

Solution to minimizing stray voltage

Cooperative Voluntary Approach to Resolve Stray Voltage

- A cooperative program where farmers and their utility providers work together to identify and resolve stray voltage issues impacting their livestock farms without disadvantaging either party.
- Every dairy farm is unique and affected differently by stray voltage. This program would provide the flexibility that is compatible with this diversity.

Training program

- Electricians, utilities, farmers and other ag professionals would benefit from the development of educational programs on how to avoid, identify and fix stray voltage problems.
- If utility providers and electricians are trained in resolving stray voltage issues, the incidence of such problems is minimized.

Standardized procedures for testing stray voltage on a farm

- The purpose of standardized protocols is to assist all parties to identify stray voltage and to fix the problem.
- If necessary, the program should consider including outside experts to provide direction in developing procedures for testing stray voltage.

Recommended remediation

- Include recommendations for addressing on-farm electrical system as well as off-farm distribution system.
- The utility would install an isolator as a proactive initiative to equip all facilities in order eliminate the stray voltage coming from the distribution system regardless of the testing results.

Voluntary Program Cost

- The installation of isolators would be at the expense of the utility.
- If any funding is necessary for the voluntary program, it may be for the assistance of outside experts in developing the protocols and educational materials.

Conclusion

- The solution to addressing stray voltage concerns is to have both the utility and the farmer working together with experts to identify and fix the problem.