

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 23, 2014

CPUC ID: SA2014-008

Al Minor
Assistant Manager, Energy
Imperial Irrigation District
333 East Barioni Blvd.
Imperial, CA 92251

SUBJECT: Audit of IID's El Centro Substation Facilities

Dear Mr. Minor:

On behalf of the Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) of the California Public Utilities Commission, Ben Brinkman and Richard Kyo conducted an audit of Imperial Irrigation District's (IID) electric substation facilities in the El Centro area from October 6, 2014 to October 10, 2014. The audit included a review of IID's maintenance records and inspections of IID's facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of General Order 174. A copy of the audit findings itemizing the violations is enclosed.

Please advise me no later than January 23, 2015 by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by IID to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions concerning this audit you can contact Ben Brinkman of my staff at (213) 576-7093 or bdb@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fadi Daye".

Fadi Daye, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Electric Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division

Enclosure: Audit Findings

CC: Elizaveta Malashenko, Deputy Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
Charlotte TerKeurst, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC
Benjamin Brinkman, P.E., Senior Utilities Engineer, CPUC – LA

Audit Findings

Company: IID
Location: Electric Substation System, El Centro
Audit: Substation
Date: October 6, 2014 to October 10, 2014

The following violations that were observed by ESRB staff were not noted or addressed when IID last inspected the substation:

1.	Structure ID / Location:	Central Substation
	Previous IID Visit Details:	July 9, 2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	October 7, 2014
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Bird Nests in Equipment</u> GO 174, Rule 30.1, states in part: <i>Each Operator shall establish, update as needed, and follow an Inspection Program.</i> IID's Inspection Program Practice Document "Substations Inspection Program" (IID-30 R2 3-12), Section 6.2.3 states, in part: <i>The Substation Inspector performing the inspection shall record the information regarding the inspection on the appropriate recording form. Such information shall include ...(4) any discrepancies identified; and (5) the relevant action taken.</i> There were bird nests in C1SS and X1 T X2.		

2.	Structure ID / Location:	Dahlia Substation, Bank 1 Transformer
	Previous IID Visit Details:	July 9, 2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	October 7, 2014
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<p><u>Opaque Meter Cover</u> GO 174, Rule 30.1, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Each Operator shall establish, update as needed, and follow an Inspection Program.</i></p> <p>IID's Inspection Program Practice Document "Substations Inspection Program" (IID-30 R2 3-12), Section 6.2.3 states, in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Substation Inspector performing the inspection shall record the information regarding the inspection on the appropriate recording form. Such information shall include ...(4) any discrepancies identified; and (5) the relevant action taken.</i></p> <p>Liquid temperature indicator had a sun-damaged, opaque cover. This indicator is redundant with new solid state equipment but the indicator should be repaired or removed if not in use.</p>		

3.	Structure ID / Location:	Mall Substation, Substation Perimeter Walls
	Previous IID Visit Details:	July 9, 2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	October 7, 2014
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<p><u>Missing High Voltage Signs</u> GO 174, Rule 30.1, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Each Operator shall establish, update as needed, and follow an Inspection Program.</i></p> <p>IID's Inspection Program Practice Document "Substations Inspection Program" (IID-30 R2 3-12), Section 6.2.3 states, in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Substation Inspector performing the inspection shall record the information regarding the inspection on the appropriate recording form. Such information shall include ...(4) any discrepancies identified; and (5) the relevant action taken.</i></p> <p>Three substation walls were missing high-voltage signs.</p>		

4.	Structure ID / Location:	Park View Substation, Bank 1 Transformer
	Previous IID Visit Details:	July 11, 2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	October 8, 2014
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<p>Low Level Nitrogen Tank GO 174, Rule 30.1, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Each Operator shall establish, update as needed, and follow an Inspection Program.</i></p> <p>IID's Inspection Program Practice Document "Substations Inspection Program" (IID-30 R2 3-12), Section 6.2.3 states, in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Substation Inspector performing the inspection shall record the information regarding the inspection on the appropriate recording form. Such information shall include ...(4) any discrepancies identified; and (5) the relevant action taken.</i></p> <p>The nitrogen level of the nitrogen tank was low.</p>		

5.	Structure ID / Location:	Calexico Substation, North fence
	Previous IID Visit Details:	July 7, 2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	October 8, 2014
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<p>Missing High Voltage Signs GO 174, Rule 30.1, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Each Operator shall establish, update as needed, and follow an Inspection Program.</i></p> <p>IID's Inspection Program Practice Document "Substations Inspection Program" (IID-30 R2 3-12), Section 6.2.3 states, in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Substation Inspector performing the inspection shall record the information regarding the inspection on the appropriate recording form. Such information shall include ...(4) any discrepancies identified; and (5) the relevant action taken.</i></p> <p>North substation fence was missing high-voltage signs.</p>		

In addition to the noted violations, we observed the following conditions that require corrective action:

1. The battery room at Central Substation does not have a separate air conditioning, but relies on cool air from the attached control room. A door separates the control room from the battery room, and if the door were to close, the batteries could overheat.
2. Sample port on transformer bank 2 at Mall substation is contaminated with oil.
3. Control panel indicator lights and annunciator lights burned out in Mall, National Beef, and Calipatria Prison substation control room.
4. Proper operation of photocell controlled substation lighting was unable to be checked.