



Obituary Note

Remembering John Bockris

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Abstract

This brief note recalls the authors first interaction with Professor John Bockris in 1992 and how well Bockris could communicate lasting scientific truth.

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My initial contact with Dr. Bockris was a letter dated February 24, 1992 in which he commented on my idea for RF stimulation of Fleischmann–Pons electrochemical cells and provided many thought-provoking questions. There were also six items under the heading of “things to consider.” Item number 4 was “Dirty solutions work, not clean ones.”

This one comment stood out for some reason and I have kept it in mind for the last 22 years. Since 1992 I have built and tested more than 750 Fleischmann–Pons cells and the cells that worked have always been “dirty” with dark cathode surfaces. Over the years I have become known for laser stimulation methods and I must say that I have never observed laser-stimulated excess power from a shiny clean cathode.

Such was the genius of John Bockris – to make a prediction that would hold for more than two decades with just six words.

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