### Accepted Manuscript

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PII:	S0254-0584(17)30412-1
DOI:	10.1016/j.matchemphys.2017.05.043
Reference:	MAC 19719
To appear in:	Materials Chemistry and Physics
Received Date:	28 July 2016
Revised Date:	28 March 2017
Accepted Date:	28 May 2017

Please cite this article as: Y.W. Liu, Z.Y. Wang, G.W. Cao, Y. Cao, Y. Huo, Study on corrosion behavior of zinc exposed in coastal-industrial atmospheric environment, *Materials Chemistry and Physics* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.matchemphys.2017.05.043

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# Study on corrosion behavior of zinc exposed in coastal-

### industrial atmospheric environment

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#### ABSTRACT

The corrosion behavior of zinc subjected to Liaoning Hongyanhe nuclear power station (a typical coastal-industrial atmospheric environment) has been investigated by weight-loss measurement, scanning electron microscopy (SEM) observation, x-ray diffraction (XRD), potentiodynamic polarization and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS). The experimental results reveal that the corrosion kinetics of the corrosion of zinc in coastal-industrial atmospheric environment followed empirical equation D=At<sup>n</sup>, and with the increase of the exposure time polarization resistance  $(R_p)$  and charge transfer resistance  $(R_{ct})$  increased, the corrosion rate decreased gradually. XRD, SEM and EDS indicated that the depth and width of all pits increased with time and the surface corrosion gradually transformed into a uniform corrosion. The components of the rust layers were composed of  $Zn_5(CO_3)_2$  (OH)<sub>6</sub>,  $NaZn_4SO_4Cl(OH)_6 \cdot 6H_2O$  and  $Zn_{12}(OH)_{15}Cl_3(SO_4)_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ . In the initial exposure period, the corrosion products was  $Zn_5(CO_3)_2(OH)_6$ , while with prolonged exposure, a two-layer structured corrosion products formed, which were comprised of  $NaZn_4(SO_4)Cl(OH)_6 \cdot 6H_2O$  and  $Zn_{12}(OH)_{15}Cl_3(SO_4)_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ , all these products were flaky-structured and compact enough to provide excellent protection.

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