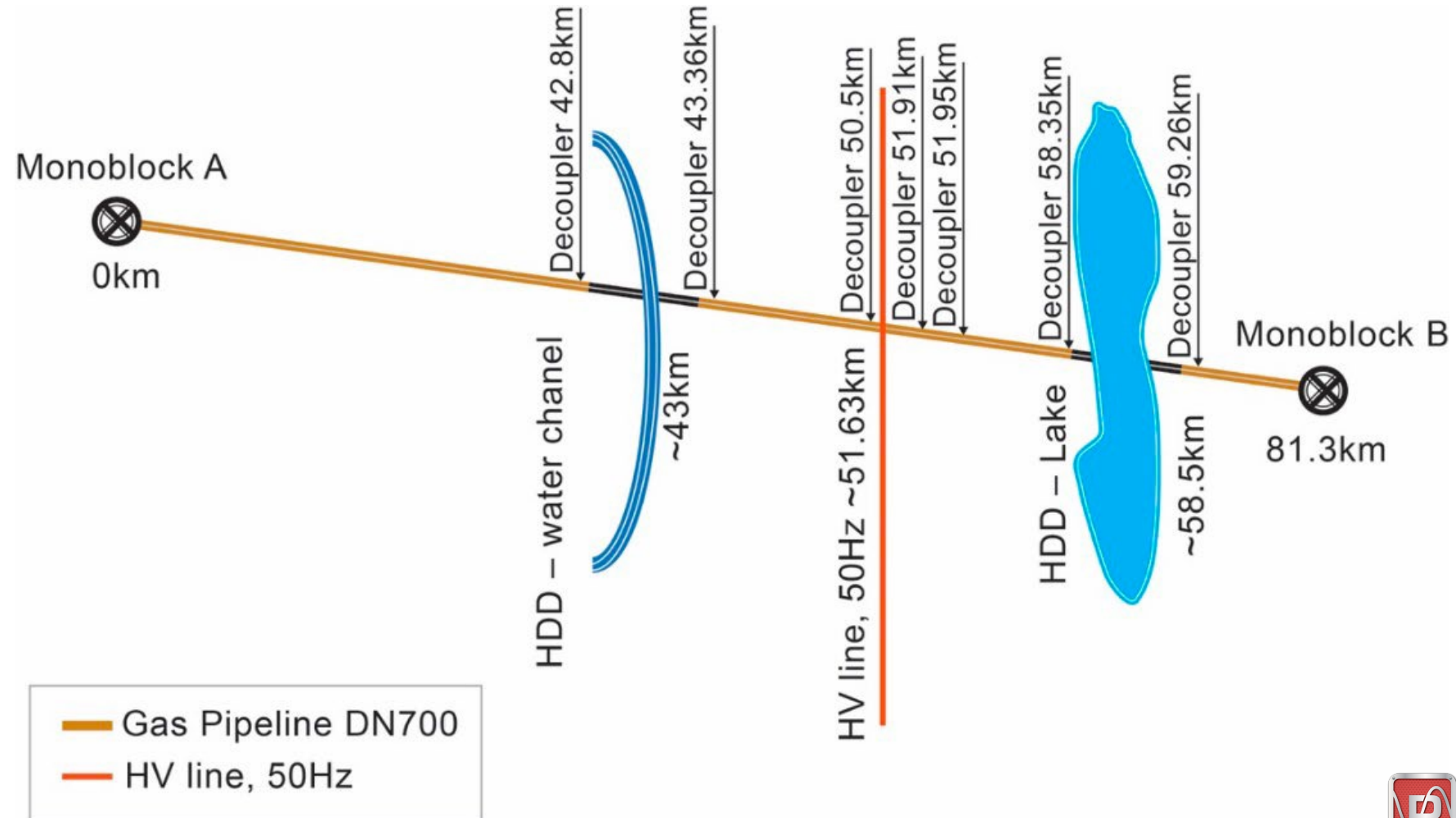
AC mitigation
WITH decoupling



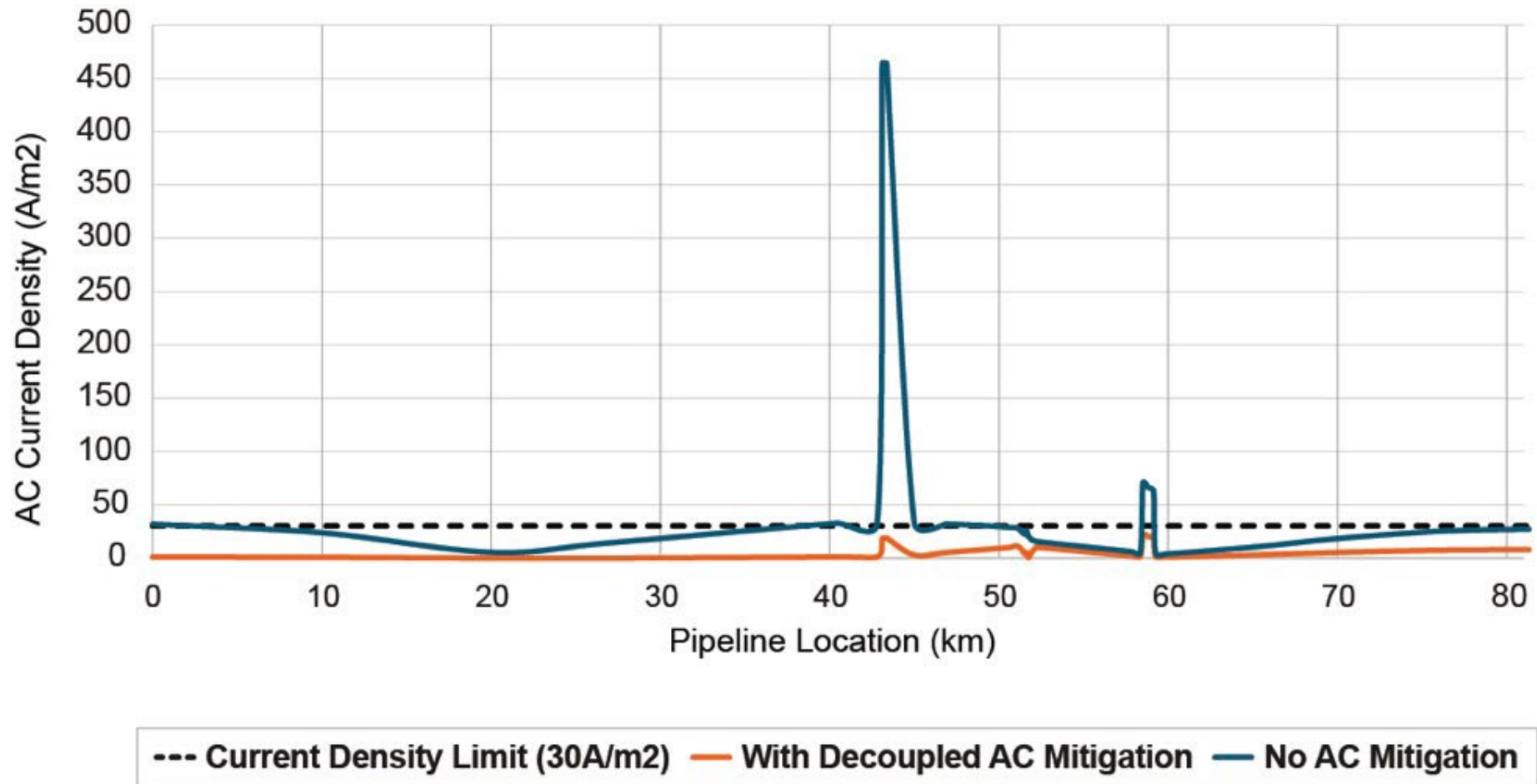
AC INTERFERENCE CASE STUDY

Example:

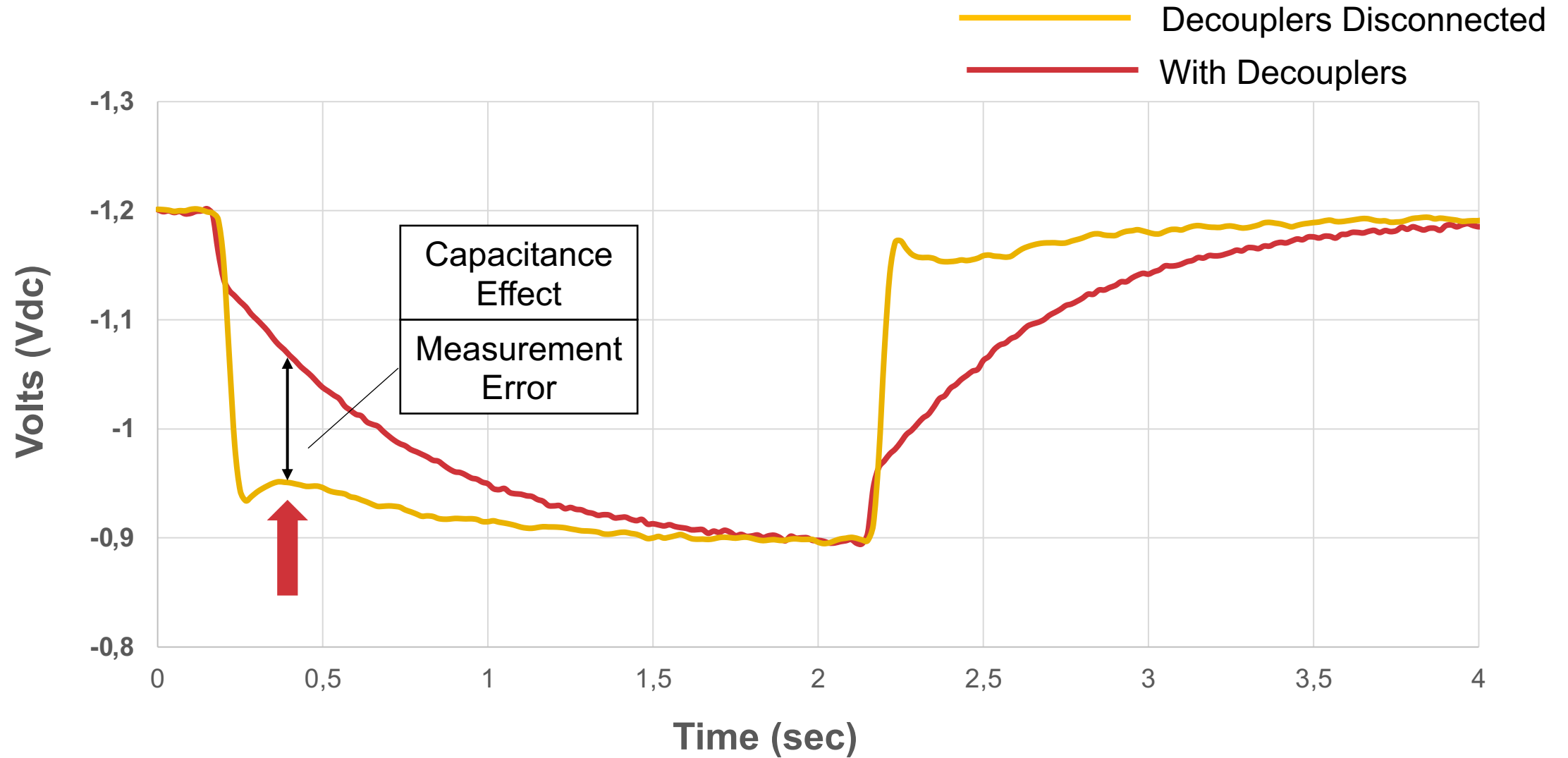
- 3LPE Coating
- Eastern Europe
- 7 Earthing Bonds
- 5 Vac max
- Soil Resistivity $2\Omega\text{-m}$



AC INTERFERENCE CASE STUDY

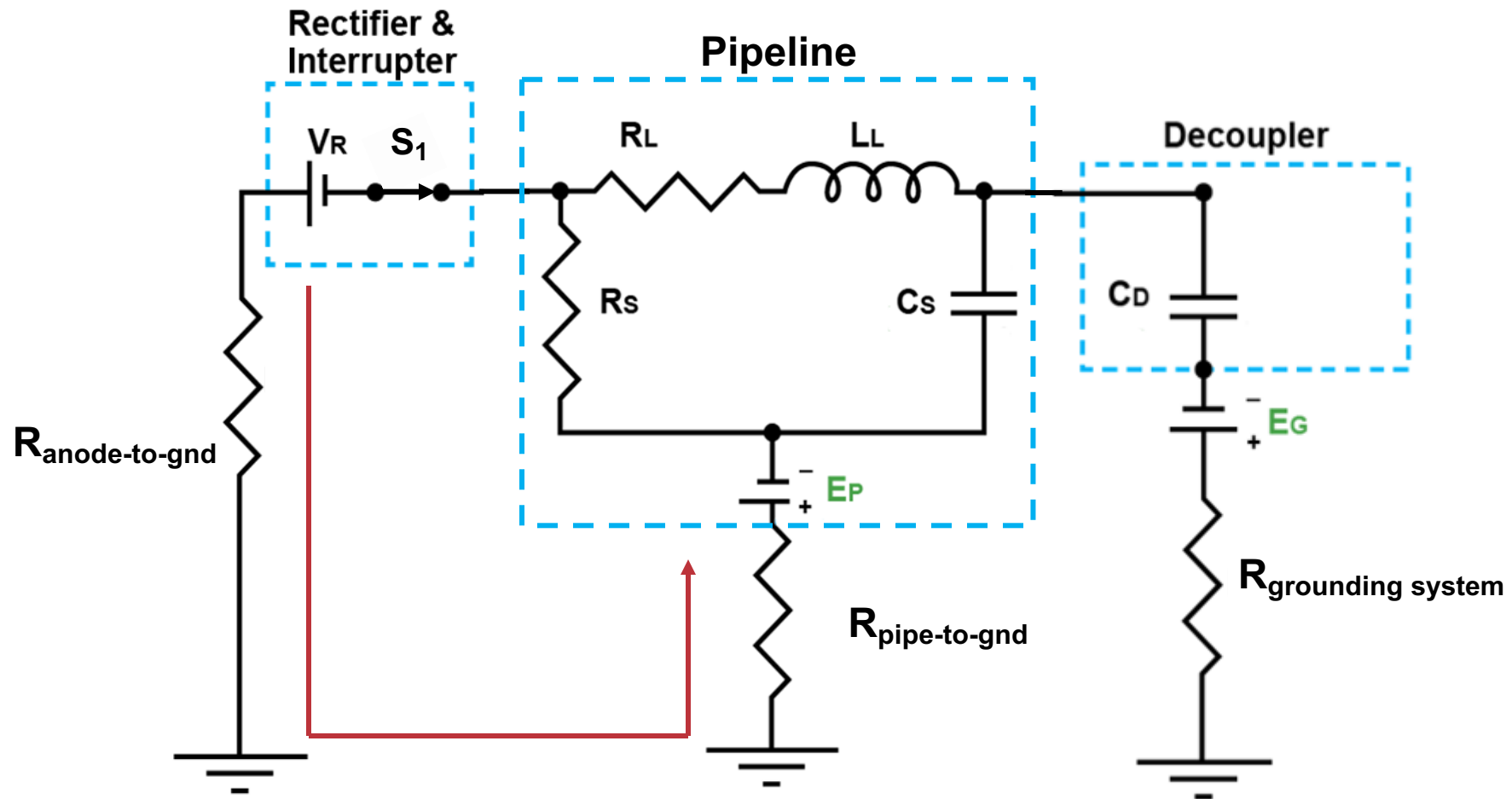


CAPACITANCE EFFECT

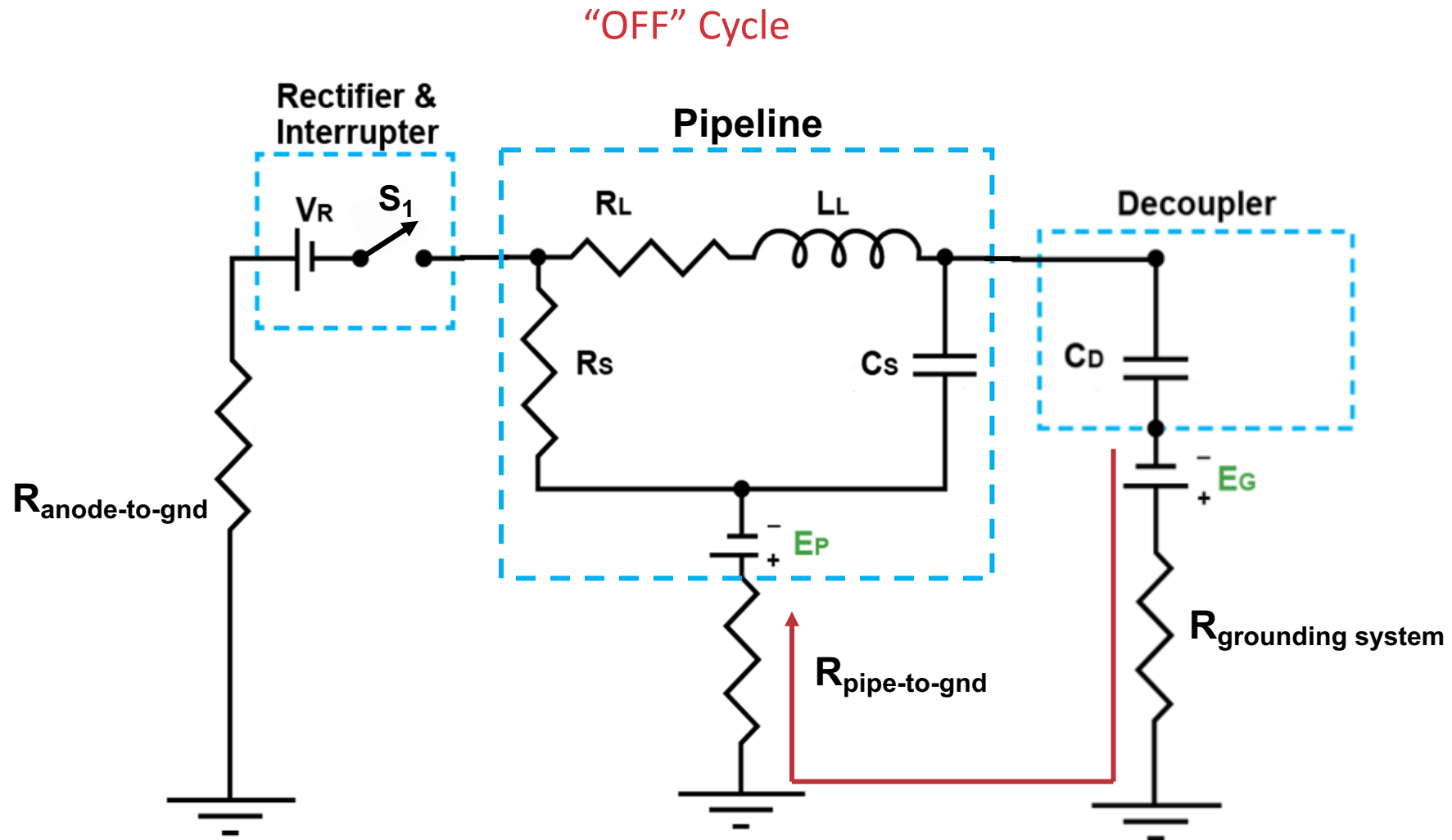


WHY DOES THIS OCCUR?

“ON” Cycle

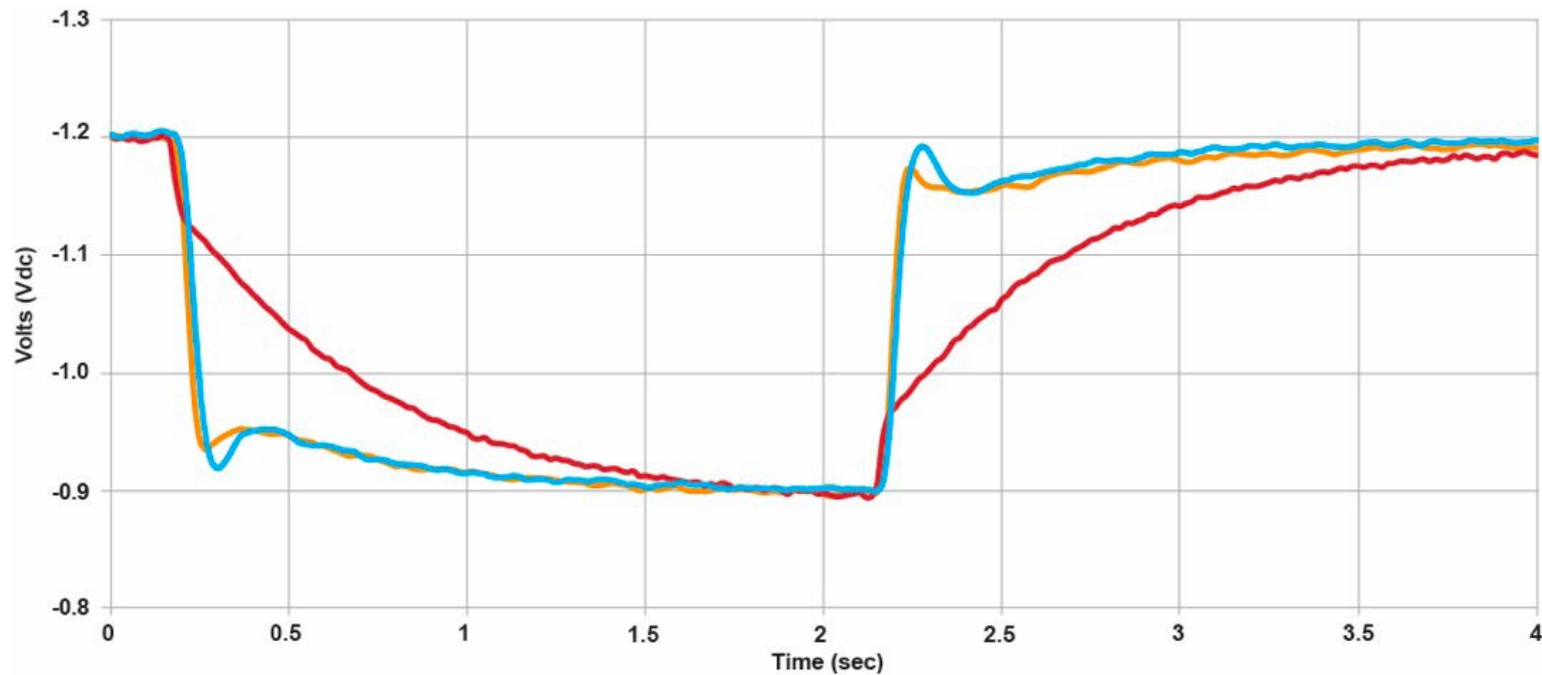


WHY DOES THIS OCCUR?



ACTIVE CAPACITANCE COMPENSATION

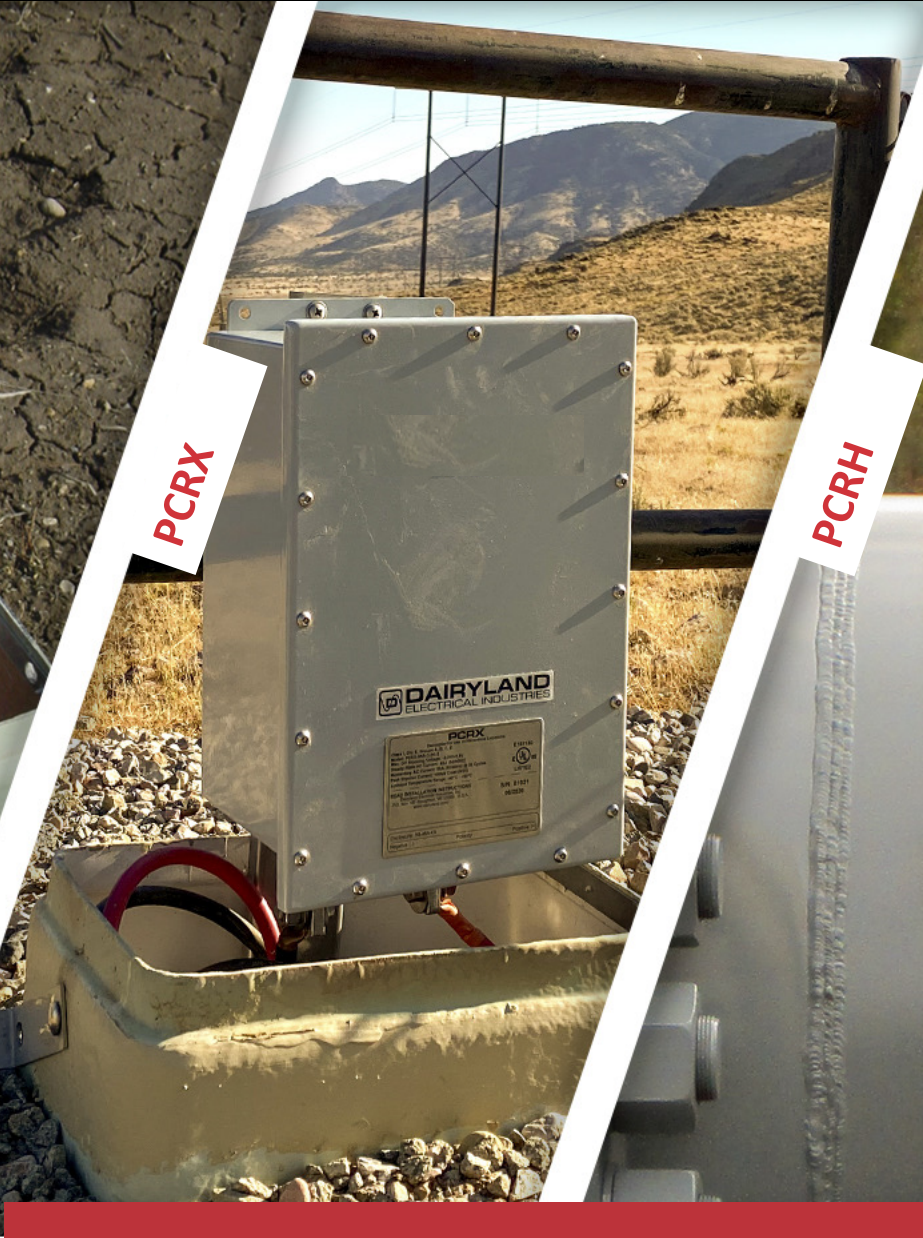
Addresses capacitance effect during interrupted surveys



— Decouplers Disconnected — Standard Decouplers — Decouplers with Active Capacitance Compensation



SOLID-STATE DECOUPLERS



AC MITIGATION SUMMARY

AC Mitigation Can be Complex

- Many complex factors create need for modelling

Decouplers Improve CP Performance

- DC is isolated to intended structure

Dairyland Offers Many Options

- SSD, PCR, PCRX

Review Waveforms

- Understand capacitive effects



QUESTIONS?
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