



**Melvin Stark**  
Principal Manager  
OE-T&D Compliance & Quality

January 18, 2024

Fadi Daye, P.E.  
Program & Project Supervisor  
Electric and Safety Reliability Branch  
Safety and Enforcement Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
320 West 4th St., Ste. 500  
Los Angeles, California 90013

SA2023-1060  
SUBJECT: Substation Audit of Southern California Edison's Devers Switching Center

Dear Mr. Daye:

Your letter, dated December 18, 2023, requested that we advise you of actions taken by Southern California Edison Company (SCE) to address conditions identified during the Safety and Enforcement Division's (SED's) substation audit of Devers Switching Center from May 15, 2023 to May 19, 2023.

Your letter requested a response by January 18, 2024. Attached are the conditions mentioned in your letter, and our responses and corresponding actions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mel Stark", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mel Stark  
Principal Manager, OE-T&D Compliance & Quality  
1 Innovation Way  
Pomona, CA 91768

Enclosure: SED Audit Findings and SCE's Responses

Cc: Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC  
Nika Kjensli, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC  
Majed Ibrahim, Senior Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC  
James Miller, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

## **AUDIT FINDINGS**

### **I. Records Review**

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records and documents:

- Current Substation Inspection Procedures
- Current Substation Equipment Testing Procedures
- Substation Inspection Records
- Oil Sample Testing Results
- Infrared Inspection Records
- Recent Open and Completed Work Orders Generated from Inspections

## II. Field Inspections

My staff inspected the following substations during the field inspections:

Substation Name	Location	City
Altwind	TBD Garnet Rd., 1 Mi. W/O Indian Ave.	Garnet
Banning	TBD Lincoln St., 1/4 Mi. E/O San Gorgonio Ave.	Banning
Banwind	TBD S/O Fwy-10, W/O Hwy-111 In Whitewater Wash	Palm Springs
Blast	TBD On AES property, South of Garnet, West of Indian Rd.	Palm Springs
Bottle	14020 Near 14258 Elm St. C/O Bonita Ave.	Cabazon
Cabazon	TBD Bonita Ave. S/S 200' W/O Broadway	Cabazon
Coffee	TBD Camino Aventura., 200 Yards W/O Palm Dr.	Desert Hot Springs
Concho	76055 Country Club Dr., E/O Del Safari Dr.	Palm Desert
Defrain	TBD Defrain Blvd. And Sixth Ave.	Blythe
Dunes	TBD Hobson Way., W/O Neighbors Blvd.	Blythe
Indigo	TBD W/O N. Indian Ave, S/O 18Th Ave, Adjacent To 19Th Ave	North Palm Springs
Mountwind	TBD Garnet Rd W/O Indian Av, Adjacent To Altwind Sub	Garnet
North Intake	TBD Hwy 95, 10 Mi. N/O Blythe, .25 Mi. W/O Palo Verde	Blythe
Olive Lake	TBD Olive Lake Blvd., And I-10	Blythe
Palm Springs	TBD Andreas Rd. Between Palm Canyon Dr And Indian Ave.	Palm Springs
Palm Village	TBD 500 Ft S/O Hwy 111 And 600 Ft E/O Deep Canyon Ranch Rd.	Palm Desert
Pan Aero	TBD N/O I-10 Fwy, W/O White Water Wash	Palm Springs
Renwind	TBD Whitewater Canyon	Palm Springs
Sandwind	TBD N/O I-10 Fwy W/O Highway 62, Top Of Whitewater Hill	Palm Springs
Seawind	TBD N/O I-10, W/O Whitewater Wash	Palm Springs
Second Avenue	TBD C/O Second Ave. & Intake Blvd.	Blythe
Silver Spur	TBD S/E Corner Of Arrow Trail And Little Bend Trail	Palm Desert
Sunny Dunes	TBD Calle Encilia & Camino Parocela, 1/2 Blk E/O Indian Ave	Palm Springs
Tamarisk	TBD Plumley Rd. 350 Ft. W/O Converse Rd.	Cathedral City
Thornhill	655 Calle Amigos	Palm Springs
Whitewater	TBD I-10, 1-1/2 Mi. E/O Hwy 111	Whitewater

### III. Field Inspections – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspection:

**GO 174, Rule 12, General**, states in part:

*Substations shall be designed, constructed, and maintained for their intended use, regard being given to the conditions under which they are to be operated, to promote the safety of workers and the public and enable adequacy of service.*

*Design, construction, and maintenance should be performed in accordance with accepted good practices for the given local conditions known at the time by those responsible.*

Facilities at the following substations were not maintained for their intended use:

#### **Blast Substation**

1. The northeast corner of the MEER building was missing a portion of its grounding wire.

#### ***SCE Response:***

*The condition listed above has been recorded in SCE's Work Management System and will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Northeast corner of the MEER building was missing a portion of its grounding wire. SCE Response: Due Date 12/28/2029.*

#### **Whitewater Substation**

2. The substation's gate's locking mechanism was damaged.

#### ***SCE Response:***

*The condition listed above has been recorded in SCE's Work Management System and will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Substation's gate's locking mechanism was damaged. SCE Response: Due Date 12/28/2029.*

#### **Banning Substation**

3. The Devers-Windpark 115 kV circuit breaker's door gasket was damaged.
4. The No. 2 Bank North 115 kV circuit breaker's door gasket was also damaged.

#### ***SCE Response:***

*The conditions listed above have been recorded in SCE's Work Management System and they will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Devers-Windpark 115 kV circuit breaker's door gasket was damaged. SCE Response: Due Date 7/5/2024.*
- *No. 2 Bank North 115 kV circuit breaker's door gasket was damaged. SCE Response: Due Date 7/5/2024.*

#### **Pan Aero Substation**

5. Rodent damage was observed in the relay cabinet.

***SCE Response:***

*The condition listed above has been recorded in SCE's Work Management System and will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Rodent damage in the relay cabinet. **SCE Response:** Due Date 1/4/2025.*

**Mountwind Substation**

6. The northeast leg of an A-frame had a cut grounding wire.

***SCE Response:***

*The condition listed above has been recorded in SCE's Work Management System and will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Northeast leg of an A-frame cut grounding wire. **SCE Response:** Due Date 12/28/2029.*

**Thornhill Substation**

7. The perimeter fence barb wire was damaged.
8. A trench cover was out of place causing the trench to be exposed.

***SCE Response:***

*The conditions listed above were previously recorded in SCE's Work Management System and they will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Damaged perimeter fence barb wire. **SCE Response:** Due Date 5/8/2029.*
- *Trench exposed from out of place trench cover. **SCE Response:** Completed on 1/5/2024.*

**Eisenhower Substation**

9. The No. 3 Bank 115/33 kV transformer was leaking oil.
10. The oil level gauge on the No. 4 Bank 115/33 kV transformer indicated that the oil level was too high.

***SCE Response:***

*The conditions listed above were previously recorded in SCE's Work Management System and they will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *No. 3 Bank 115/33 kV transformer leaking oil. **SCE Response:** Due Date 4/4/2024.*
- *Oil level gauge on the No. 4 Bank 115/33 kV transformer indicated that the oil level was too high. **SCE Response:** Due Date 4/4/2024.*

**Tamarisk Substation**

11. A ground wire for the capacitor bus disconnect had been cut.

***SCE Response:***

*The condition listed above has been recorded in SCE's Work Management System and will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Cut ground wire for the capacitor bus disconnect. **SCE Response:** Due Date 12/28/2029.*

### **Dunes Substation**

12. The guard chain under the fuses at this substation had broken.

#### ***SCE Response:***

*The condition listed above was previously recorded in SCE's Work Management System and was addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Broken guard chain under the fuses. **SCE Response:** Completed on 1/5/2024.*

### **Defrain Substation**

13. The insulators on the south side of the 12 kV position disconnects were damaged.

#### ***SCE Response:***

*The condition listed above has been recorded in SCE's Work Management System and will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Damaged insulators on the south side of the 12 kV position disconnects. **SCE Response:** Due Date 12/27/2029.*

### **Second Avenue Substation**

14. An insulator on the operating bus disconnect B-phase was damaged.

#### ***SCE Response:***

*The condition listed above has been recorded in SCE's Work Management System and will be addressed in accordance with SCE's maintenance program.*

- *Damaged insulator on the operating bus disconnect B-phase. **SCE Response:** Due Date 12/27/2029.*