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March 26, 2014

RECEIVED

Mr. Jeff Derouen
Executive Director
Commonwealth of Kentucky
Kentucky Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

MAR 27 2014

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RE: Case No. 2012-00310 Case No. 2012-00311 Case No. 2012-00312

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Enclosed please find the original and ten copies of Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Comments To The Staff Investigative Report in the above-styled cases.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas C. Brite

Attorney for Meade County RECC

TCB: bep

Enclosure

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

RECEIVED

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION MAR 2 7 2014

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

MONA CORRIN JARBOE) CASE NO. 2012-00310
STEVEN L. MILES) CASE NO. 2012-00311
DAVID BALLANTINE BELL) CASE NO. 2012-00312
COMPLAINANT V.)))
MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION)
DEFENDANT)

DEFENDANT'S COMMENTS TO THE STAFF INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

On March 7, 2014 the Kentucky Public Service Commission entered an Order in the above styled case granting Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "Meade" an opportunity to submit comments on the staff investigative report signed by Jeffrey C. Moore dated February 14, 2014. Before responding to the report, a few facts regarding these cases should be reviewed.

These cases began after Hilltop quarry installed new equipment at its plant near the location of the complainants. Meade became aware of the service problems experienced by the complainants and other members on this service line and in December 2012 installed an express circuit which is now serving 86 accounts including the three complainants. Since the express circuit line was installed, Meade has received no complaints other than those of the three complainants on this line.

Upon receiving the Order entered by the commission on March 7, 2014, Meade consulted with Roger Dean Wilson, of Wilson Consulting, Inc., of Berea, Kentucky. Mr. Wilson and Meade's vice president of operations, David Poe, reviewed the Moore data and Meade's data extensively. They agree that the Moore report and the Meade equipment indicates some infractions referred to as "heavy spikes" during the voltage data periods of 4/23/2013 - 5/7/2013 and from 6/24/2013 - 7/25/2013 and in a majority of these cases, Meade can explain the fluctuations. Particularly during the months of June and July of 2013, there were several thunderstorms in the area which would result in these infractions and fluctuations. In other days, it is noted that no fluctuations or infractions were

reported which indicates an acceptable system was in place. Further, Meade points out that there are other situations where these fluctuations and variations could occur. One instance would be the power supplier itself (Big Rivers) whose transmission lines have not been monitored and could cause some spikes. Also there could be problems between the meter and the service of each complainant as the complainants' systems have not been monitored. Finally, it should be noted that animals, birds and other unknown factors on utility lines can result in voltage fluctuations and spikes similar to those monitored.

In concurrence with the Commission's monitoring, Meade also installed digital recorders during the same time periods. The resulting data charts can be seen in the attached addendum. It should be noted that these recorders are capable of sampling the voltage levels 256 times per cycle or 15,360 times per second which is over 200 times faster than a human can perceive a lighting change. The graphs show the minimum and the maximum samples in any 10 second logging period during the 10 days or so they were recording.

These recorders were installed at idle services in order to measure any fluctuations due to the primary source and not anything that the member could be creating within their service. The graphs shown in the addendum are from an idle service to a grain bin near Mr. Bell's residence which immediately precedes the three complainants' residences.

The first graph in each group represents the overall voltage levels for the entire recording period. The following graphs show voltage readings for the 5 PM to 11 PM time frame for each day during the recording period. The average or nominal voltage for the Big Bend area of the system is around 125.5 Volts. Therefore, from 11 PM to 5 PM, the voltages must remain within 10% of the nominal voltage, yielding a range of 113 Volts to 138 Volts. During the 5 PM to 11 PM time period, the voltage range of 5% (not to exceed a total variation of more than 6%) equates to a range of 119.2 Volts to 131.8 with a variation not to exceed 7.5 Volts. See the requirements set forth in 807 KAR 5:041, Section 6, Voltage and Frequency.

During the first span of testing (April 23 through May 14, 2013) there was a sustained outage on the 28th of April and only one sag on May 13 that was outside of the required boundaries for a couple of logging periods and the reason is not known. A sag lasting more than one logging period is usually due to a brief interruption such as a reclosure operation or something coming in contact with the primary line such as a small bird or falling limb. However, there were no samples outside of the required boundaries within the 5 – 11 PM time periods.

The next two testing periods (6/24 – 7/3 and 7/15 – 7/25) do depict a few samples outside of the requirements; however, the majority of these are due to thunderstorms that rolled through the area. These have been marked as storm related incidences; three outside of the 5-11 PM window have no known reasons at this time. Three occurred between 5 and 11 PM on the 27th and 29th of June and one on the 20th of July. The one on the 29th looks to be caused by an outside

disturbance, such as something contacting the line; the other two are minimally out of the 5% limits and are unexplainable at this time.

See <u>Addendum</u> attached to this Defendant's Comments to the Staff Investigative Report.

CONCLUSION

Meade believes that it is satisfying the requirements as set forth in <u>807 KAR 5:041</u>, <u>Section 6</u>, <u>Voltage and Frequency</u>. It is Meade's position that the Moore report and its data does not indicate a violation of this section, and in particular, sub-section (2) relative to the voltage at the customer service entrance or connection and sub-section (6) of this regulation.

THOMAS C. BRITE

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P.O. BOX 309

HARDINSBURG, KENTUCKY 40143

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF, MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC

COOPERATIVE CORPORATION

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned does hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Defendant's Comments to the Staff Investigative Report was on this Zb day of Man , 2014 mailed to Mona Corrin Jarboe, 7055 Big Bend Road, Battletown, Kentucky 40104; Steven L. Miles, 6750 Big Bend Road, Battletown, Kentucky 40104 and David Ballantine Bell, 5615 Big Bend Road, Battletown, Kentucky 40104, the original with ten (10) copies to Jeff Derouen, Executive Director, Kentucky Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Blvd., P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-3460.

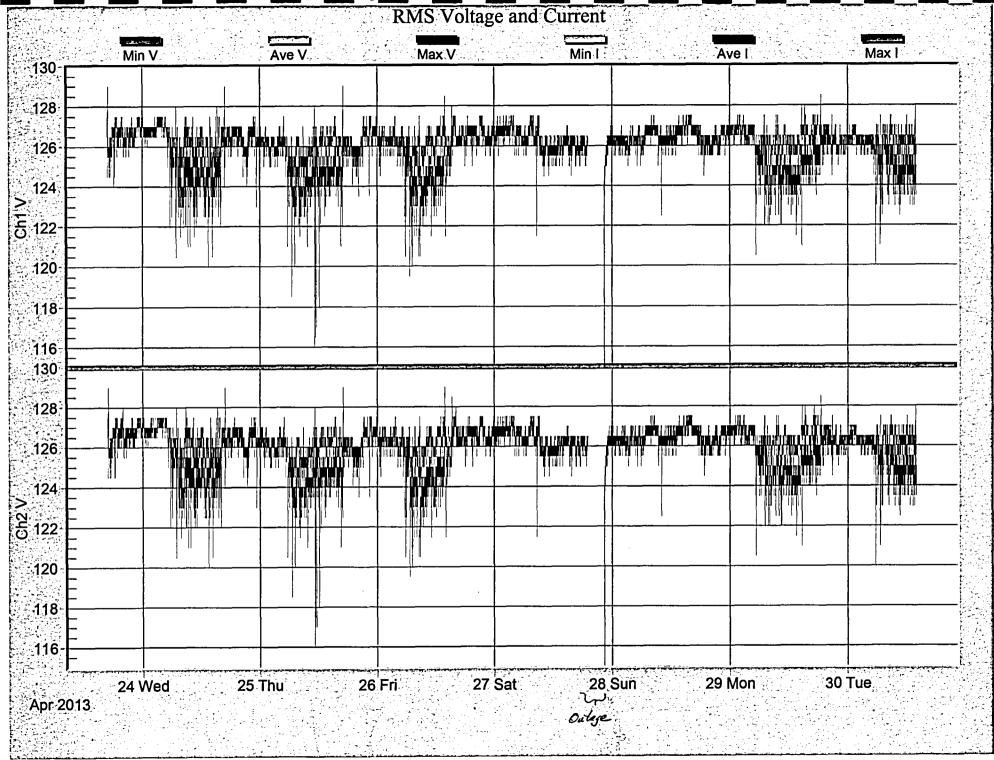
THOMAS C. BRITE

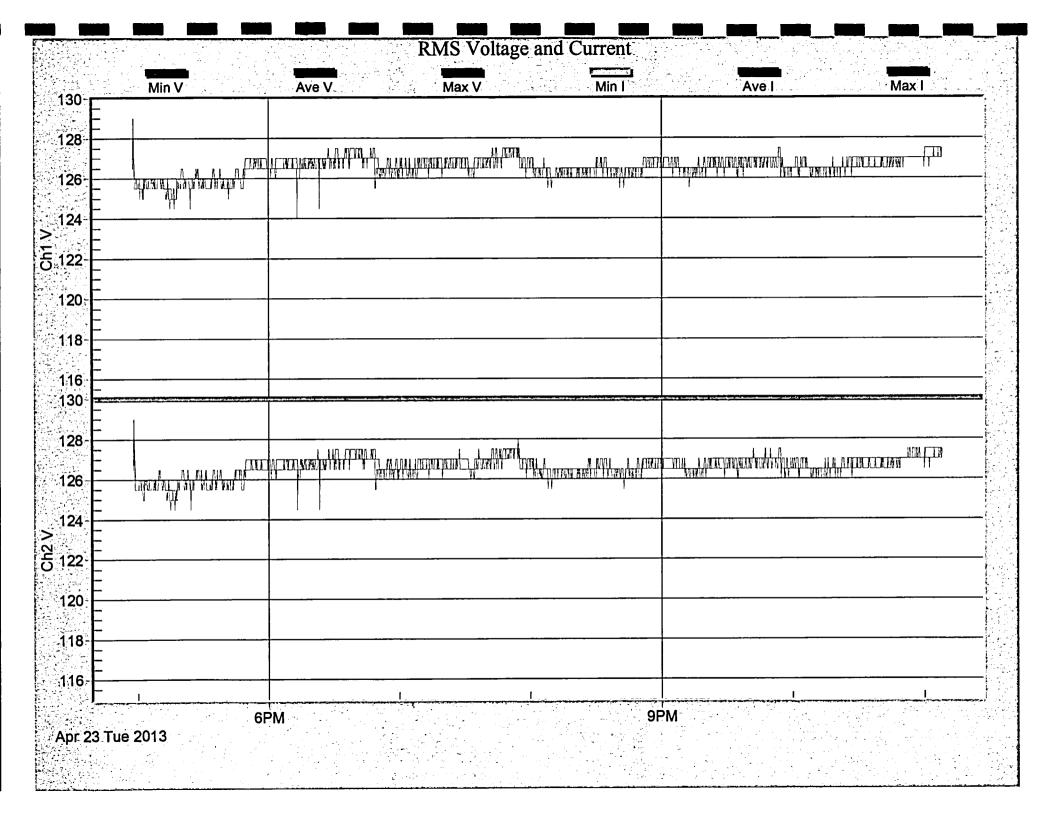
ATTORNEY FOR MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

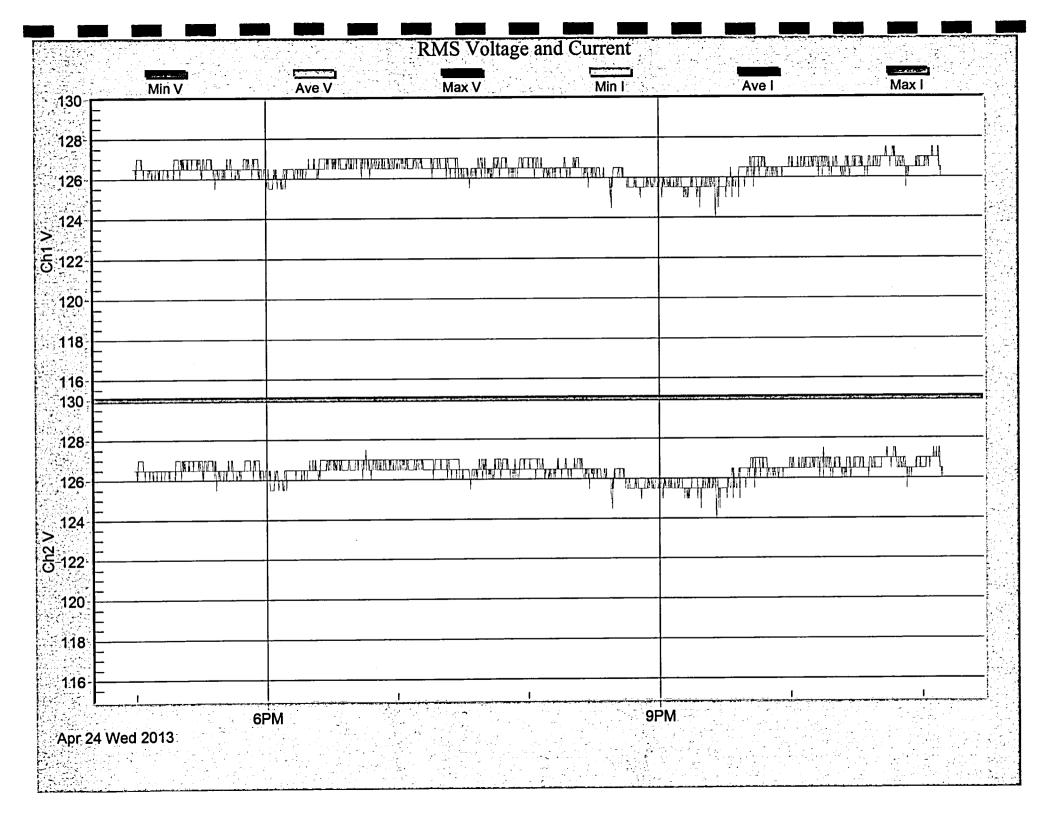
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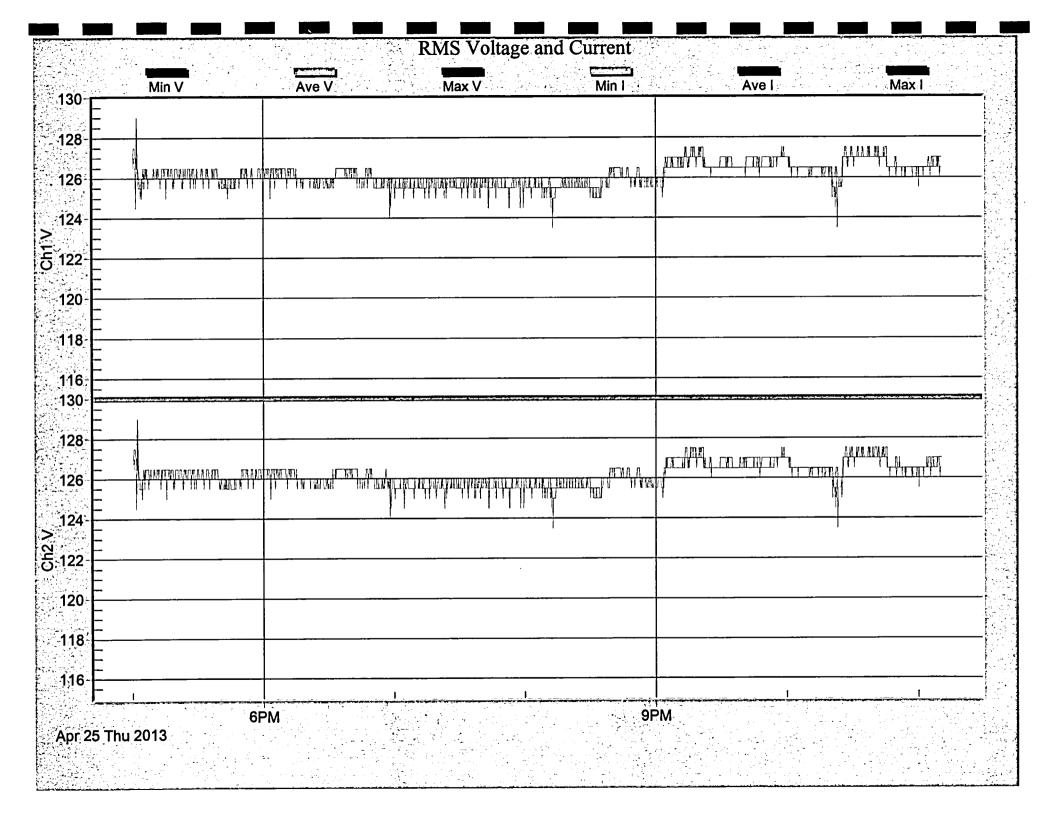
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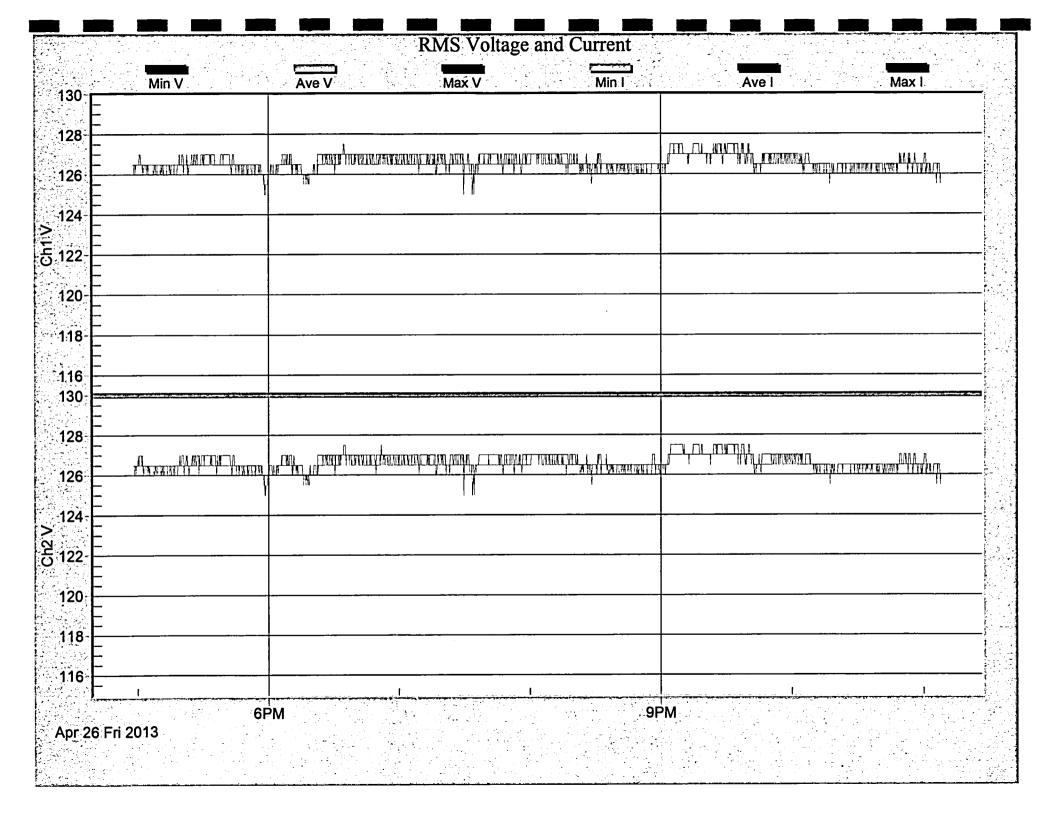
Polane 150 (Bell's Grin B'n)

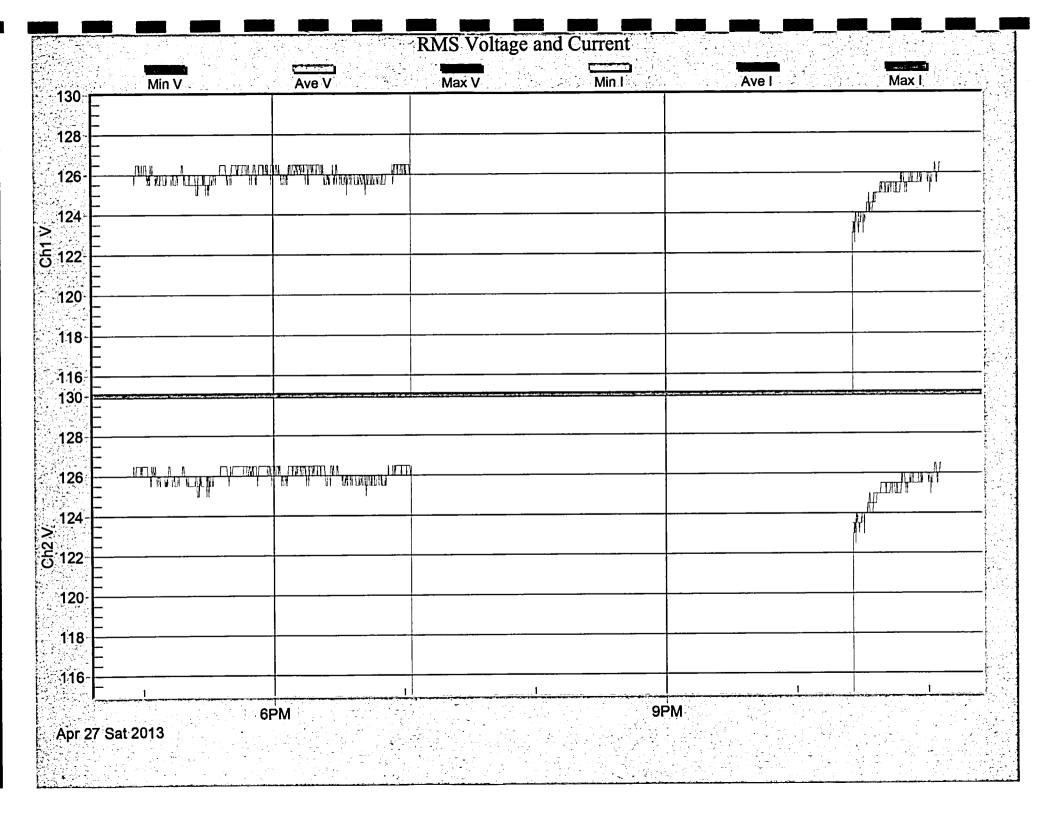


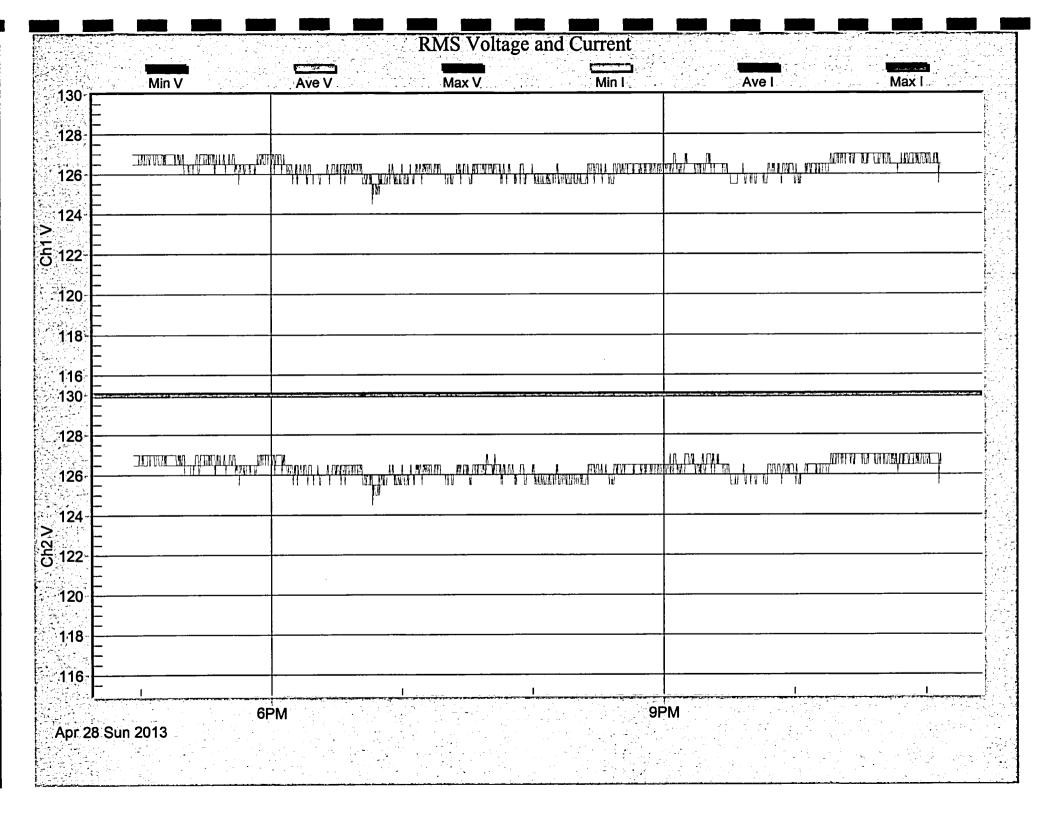


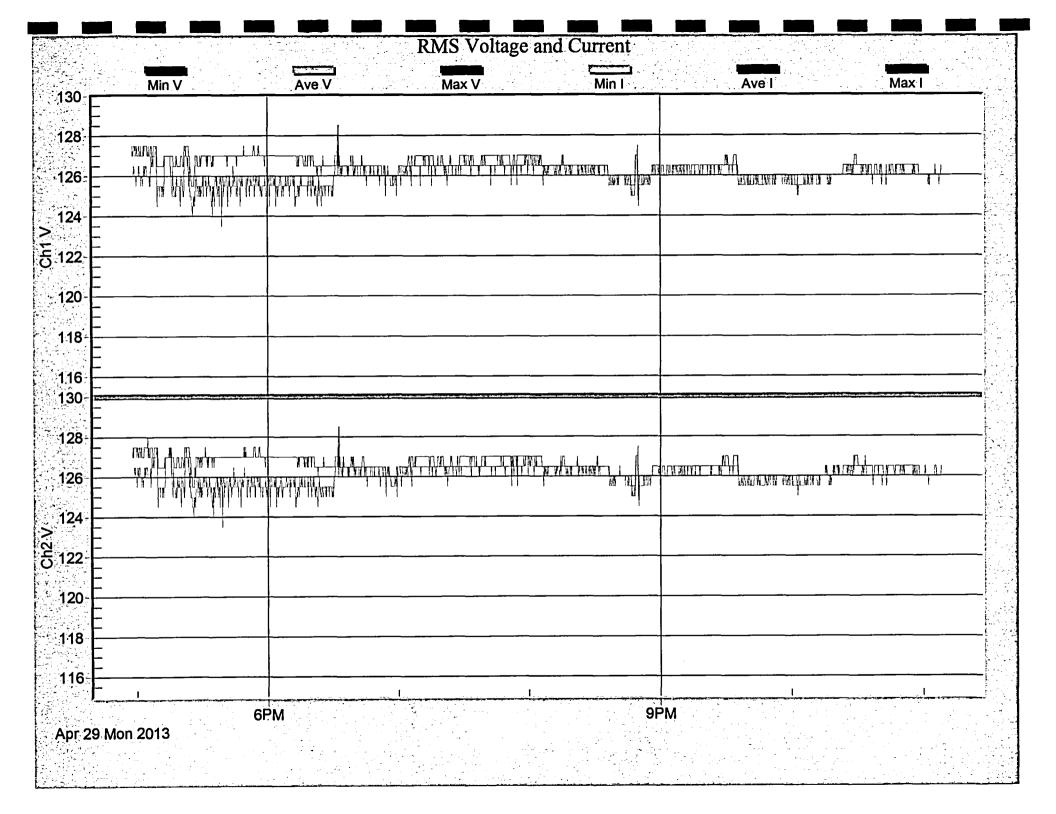




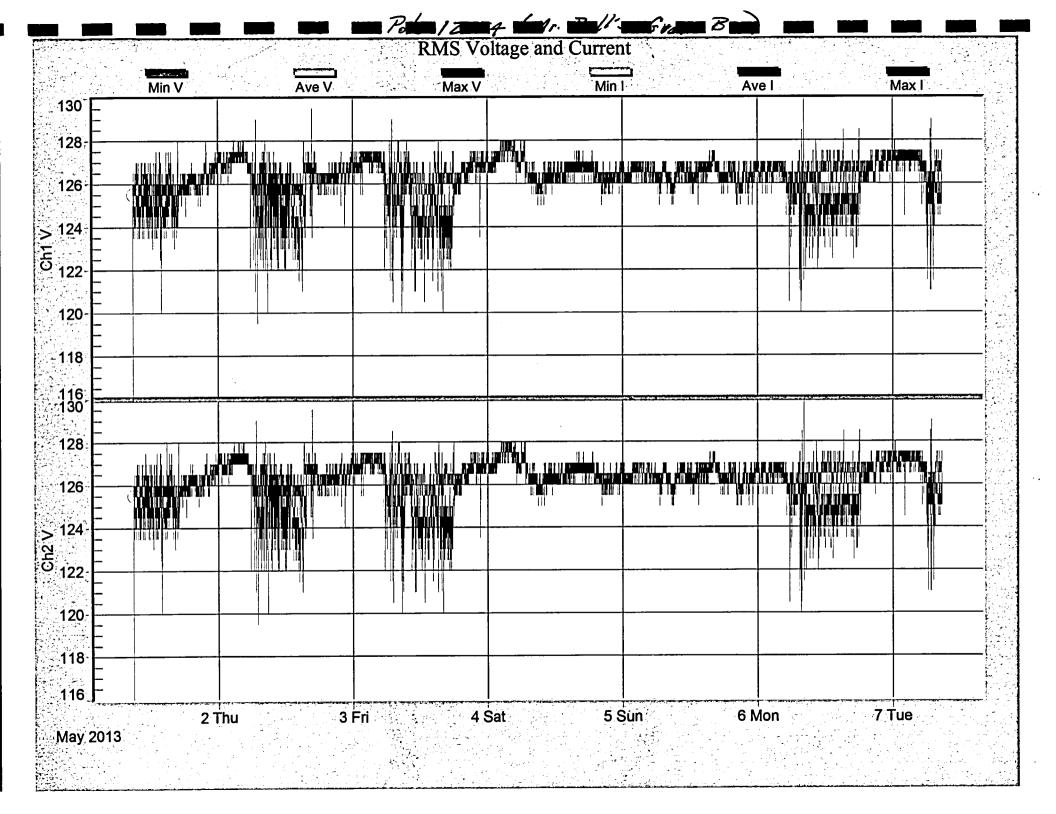


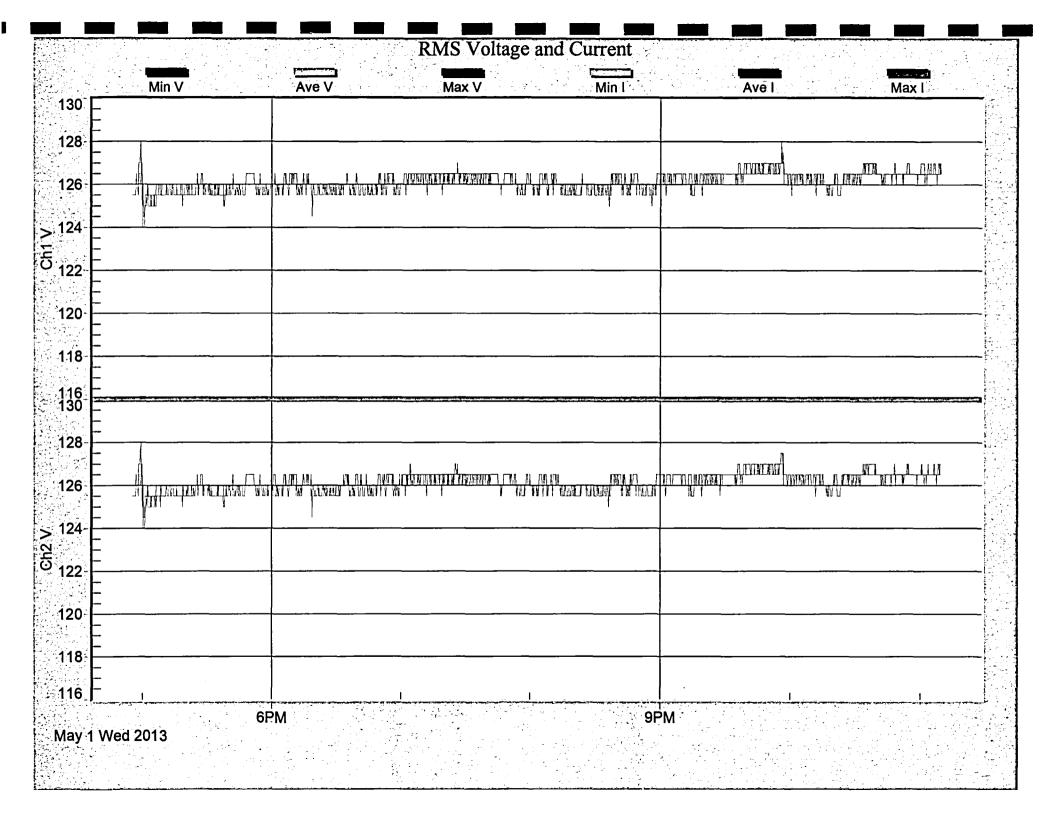


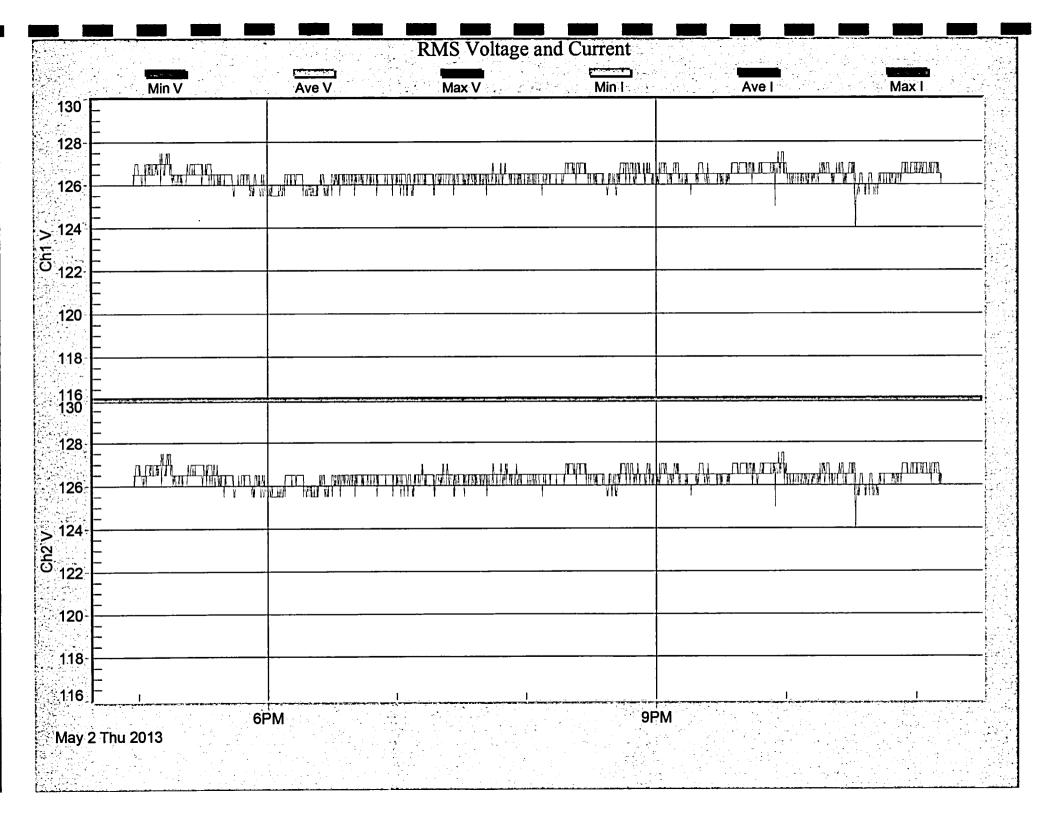


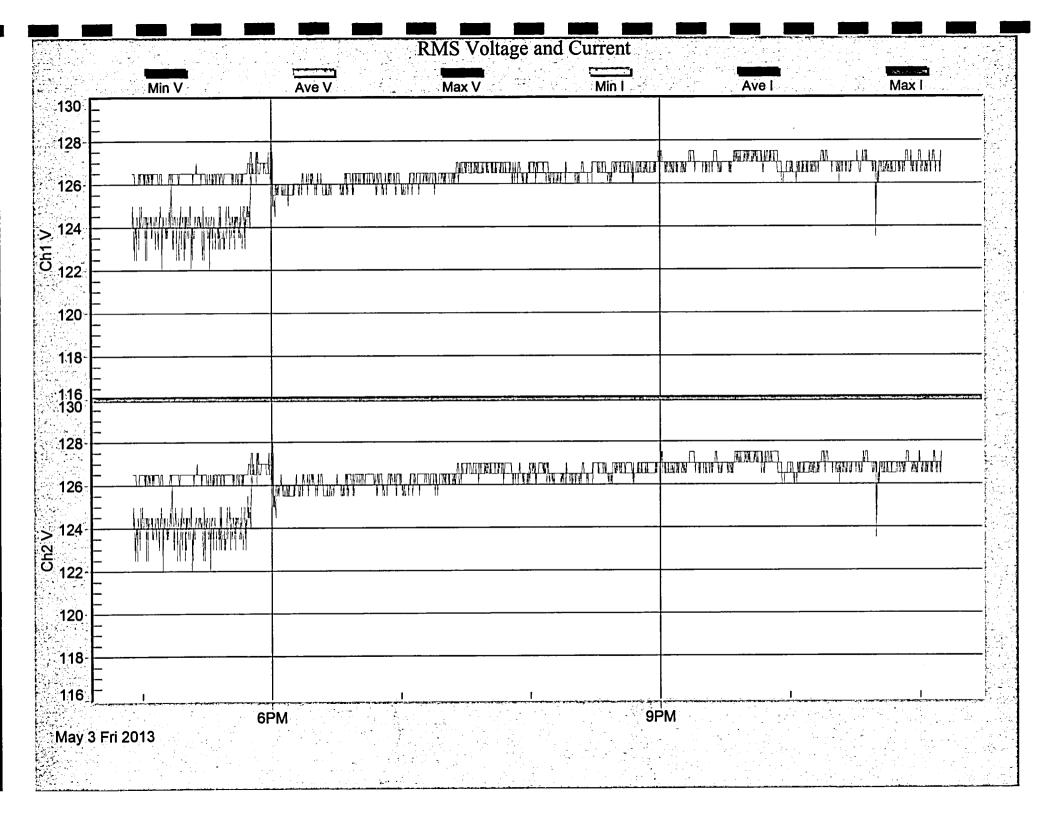


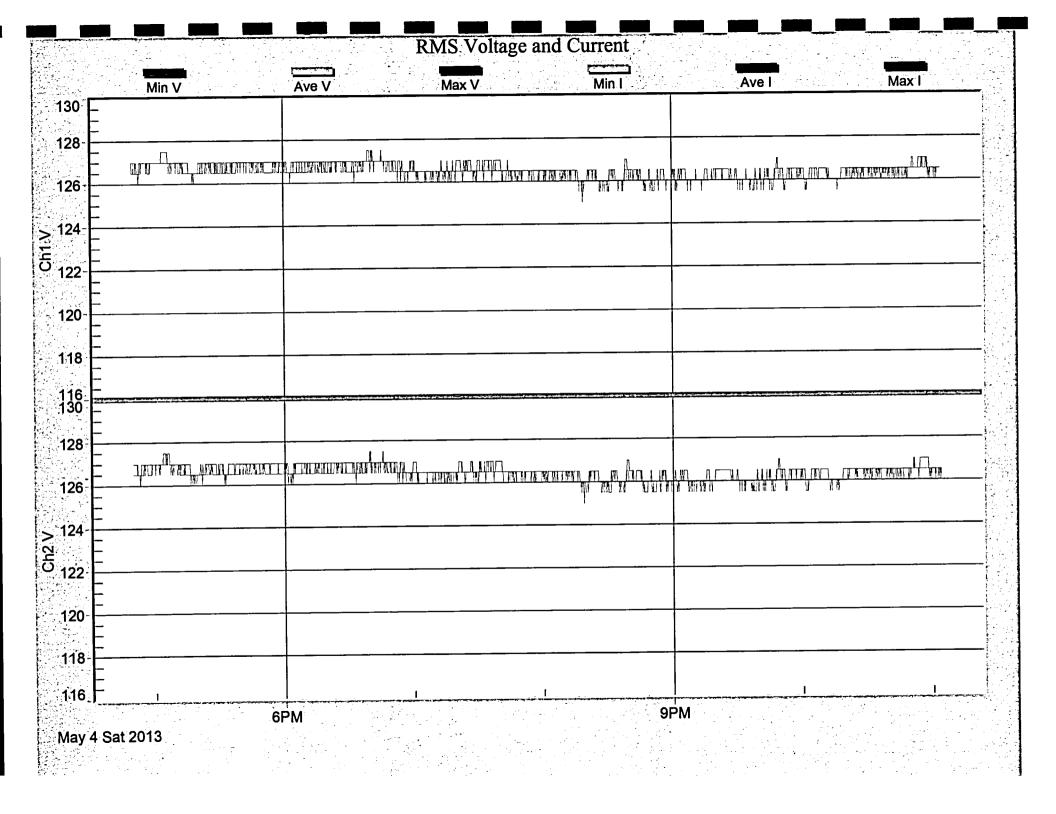
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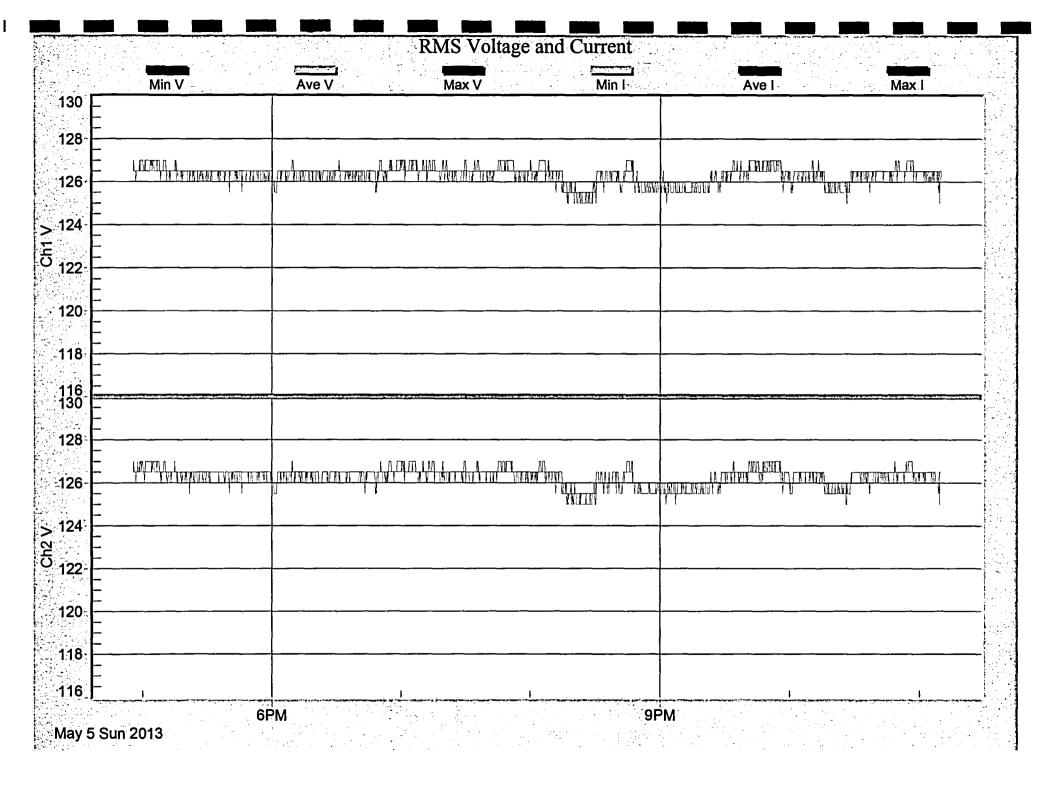


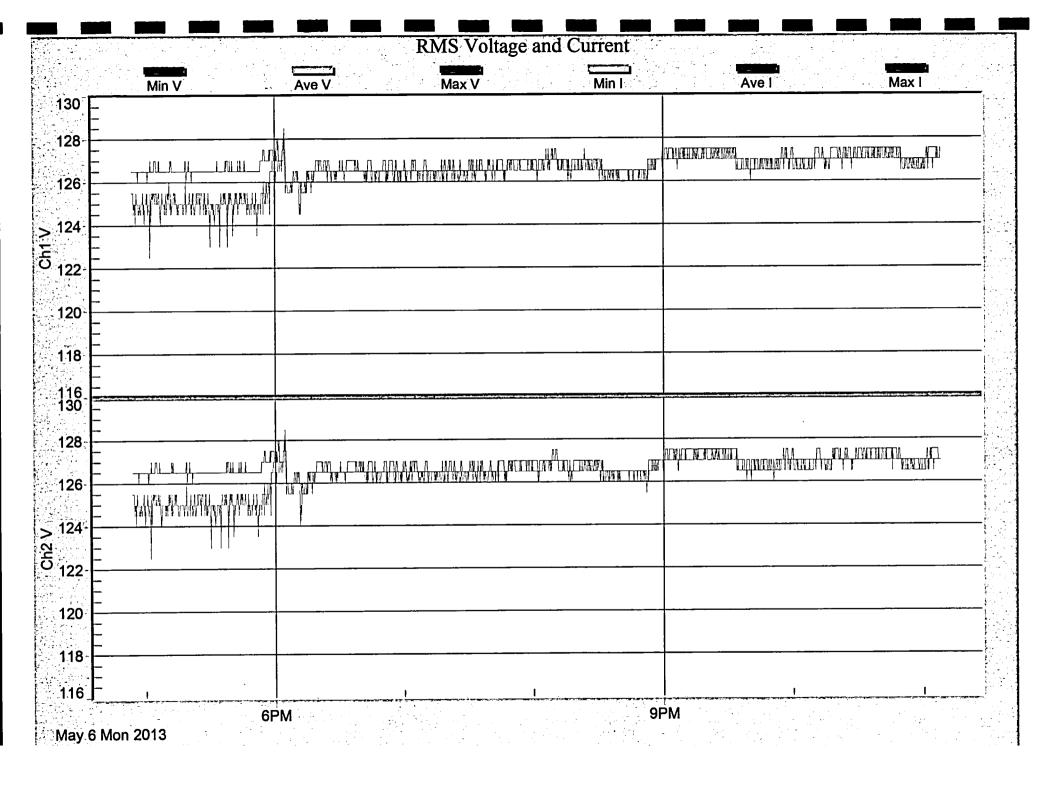






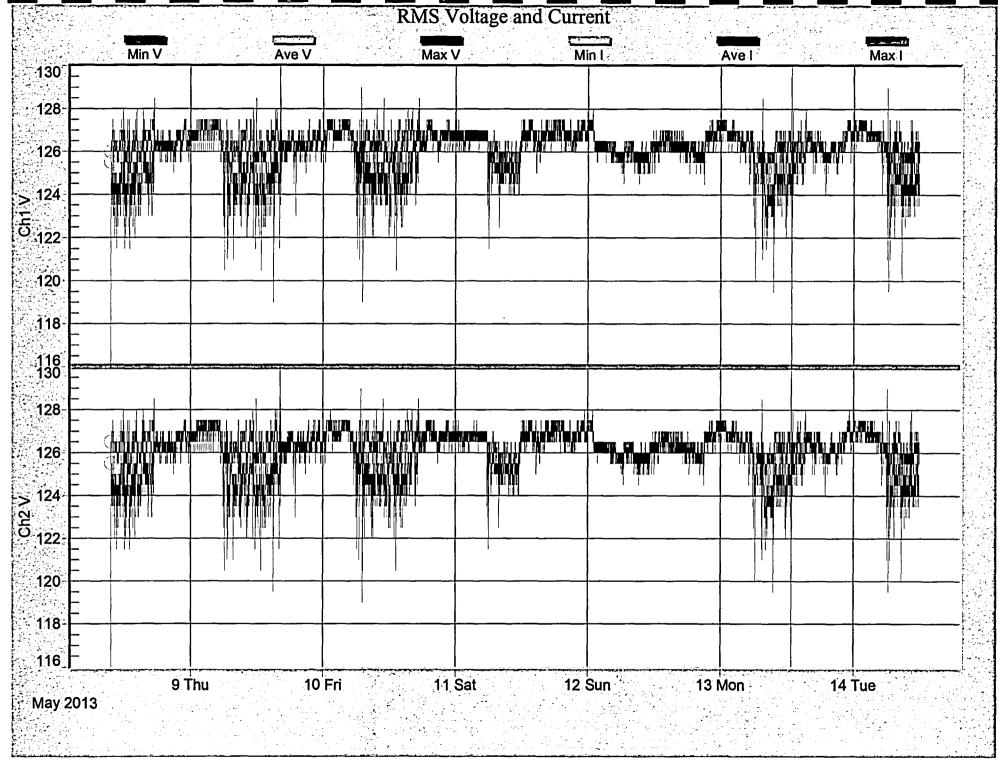


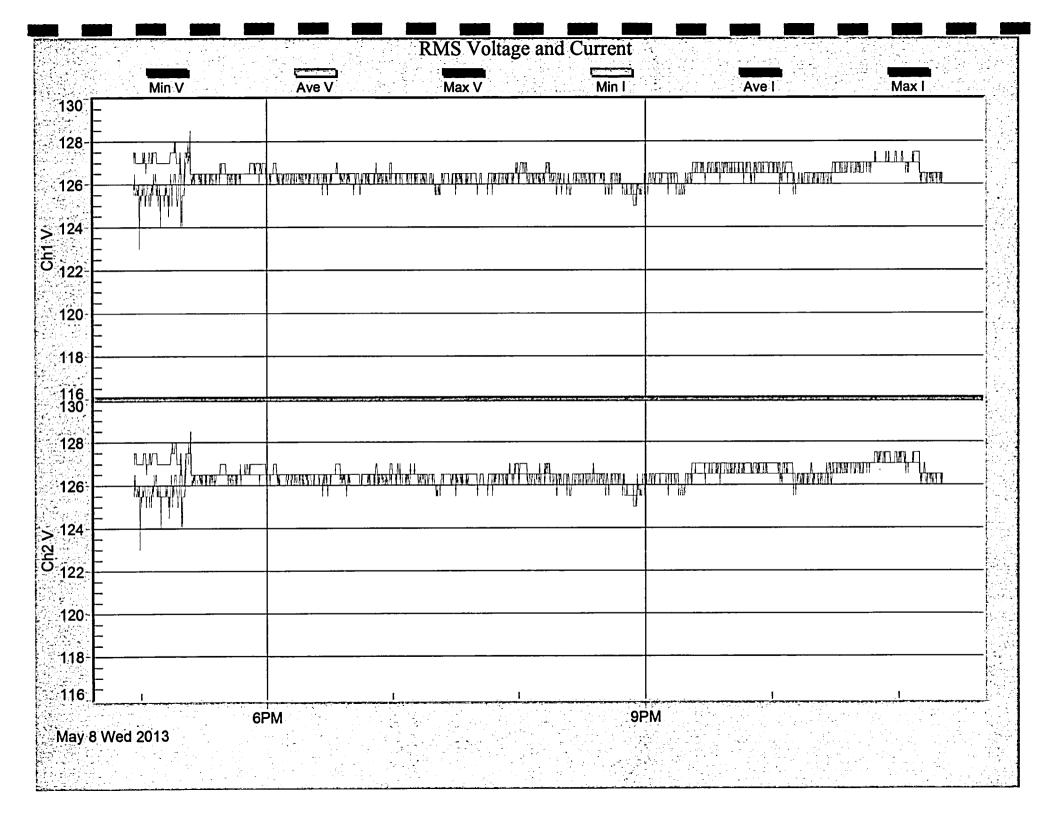


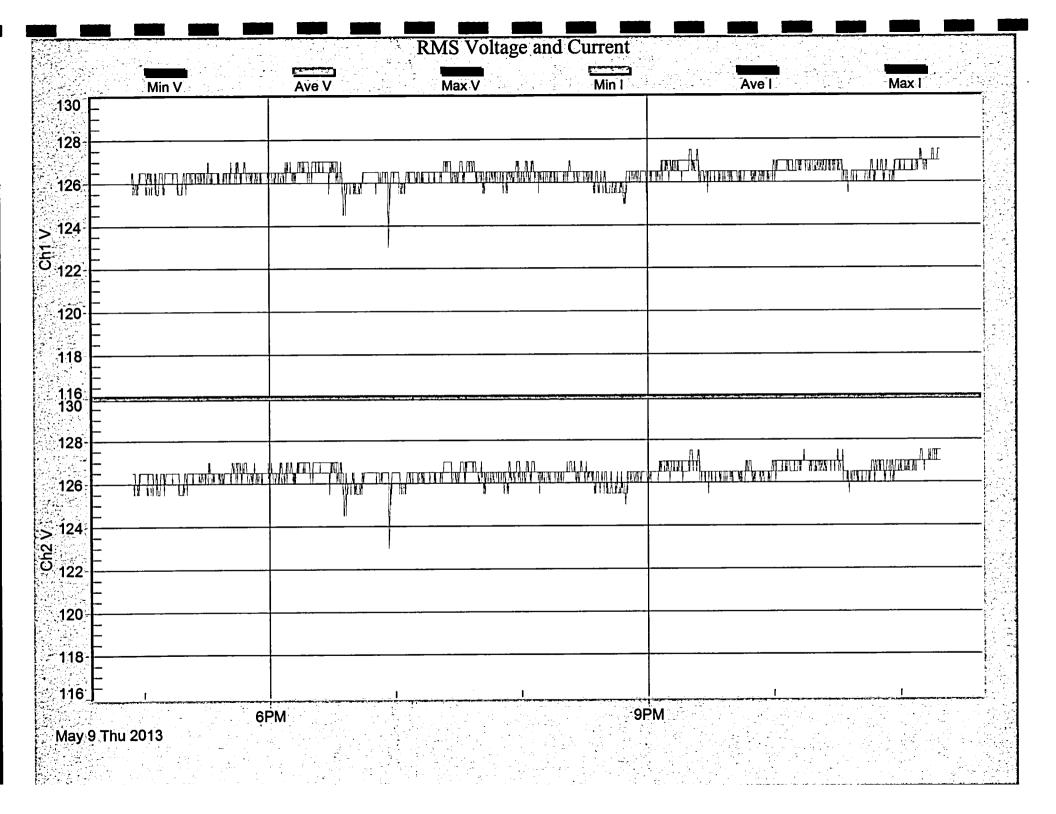


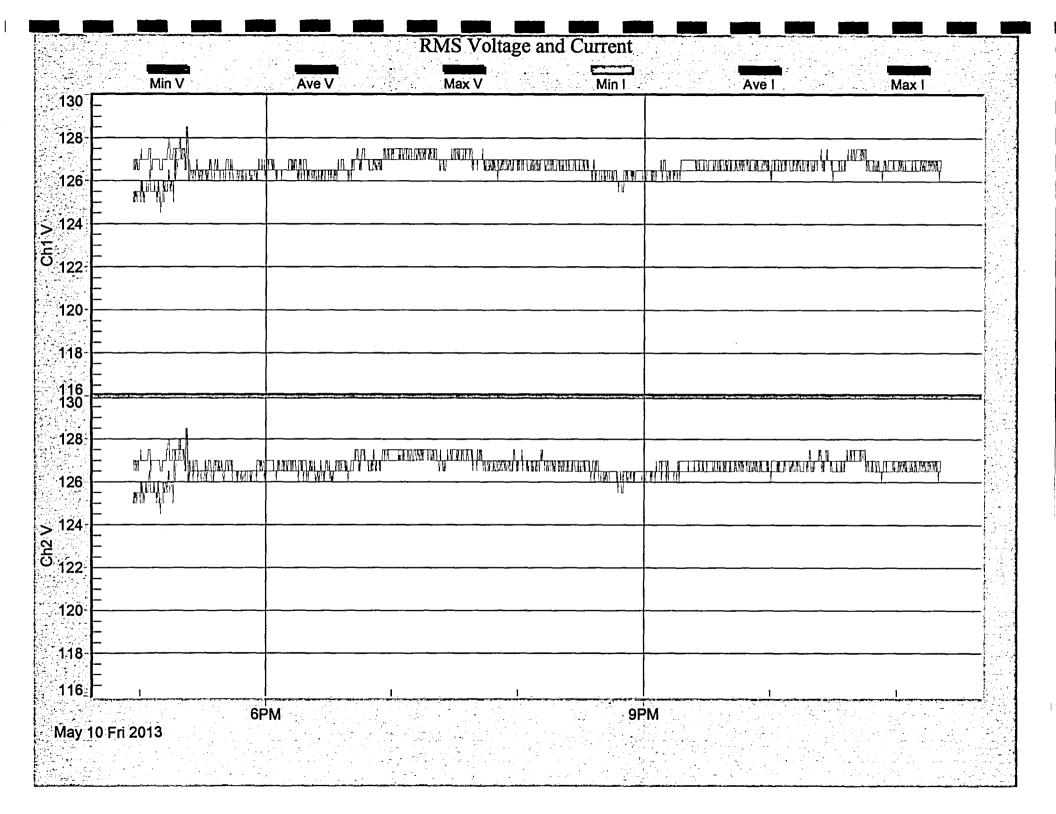
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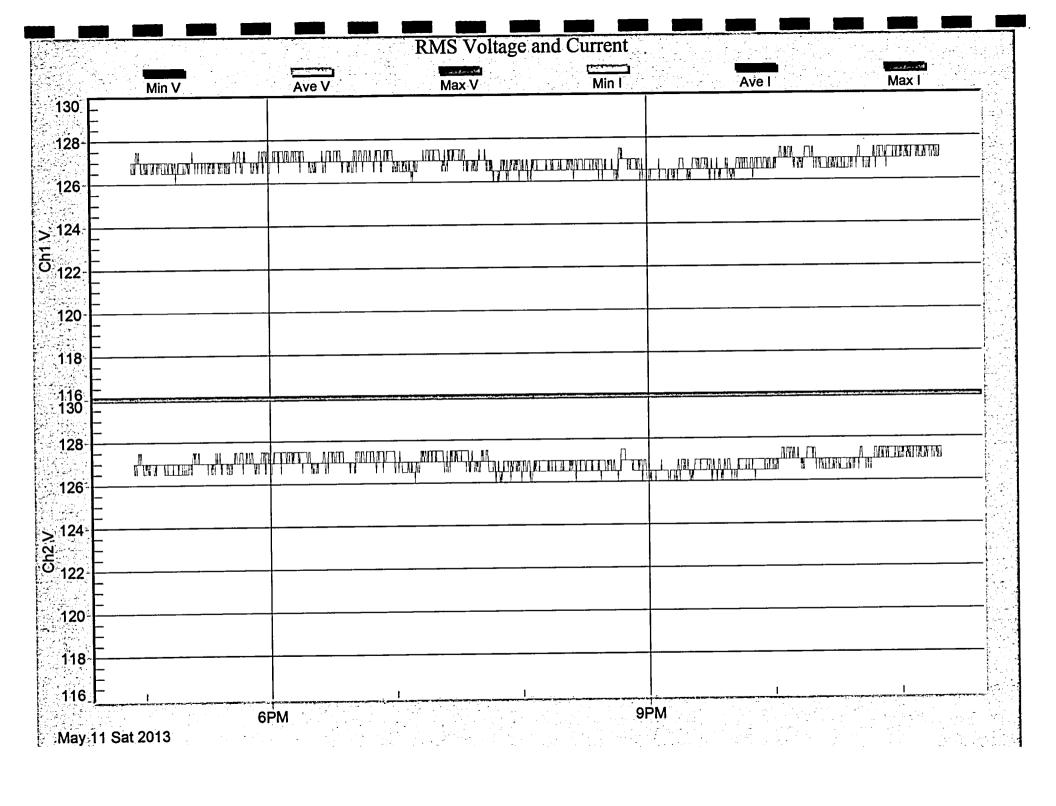
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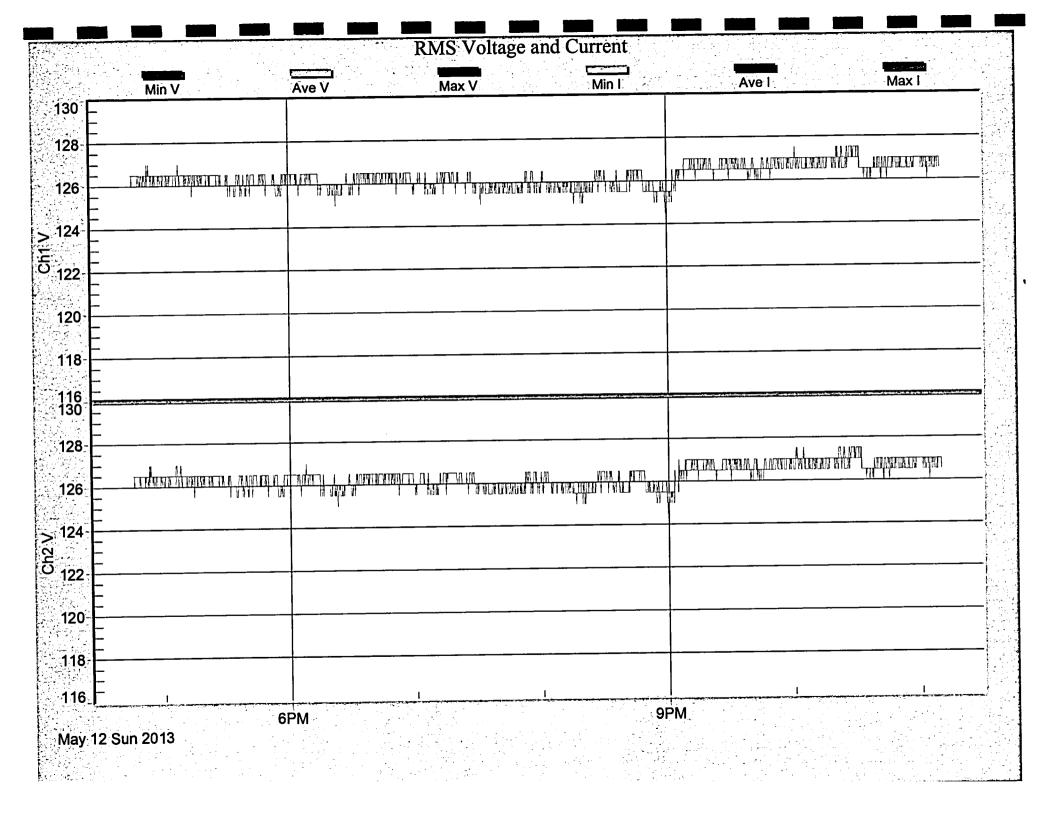


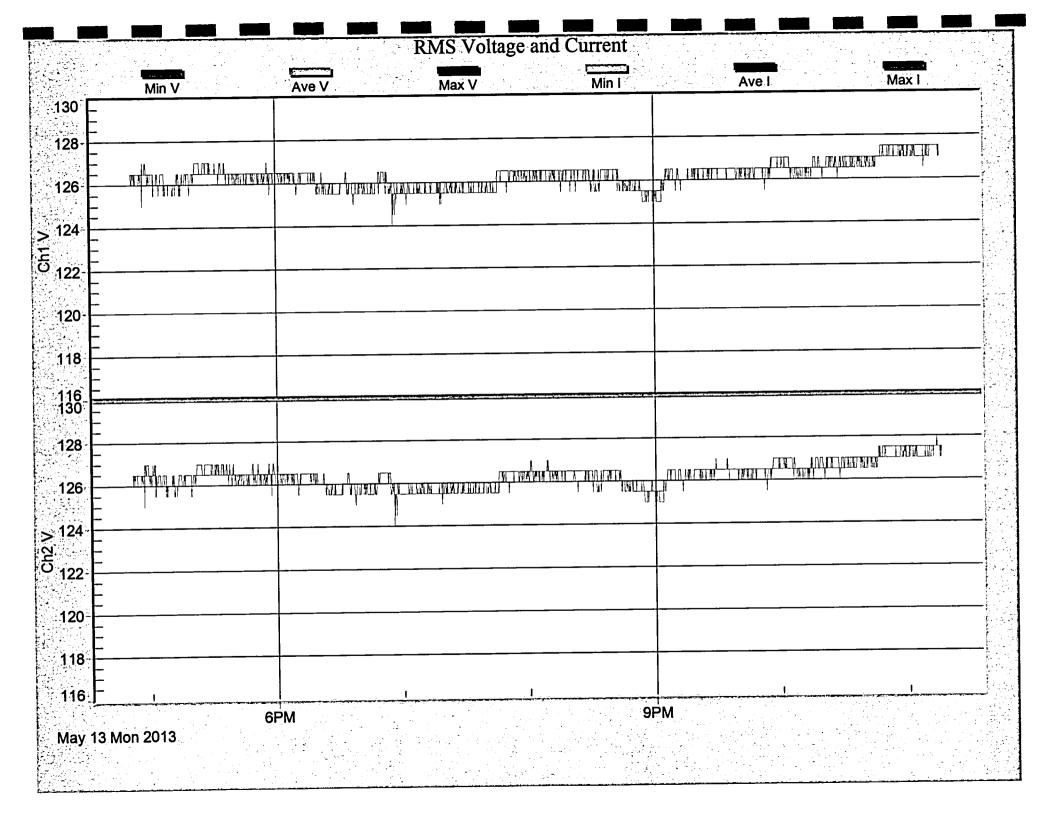




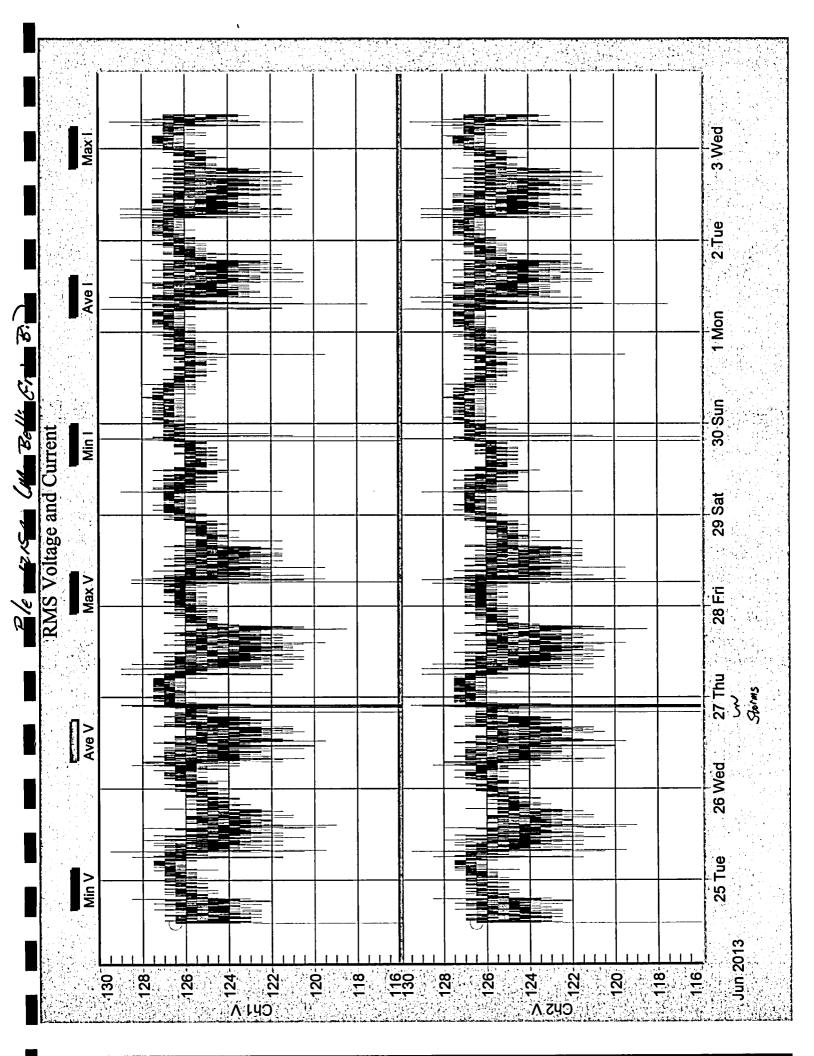


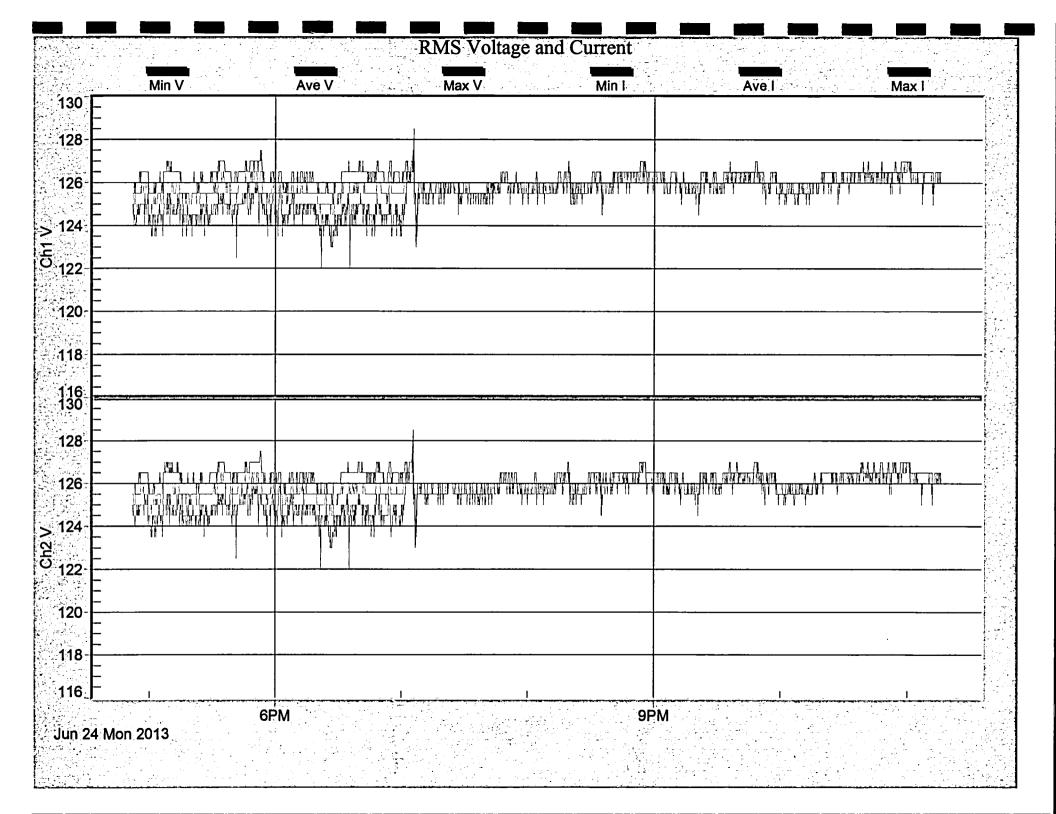


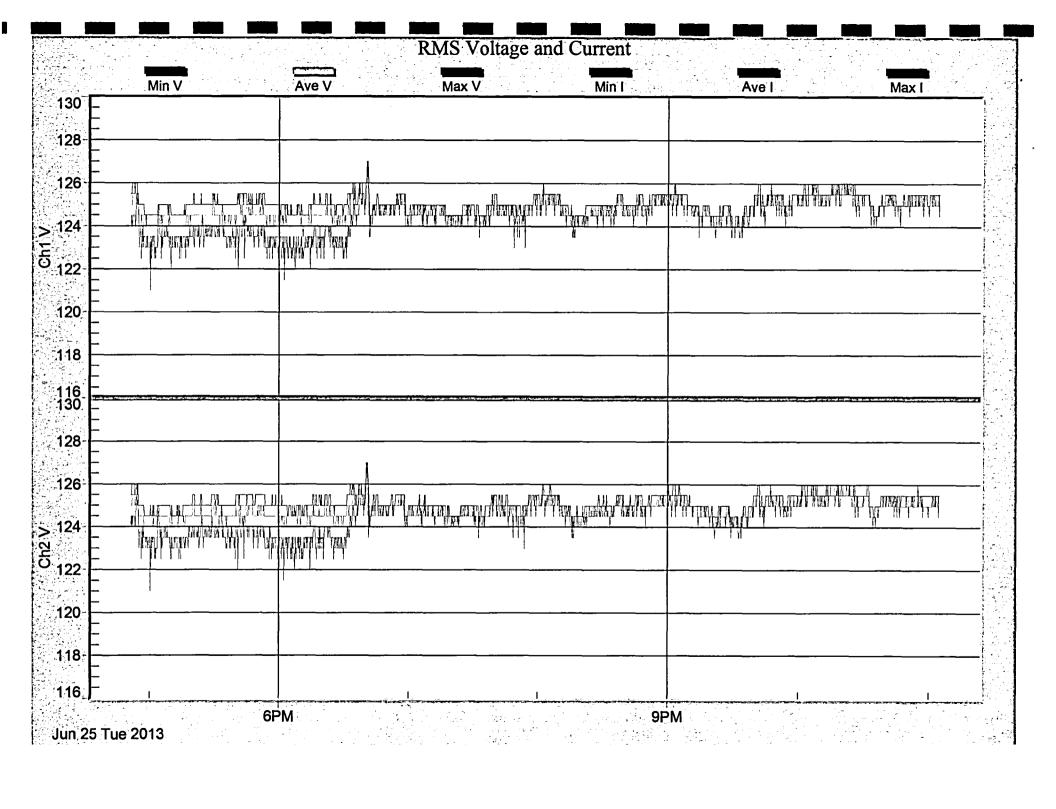


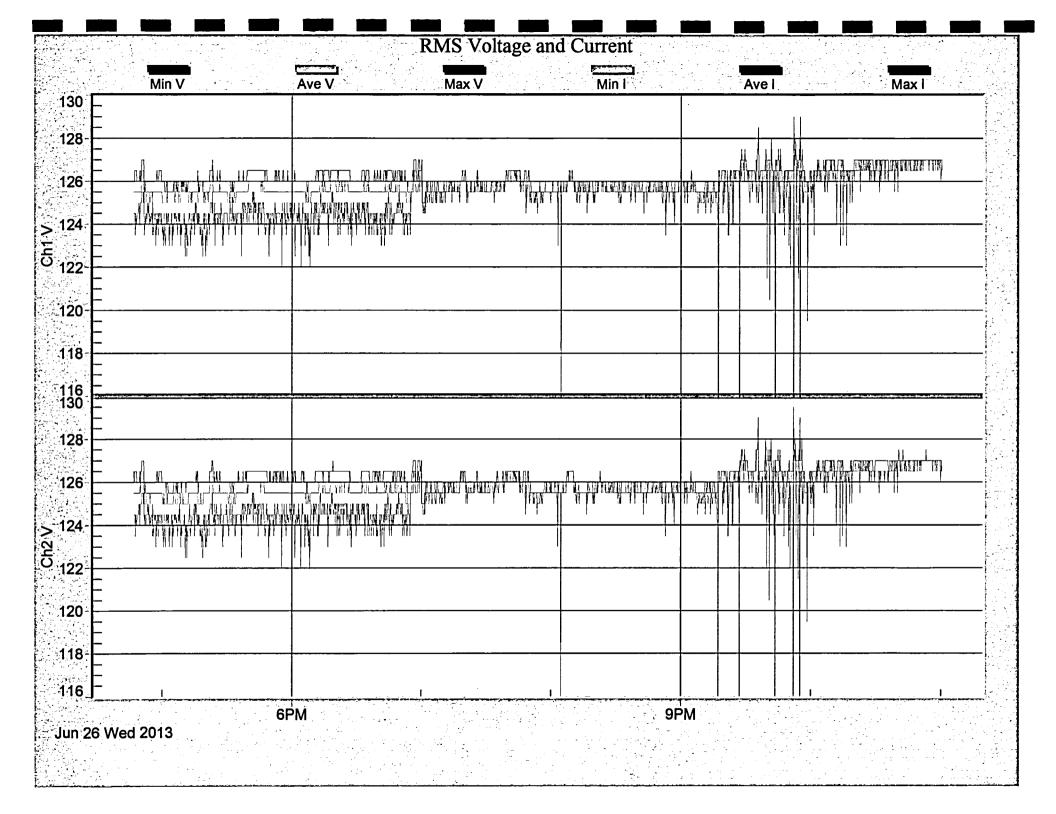


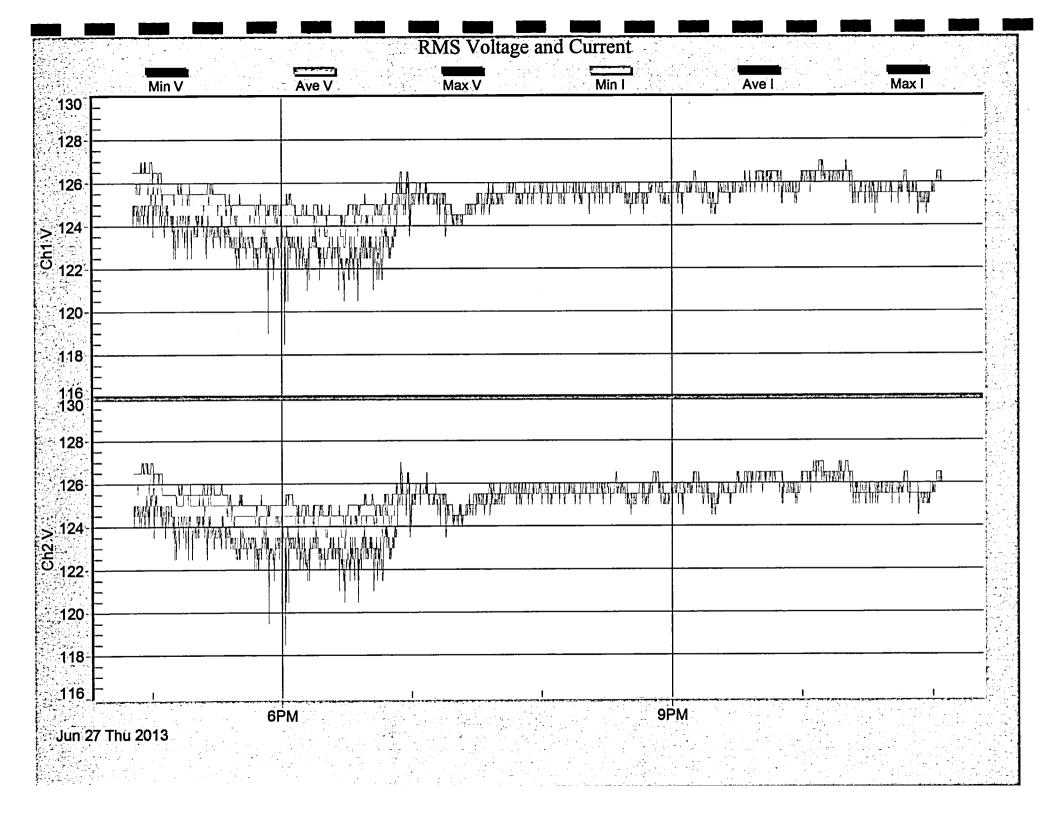
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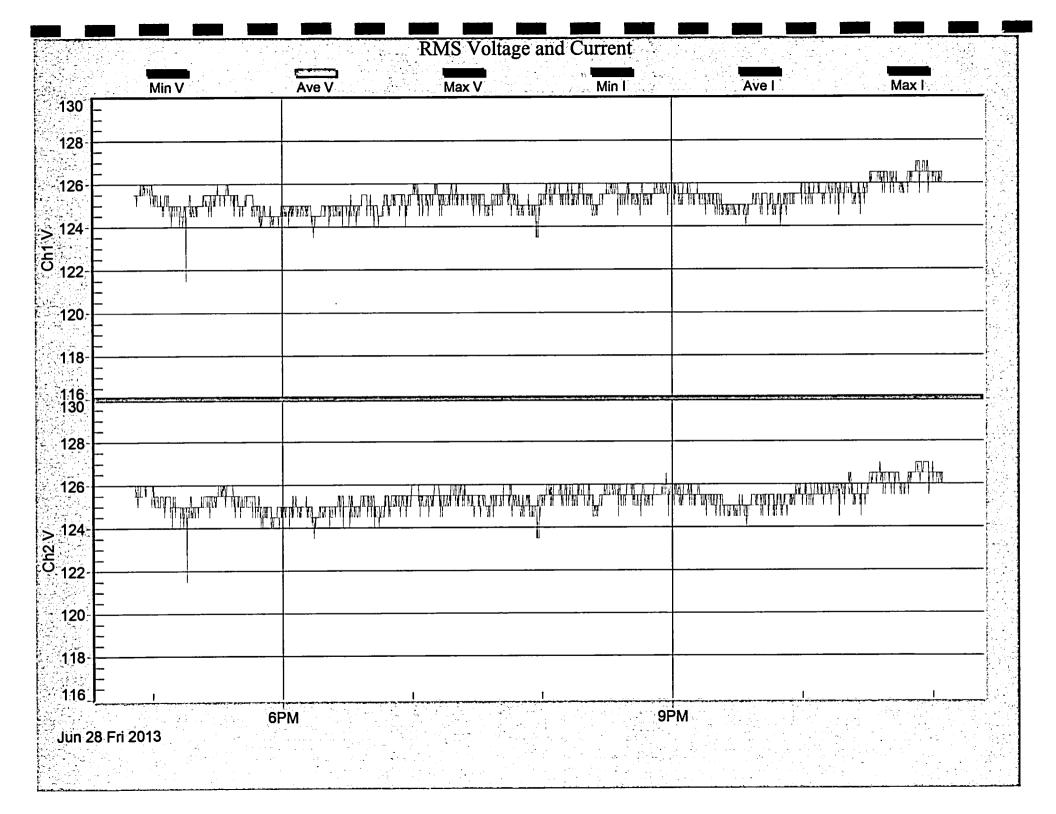


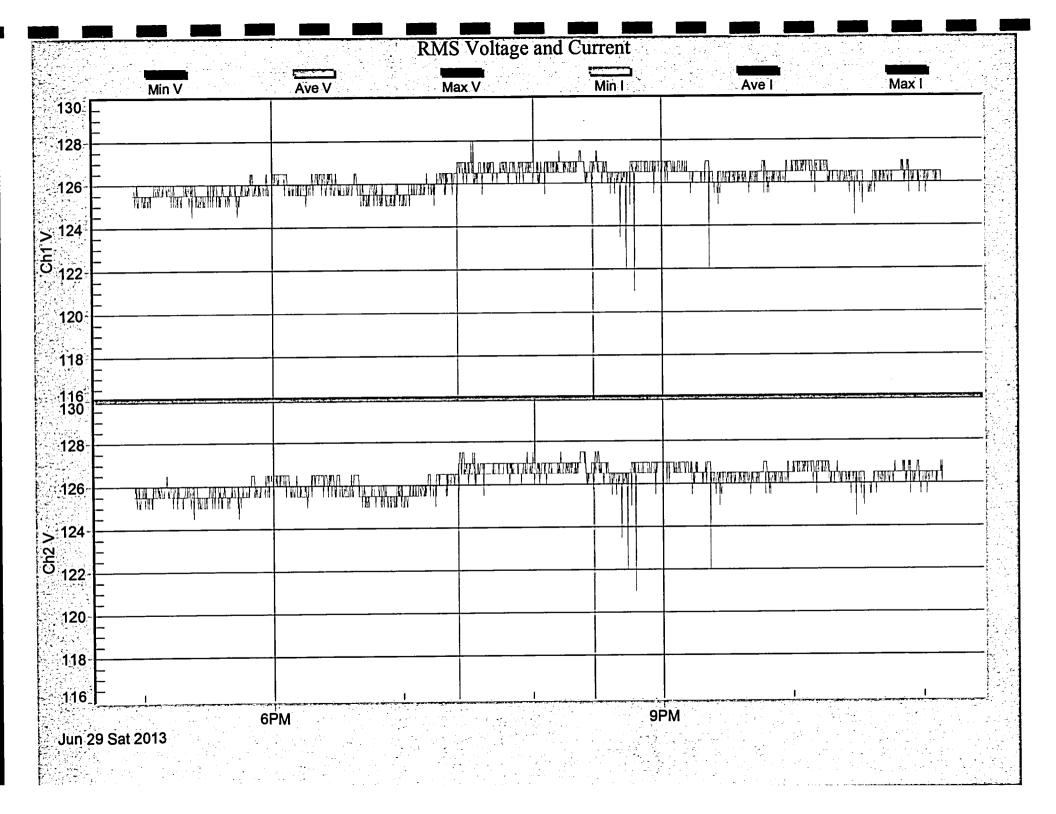


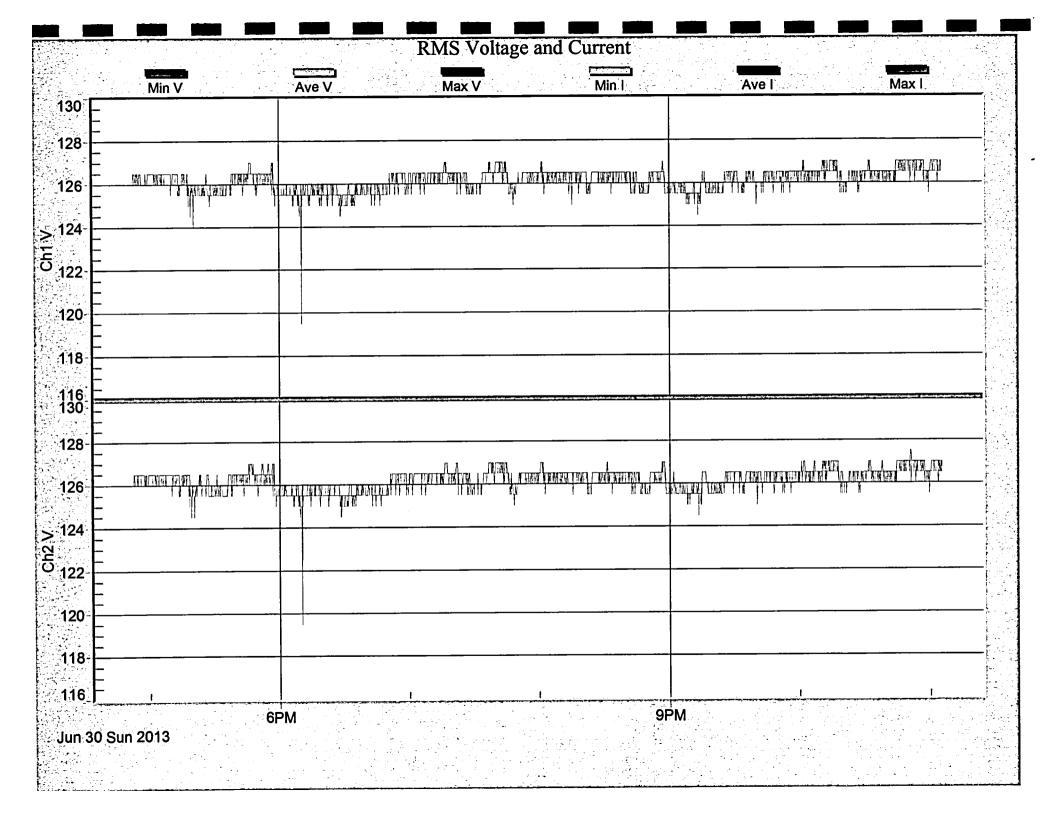


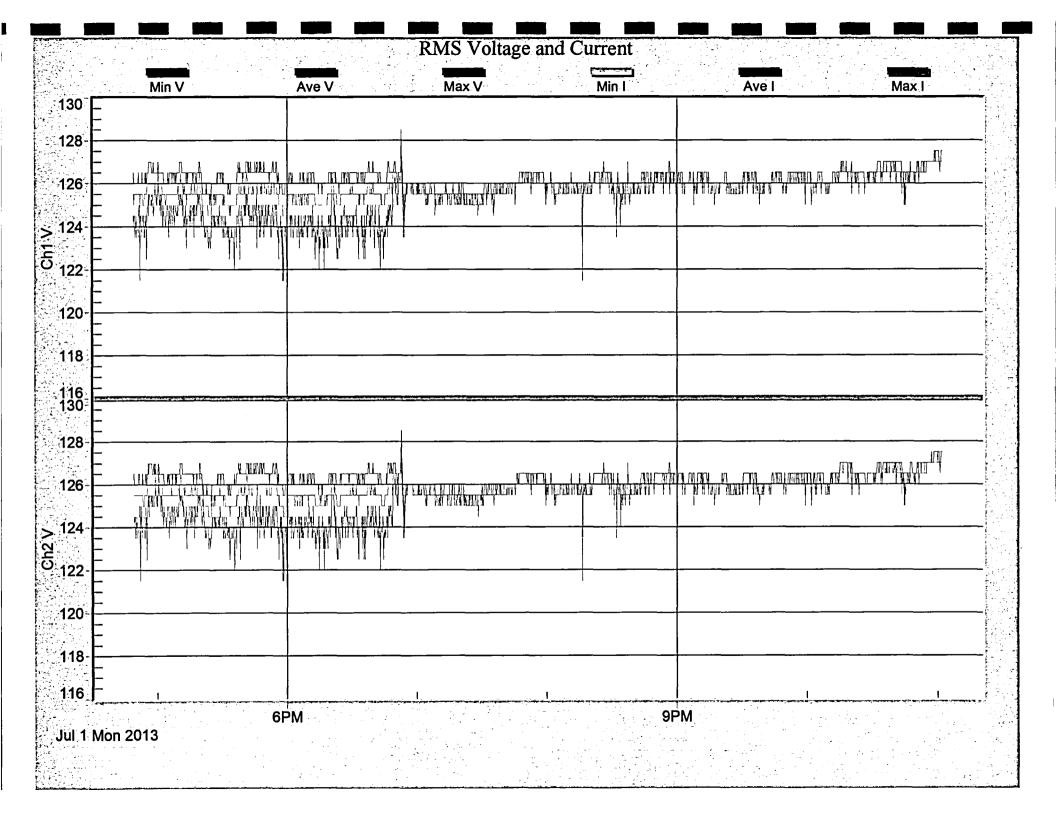


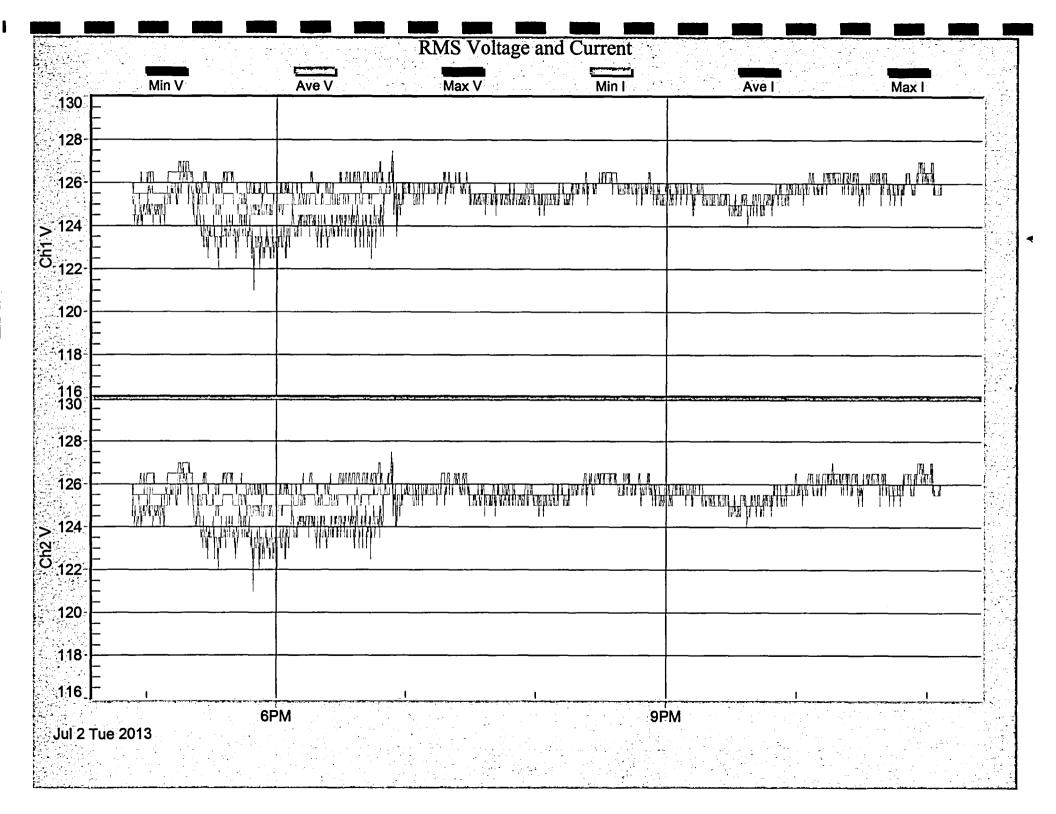












July 15, 2013 to July 25, 2013

