Dear Mr. Tarazi:

I write you in regards to manuscript # TCPS-2024-0025 titled "Digital Relays Resilience for Physics-Based Cyber Attacks in

Smart Grids: A Survey" which you submitted to the Transactions on Cyber-Physical Systems.

In view of the criticisms of the reviewer(s) found at the bottom of this letter, your manuscript has been denied publication in the Transactions on Cyber-Physical Systems.

Thank you for considering the Transactions on Cyber-Physical Systems for the publication of your research. I hope the outcome of this specific submission will not discourage you from the submission of future manuscripts.

Sincerely,

Prof. Chenyang Lu Editor-in-Chief, Transactions on Cyber-Physical Systems lu@cse.wustl.edu

Associate Editor Comments to Author:

Associate Editor Comments to the Author (Required): Dear authors

Thanks for submitting the paper to TCPS. We have some constructive comments and hope to help the authors to improve for other adventures.

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

Reviewer: 1

Comments to the Author

This paper provides a concise survey of the resilience of digital relays against physics-based cyber-attacks in smart grids. It covers research challenges, detection methods, machine learning approaches, and outlines directions for future research. Here are the reviewers' comments:

- 1. It would be beneficial to discuss any existing survey papers in this area and highlight the unique contributions of this paper in comparison to those surveys.
- 2. Figure 1 needs improvement in quality and size adjustment.
- 3. Including some mathematical equations to explain the studied problems is recommended.
- 4. It would be useful to discuss the differences between detection and machine learning-based approaches.
- 5. A table organizing all the survey papers by key features is suggested for better clarity.

Reviewer: 2

Comments to the Author

This article aims to provide a survey on the state-of-the-art digital relays resilience for physics-based cyber attacks in

Smart Grids. This reviewer has the following major concerns:

- 1. Insufficient detail: The manuscript is very short (8 pages as a review/survey article). The discussion and review provided are quite brief and do not cover the necessary aspects of the subject comprehensively. Please refer to published review/survey papers, for example https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1084804522001813
- 2. Lack of references: This article lacks sufficient references to support the assessments and suggestions. Including relevant references is crucial for substantiating your points and providing the authors with a robust framework to understand and act on the feedback. Common review papers in this domain should have at

least 80 references.

3. Structure issues: The review does not follow the proper structure expected of a review article. Please refer to the literature for the appropriate organization of a review article.