

**STUDY ON RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENTS OF  
LAKVIJAYA POWER STATION RELATED TO THE  
BOILER SIDE: A CASE STUDY**

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Degree of Master of Science

Department of Electrical Engineering

University of Moratuwa

Sri Lanka

January 2014

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Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Master  
of Science

Department of Electrical Engineering

University of Moratuwa  
Sri Lanka

January 2014

## DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this dissertation does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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The above candidate has carried out research for the Masters Dissertation under my supervision.

Signature of the supervisor:

Date:

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have taken lot of efforts to complete this project. However, it would not have been possible without the kind support and help of many individuals and organizations. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of them.

I am highly indebted to the University of Moratuwa for the continuing support and the facilities provided to me. Also, I would like to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Lakvijaya power station, Ceylon Electricity Board for the support given to conduct this research study.

A special gratitude I give to my project supervisor professor H.Y Ranjit Perera, whose contribution in stimulating suggestions, guidance and encouragement, helped me not only to complete this project but also to write this report.

Furthermore, I would also like to acknowledge with much appreciation the support and continuous encouragement and patience given by my family members during the period.



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My thanks and appreciations also go to my colleague in developing the project and people who have willingly helped me out with their abilities.

## ABSTRACT

Lakvijaya power station (LVPS) is the first coal power experience in Sri Lanka. Even though the main objective of the power plant is to meet the increasing power demand at low cost, still it is behind the expectations due to low reliability of the power plant. Failures in the boiler side equipment have been considerably responsible for this with a huge financial loss to the country. This project studies the suitable designs for design faults and shortcomings of LVPS to improve the reliability of the power plant related to the boiler side. By analyzing the past data until the first overhaul of the power plant, it is revealed that the main failures are arisen in the primary air system, coal pulverizing system, secondary air and flue gas systems related to the boiler side. In addition to the low reliability of primary air system, it is not supplying the required total amount of primary air to the system to run the pulverizers within the safe margins. Installing a new primary air fan in the system not only meets the deficiency, but also improves the reliability. Failures related to the pitch controllers of forced draft fans and induced draft fans resulting to high vibrations and high bearing temperatures directly affect to the low reliability in the secondary air and flue gas system. Variable speed drivers to control the air flow instead of fan pitch controlling or inlet vane controlling methods are discussed in this paper. According to the past data of the plant, 53% of failures arose in the pulverizing system have been recovered within ten hours. Rearranging the system with pulverized coal storages for ten hours with a suitable fire protection system is also discussed here. Considering financial losses of these deficiencies, simple pay back periods of each of proposed implementations lies well within the acceptable limits.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
APH	Air Pre-Heater
BMCR	Boiler Maximum Continuous Rating
BOP	Balance of Plant
CEB	Ceylon Electricity Board
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon Dioxide
DCS	Distributed Control System
ESP	Electro Static Precipitators
FD	Forced Draft
GIS	Gas Insulated Substation
HP	Horse Power
ID	Induced Draft
LVPS	Lak Vijaya Power Station
PA	Primary Air
PID	Proportional-Integral-Derivative
RPM	Revolutions per minute
SCC	System Control Center
TMCR	Turbine Maximum Continuous Rating
USD	United States Dollar
VSD	Variable Speed Drive
VWO	Valve Wide Open



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