

Stray Current from Cathodic Protection – A Serious Corrosion Problem from A Corrosion Protector

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Cathodic protection is one of the most widely used corrosion protection methods. It utilizes electrolyte and conductive medium as part of the electrical charges flowing path to create electrochemical reactions to protect the targeted structures. While protecting the targeted structures, stray currents originating from cathodic protection due to the electric current flowing in the structure that is not part of the intended circuit can potentially be a serious threat to the neighboring structures. The sharing of common space/ground between pipelines is becoming more common; congestion is becoming unavoidable. The lack of technical understanding and coordination among the occupants of the common ground and water can pose very serious corrosion to the affected structures which threatens the public, as well as commercial, interests. Besides the various possible stray current mitigation methods, coordination among the area occupants is equally important to ensure that the mitigations are effective and possible.