

SECTION III. VISIBILITY SENSOR OPERATION

6.3.1 INTRODUCTION

Once the visibility sensor is installed and calibrated, only regularly scheduled maintenance is required unless a failure is detected by the ASOS. All operations, including diagnostics, are handled automatically by the ASOS.

6.3.2 CONTROLS AND INDICATORS

There are no maintenance significant controls and indicators on the visibility sensor. The sensor is designed for continuous operation and requires no operator or technician intervention.

6.3.3 TURN-ON PROCEDURES

The visibility sensor contains no power switch. Upon application of 120 vac, 60 Hz power from the data collection package (DCP), the sensor commences its startup sequence. Power is controlled via the visibility sensor circuit breaker module in the DCP.

6.3.4 NORMAL OPERATION

During normal operation, the DCP polls the visibility sensor once per minute for visibility data. Once polled, the visibility sensor quickly responds with the visibility data reports as described in Chapter 1. This polling is automatically performed by the ASOS system software and requires no user intervention. The diagnostic function of the sensor is also automatically performed by software, and occurs once each minute as controlled by the ASOS system software. The technician may also initiate a test of the sensor directly by exercising the TEST selection from the visibility sensor page display at the operator interface device (OID). This action is normally performed only in instances where a failure of the sensor has been detected.

6.3.5 TURNOFF PROCEDURES

The visibility sensor contains no power switch. Heater and electronics power is controlled via the visibility sensor circuit breaker module in the DCP.