



CPUC Public Agenda 3290

Thursday, March 8, 2012, 9:00 a.m.
505 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco



Commissioners:
Michael R. Peevey
Timothy Alan Simon
Michel Peter Florio
Catherine J.K. Sandoval
Mark J. Ferron

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GO 165 Electric Transmission Audit Program



Ben Brinkman

*Senior Utilities Engineer (Specialist)
Consumer Protection and Safety Division*

California Public Utilities Commission

March 8, 2012





Presentation Overview

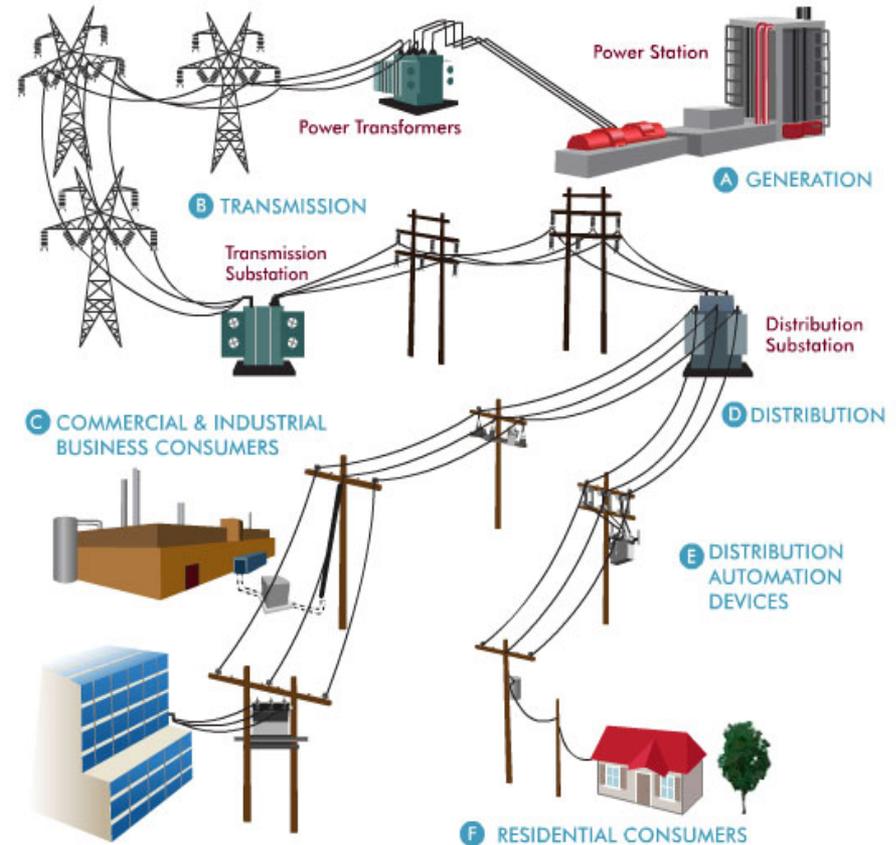
- Electrical Transmission
- CPUC Transmission Line Jurisdiction
- General Order 165 Language
- Electrical Transmission Inspection and Maintenance
- CPSD Electric Transmission Audit Program





Transmission Lines

- Deliver electricity from generators to distribution
- Higher voltage – typically over 50 KV (50,000 volts) up to 765 KV
- Overhead and Underground





CPUC Transmission Line Jurisdiction

- Transmission lines have always been subject to GO 95 and GO 128 rules on design, construction, and maintenance
- Transmission lines involved in 2007 Witch (San Diego) and Canyon (Malibu) Fires
- GO 165 Transmission Inspection Program requirements added in Fire Safety Rulemaking R0811005 (Phase 2)





GO 165 Language

D1201032 (January 2012) added electric transmission facility inspection program rules to GO 165:

Each utility shall prepare and follow procedures for conducting inspections and maintenance activities for transmission lines.

Each utility shall maintain records of inspection and maintenance activities. Commission staff shall be permitted to inspect records and procedures consistent with Public Utilities Code Section 314 (a).

General Order 165, Appendix IV - January 12, 2012





Transmission Maintenance

- Utility inspection and maintenance programs include:
 - Patrols and Detailed inspections
 - Ground, climbing and aerial (helicopter)
 - Vegetation Management
 - Intrusive testing for wood poles
- Utilities patrol all circuits annually
- Other inspection practices vary slightly between utilities, but are similar





CPSD Audits

- Review utility plan and ensure utility follows its plan
- Two week audits – records review and field inspection
- Audit frequency depends on size of utility and miles of transmission
- Plan to audit each major utility at least once annually





CPSD Audit (cont.)

- Records review
 - Review any CAISO and NERC audit reports
 - Ensure inspections up to date and conducted according to plan
 - Verify that utility identifies, records and repairs non-compliant equipment
- Field Inspection
 - Patrol transmission circuits
 - Verify repairs and compliance with GO 95 and GO 128
- Typical issues
 - Damaged insulators, tower guying and grounding, clearance and sag issues, tower marking, vegetation management, right-of-way management and control, wood pole issues, loading, fencing around towers





Planned Upcoming Audits

- PG&E – May 7, 2012
- SCE – Summer 2012
- Sierra Pacific – Fall 2012
- Pacificorp – Fall 2012
- SDG&E – January 2013





Regular Agenda – Management Reports and Resolutions

Item #52 [11059]

Report and Discussion by Consumer Protection and Safety Division on Recent Safety Program Activities





2011 CPUC EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION WINNERS

Ambassadorship (19 nominees)

- Duane Filer, CPSD, PURA IV
- Suong T. Le, CPSD, Supervising Transportation Rep
- Juanita Lane, CSID, Consumer Services Supervisor

Customer Service (24 nominees)

- Robert Stanford, IMSD, Assistant Info Systems Analyst
- Judy Cooper, CSID, PURA III
- Fawn Piangenti, CSID, Customer Service Rep

Innovation (12 nominees)

- Inderdeep Atwal, CSID, AGPA
- Lee-Whei Tan, DRA, PURA V
- James W. Howard, CPSD, Enforcement Analyst





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2011 CPUC EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION WINNERS

Leadership (11 nominees)

- Janet A. Econome, ALJ, Assistant Chief
- Donald G. Filippi, CPSD, Senior Transportation Operation Supervisor
- Juanita Hill, CSID, Consumer Services Manager

Productivity (29 nominations)

- Sunil Shori, CPSD, Utilities Engineer
- Harvey Y. Morris, Legal, Assistant Chief Counsel
- Ke Hao Ouyang, DRA, PURA III

Team Player (12 nominations)

- Anna Toy, ALJ, Office Technician
- Yvonne D. Wilson, OGA, AGPA
- Maria Vasquez, CSID, Consumer Affairs Rep





Management Reports





The CPUC Thanks You For Attending Today's Meeting

The Public Meeting is adjourned.

The next Public Meeting will be:

**March 22, 2012, at 9:00 a.m.
in San Francisco, CA**

