

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
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March 20, 2023

CA2023-1026

Sherri Murillo
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Government Affairs
Verizon
1415 L Street, Ste 1250
Sacramento CA 95814

Subject: Audit of Verizon's Orange County area

Ms. Murillo:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Richard Le of my staff conducted a Communication Infrastructure Provider (CIP) audit of Verizon's San Luis Obispo County area from February 27, 2023 to March 3, 2023. The audit included a review of Verizon's inspection and maintenance records and a field inspection of Verizon's facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders (GOs). A copy of the audit findings itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than April 20, 2023, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by Verizon to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, you can contact Richard Le at (213) 999 – 9053 or Richard.Le@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fadi Daye".

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

Enclosure: Audit Findings

Cc: Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
Nika Kjensli, Program Manager, ESRB, SED, CPUC
Majed Ibrahim, Senior Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC
Richard Le, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

Audit Findings

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Overhead and underground detailed inspection records
- Patrol records
- Completed and pending corrective action work orders
- Safety hazard notifications
- Pole-loading calculations
- Verizon's documented inspection program

II. Records Review – Violations List

GO 95, Rule 31.1, Design Construction and Maintenance, states in part:

Electrical supply and communication systems shall be designed, constructed, and maintained for their intended use, regard being given to the conditions under which they are to be operated, to enable the furnishing of safe, proper, and adequate service.

The pole loading calculation for pole 120535567 shows a span length in the direction of 237.5 degrees as 206 feet but the field measurement was approximately 156 feet.

III. Field Inspection

My staff inspected the following facilities during the field inspection:

No.	Structure ID.	Type of Structure	Location
1	121195210	Pole	San Luis Obispo
2	120221086	Pole	San Luis Obispo
3	120221085	Pole	San Luis Obispo
4	120221084	Pole	San Luis Obispo
5	121504543	Pole	San Luis Obispo
6	110305265	Pole	San Luis Obispo
7	120221082	Pole	San Luis Obispo
8	120225924	Pole	San Luis Obispo
9	110336500	Pole	San Luis Obispo
10	Pole north of 110336500	Pole	San Luis Obispo
11	121337650	Pole	San Luis Obispo
12	121195211	Pole	San Luis Obispo
13	121195214	Pole	San Luis Obispo
14	120221087	Pole	San Luis Obispo
15	110513229	Pole	San Luis Obispo
16	121195206	Pole	San Luis Obispo
17	110531293	Pole	San Luis Obispo
18	121384505	Pole	San Luis Obispo
19	110362963	Pole	San Luis Obispo
20	120535565	Pole	San Luis Obispo
21	120535564	Pole	San Luis Obispo
22	120535563	Pole	San Luis Obispo
23	120535562	Pole	San Luis Obispo
24	120535561	Pole	San Luis Obispo
25	120535566	Pole	San Luis Obispo
26	120535567	Pole	San Luis Obispo
27	120762798	Pole	San Luis Obispo
28	120420036	Pole	San Luis Obispo
29	120420035	Pole	San Luis Obispo
30	120420034	Pole	San Luis Obispo
31	120420032	Pole	San Luis Obispo
32	120420050	Pole	San Luis Obispo
33	120420037	Pole	San Luis Obispo
34	120420039	Pole	San Luis Obispo
35	120420040	Pole	San Luis Obispo
36	120398382	Pole	San Luis Obispo
37	120398381	Pole	San Luis Obispo
38	Pole north of 120398381	Pole	San Luis Obispo
39	121183903	Pole	San Luis Obispo
40	121183902	Pole	San Luis Obispo
41	121183901	Pole	San Luis Obispo
42	121183923	Pole	San Luis Obispo

43	121183913	Pole	San Luis Obispo
44	Pole east of 121183913	Pole	San Luis Obispo
45	121183917	Pole	San Luis Obispo
46	121183915	Pole	San Luis Obispo
47	1 communication pole east of Loomis and Santa Ynez	Pole	San Luis Obispo
48	2 communication poles east of Loomis and Santa Ynez	Pole	San Luis Obispo
49	3 communication poles east of Loomis and Santa Ynez	Pole	San Luis Obispo
50	4 communication poles east of Loomis and Santa Ynez	Pole	San Luis Obispo
51	5 communication poles east of Loomis and Santa Ynez	Pole	San Luis Obispo
52	6 communication poles east of Loomis and Santa Ynez	Pole	San Luis Obispo
53	7 communication poles east of Loomis and Santa Ynez	Pole	San Luis Obispo
54	8 communication poles east of Loomis and Santa Ynez	Pole	San Luis Obispo
55	Communication pole in the Cuesta Park Animal Hospital parking lot	Pole	San Luis Obispo
56	Communication pole east of the Cuesta Park Animal Hospital parking lot	Pole	San Luis Obispo
57	121195204	Pole	San Luis Obispo
58	121195205	Pole	San Luis Obispo
59	120762762	Pole	San Luis Obispo
60	Pole south of 120762762	Pole	San Luis Obispo
61	2 poles south of 120762762	Pole	San Luis Obispo
62	121350813	Pole	San Luis Obispo
63	121509499	Pole	San Luis Obispo
64	110396106	Pole	San Luis Obispo
65	120048757	Pole	San Luis Obispo
66	110505647	Pole	San Luis Obispo
67	120420031	Pole	San Luis Obispo
68	120477768	Pole	San Luis Obispo
69	120477838	Pole	San Luis Obispo
70	120477837	Pole	San Luis Obispo
71	110341746	Pole	San Luis Obispo
72	120373792	Pole	San Luis Obispo
73	120373793	Pole	San Luis Obispo
74	120477820	Pole	San Luis Obispo

75	121342290	Pole	San Luis Obispo
76	121349486	Pole	San Luis Obispo
77	121349489	Pole	San Luis Obispo
78	121349498	Pole	San Luis Obispo
79	121349491	Pole	San Luis Obispo
80	121349493	Pole	San Luis Obispo
81	Handhole across from 1445 Mill	Handhole	San Luis Obispo
82	Manhole in front of 2161 Broad	Manhole	San Luis Obispo
83	Manhole next to 881 Francis	Manhole	San Luis Obispo
84	Manhole near 2584 Victoria Ave	Manhole	San Luis Obispo
85	Manhole in front of 201 Bridge	Manhole	San Luis Obispo
86	Manhole next to 2 Higuera	Manhole	San Luis Obispo
87	Manhole in front of 222 Elks	Manhole	San Luis Obispo
88	Manhole next to 333 Madonna	Manhole	San Luis Obispo
89	Manhole near Descanso and Los Osos Valley	Manhole	San Luis Obispo
90	Manhole near 11321 Los Osos Valley	Manhole	San Luis Obispo

IV. Field Inspection – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspections portion of the audit:

GO 95, Rule 31.1, Design Construction and Maintenance, states in part:

Electrical supply and communication systems shall be designed, constructed, and maintained for their intended use, regard being given to the conditions under which they are to be operated, to enable the furnishing of safe, proper, and adequate service.

Verizon's facilities on the following poles required maintenance:

- Two poles south of pole 120762762 – the lashing wire was loose causing the conductor to separate from the strand wire.
- The riser on a communication pole east of Loomis and Santa Ynez was not secured to the pole.
- Pole 120535562 – the riser was not secured to the pole.

Verizon's facilities on the pole 121350813 need to be transferred to the newly set pole.

GO 95, Rule 38 - Minimum Clearances of Wires from Other Wires, Table 2, Case 8, Column C, requires the minimum vertical separation between communications conductors on separate crossarms or other supports at different levels on the same pole and in adjoining midspans to be 12 inches.

The separation between Verizon communications facilities and a third-party communications conductor on each of the following poles was less than 12 inches:

- Pole 120225924 – Verizon's conductor in contact with another party communication conductor.
- Pole 121195206 – Verizon's conductor in contact with another party communication conductor.
- Pole 121195204 – Verizon's conductor in contact with another party communication conductor.

GO 95, Rule 56.2 Overhead Guys, Anchor Guys and Span Wires, Use, states in part:

Guys shall be attached to structures, as nearly as practicable, at the center of load. They shall be maintained taut and of such strength as to meet the safety factors of Rule 44 .

- The down guy wire attached to pole 121195211 was loose and not taut.
- The down guy wire on a communication pole four poles east of the corner of Loomis and Santa Ynez was loose and not taut.