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(54) Title: COATED CONDUCTOR FOR HEATER EMBEDDED IN CERAMIC

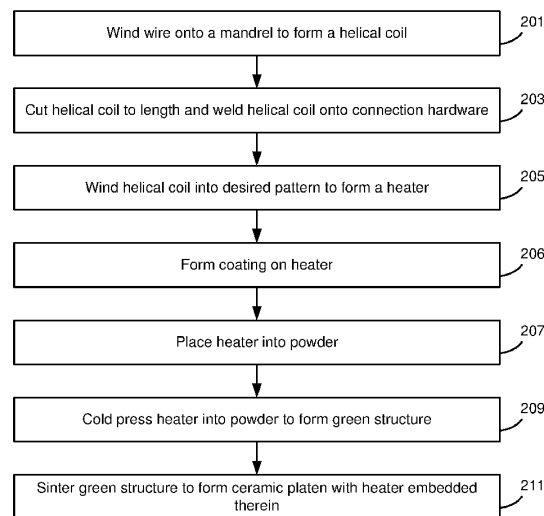


FIG. 3

(57) **Abstract:** Various embodiments herein relate to techniques for fabricating a platen for use in a semiconductor processing apparatus, as well as the platens and intermediate structures produced by such techniques. For example, such techniques may include depositing a coating on a heater to form a coated heater, where the heater includes a metal wire on which the coating is formed; placing the coated heater in powder; consolidating the powder into a cohesive mass to form a powder-based composite; and sintering the powder-based composite to form the platen, where the platen includes the heater embedded in sintered ceramic material. The coating on the heater may act to protect the heater from chemical attack from carbon- and/or oxygen-containing compounds that may be present during sintering. The platen may be part of a pedestal that, once fabricated, may be installed in a semiconductor processing apparatus.

[Continued on next page]

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