PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

June 10, 2025 EA2025-1226

Ren Zhang
Assistant Director of Utility Operations
City of Colton Electric Utility
150 South 10th Street
Colton, CA 91324

Subject: Audit of the City of Colton Electric Utility

Ms. Zhang:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Eric Ujiiye of my staff conducted an electric distribution audit of City of Colton Electric Utility's from March 24-28, 2025. The audit included a review of City of Colton Electric Utility's records and field inspections of City of Colton Electric Utility's facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders (GOs). Included with this letter is a copy of the audit findings that itemize the violations discovered during the audit. Please advise me no later than July 10, 2025, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by City of Colton Electric Utility's to remedy and prevent such violations.

Please note that ESRB will be posting the audit report and your response to our audit on the CPUC website. If there is any information in your response that you would like us to consider as confidential, we request that in addition to your confidential response, you also provide us with a public or redacted version of your response that can be posted publicly on our website.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, you can contact Eric Ujiiye at (213) 620-2598 or eric.ujiiye@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Fadi Daye

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

Enclosures: Audit Findings

Cc: Leslie Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
Eric Wu, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC
Eric Ujiiye, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Overhead and underground detailed inspections records.
- Completed and pending corrective action work orders.
- Pole loading calculations.
- Safety hazard notifications.
- Intrusive test records
- City of Colton Electric Utility's documented inspection program.

II. Field Inspections

My staff inspected the following facilities during the field inspections portion of the audit:

No.	Structure ID.	Type of Structure	Location
1	10518F	Pole	Colton
2	10507F	Pole	Colton
3	3978F	Pole	Colton
4	3979F	Pole	Colton
5	3980F	Pole	Colton
6	10516F	Pole	Colton
7	609753	Pole	Colton
8	3981F	Pole	Colton
9	10454F	Pole	Colton
10	10455F	Pole	Colton
11	3955F	Pole	Colton
12	2946F	Pole	Colton
13	3956F	Pole	Colton
14	3227F	Pole	Colton
15	8911F	Pole	Colton
16	3228F	Pole	Colton
17	3229F	Pole	Colton
18	3230F	Pole	Colton
19	3231F	Pole	Colton
20	817851H	Pole	Colton
21	8375F	Pole	Colton
22	4143F	Pole	Colton
23	8996F	Pole	Colton
24	4145F	Pole	Colton
25	8994F	Pole	Colton
26	634932H	Pole	Colton
27	609748H	Pole	Colton
28	8509F	Pole	Colton

29	10495F	Pole	Colton
30	4064F	Pole	Colton
31	4063F	Pole	Colton
32	457F	Pole	Colton
33	5796F	Pole	Colton
34	459F	Pole	Colton
35	4425F	Pole	Colton
36	5567F	Pole	Colton
37	10309F	Pole	Colton
38	5569F	Pole	Colton
39	5570F	Pole	Colton
40	5571F	Pole	Colton
41	5572F	Pole	Colton
42	5577F	Pole	Colton
43	5581F	Pole	Colton
44	5582F	Pole	Colton
45	4806F	Pole	Colton
46	5583F	Pole	Colton
47	4805F	Pole	Colton
48	5584F	Pole	Colton
49	SC 1064	Pad mount Switch	Colton
50	LV-141	Vault	Colton
51	3641	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
52	PB 309	Pull Box	Colton
53	PB 310	Pull Box	Colton
54	2800	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
55	1709	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
56	PB 311	Pull Box	Colton
57	PB 313	Pull Box	Colton
58	2661	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
59	3692	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
60	PB 173	Pull Box	Colton
61	3982	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
62	PB 174	Pull Box	Colton
63	4415	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
64	3683	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
65	PB 371	Pull Box	Colton
66	PB 372	Pull Box	Colton
67	PB 373	Pull Box	Colton
68	3439	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
69	PB 375	Pull Box	Colton
70	4222	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
71	PB 376	Pull Box	Colton
72	PB 377	Pull Box	Colton
73	3265	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
74	9450F	Pole	Colton
75	PB 688	Pull Box	Colton
76	3862F	Pole	Colton
77	3861F	Pole	Colton

78	3860F	Pole	Colton
79	5036F	Pole	Colton
80	5037F	Pole	Colton
81	5058F	Pole	Colton
82	2402	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
83	2314	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
84	4403	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
85	3793	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
86	3646	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
87	4238	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
88	4400	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
89	PB 670	Pull Box	Colton
90	LV-140	Vault	Colton
91	PB 301	Pull Box	Colton
92	3919	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
93	4226	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
94	4039	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
95	3527	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
96	4040	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
97	4395	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
98	4321	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
99	4329	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
100	3550	Pad Mount Transformer	Colton
101	472F	Pole	Colton
102	10442F	Pole	Colton
103	306F	Pole	Colton
104	1044F	Pole	Colton
105	43F	Pole	Colton
106	94F	Pole	Colton
107	1019F	Pole	Colton
108	571F	Pole	Colton
109	4940F	Pole	Colton
110	572F	Pole	Colton
111	4941F	Pole	Colton
112	294F	Pole	Colton
113	788521H	Pole	Colton
114	9635F	Pole	Colton
115	4949F	Pole	Colton
116	628926H	Pole	Colton

III. Field Inspection Violations List

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

GO 95, Rule 18-A3, Resolution of Potential Violations of General Order 95 and Safety Hazards, states:

> *(3) If a company, while performing inspections of its facilities, discovers a Safety Hazard(s) on or near a communications facility or electric facility involving another company, the inspecting company shall notify the other entity of such safety hazard(s) no later than 10 business days after the discovery.*

Safety hazards on the following poles were not documented and reported to the third party responsible:

- Pole 5567F - A third-party communications span conductor had a vertical clearance of 15 feet, 3 inches above the center of a residential street, which is less than the minimum requirement of 18 feet.
- Pole 5569F - A third-party down guy wire was broken and wrapped around the pole.

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 overhead facilities on the following poles required maintenance:

- Pole 3955F - The second lowest pole step to the ground was damaged.
- Pole 634932H – The eyelet of the down guy anchor supporting the pole was completely submerged beneath a concrete surface.
- Pole 634932H – The down guy marker was damaged.
- Pole 9450F – The ground wire was missing a section at the public level of the pole.
- Pole 5037F – The ground wire was missing a section at the public level of the pole.

GO 95, Rule 31.6, Abandoned Lines, states:

> *Lines or portions of lines permanently abandoned shall be removed by their owners so that such lines shall not become a public nuisance or a hazard to life or property. For the purposes of this rule, lines that are permanently abandoned shall be defined as those lines that are determined by their owner to have no foreseeable future use.*

A ground wire attached to Pole 2946F and extended to the City of Colton level of the pole was permanently abandoned and not attached to any facilities.

GO 95, Rule 35, Vegetation Management, states in part:

> *When a supply or communication company has actual knowledge, obtained either through normal operating practices or notification to the company, that its circuit energized at 750 volts or less shows strain or evidence abrasion from vegetation contact, the condition shall be corrected by reducing conductor tension, rearranging or replacing the conductor, pruning the vegetation, or placing mechanical protection on the conductor(s). Scuffing or polishing of the insulation or covering is not considered abrasion.*

A secondary triplex cable span attached to Pole 5584F was strained and deflected by a tree located at 830 South Pine Street.

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A, Marking and Guarding, High Voltage Marking of Poles, states in part:

> *Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs. This marking shall consist of a single sign showing the words "HIGH VOLTAGE", or pair of signs showing the words "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE", not more than six (6) inches in height with letters not less than 3 inches in height. A pair of signs may be stacked to a height of no more than 12 inches. Such signs shall be of weather and corrosion–resisting material, solid or with letters cut out therefrom and clearly legible.*

The "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign on each of the following poles was damaged or missing:

- Pole 3978F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was not displayed.
- Pole 3979F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was not displayed.
- Pole 3981F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was not displayed.
- Pole 3956F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was not displayed.
- Pole 3229F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was damaged.
- Pole 3230F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was not displayed.
- Pole 3231F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was not displayed.
- Pole 8375F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was damaged.
- Pole 4143F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was damaged.
- Pole 609748F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was not displayed.
- Pole 3862F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was damaged.
- Pole 3861F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was damaged.
- Pole 3860F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was damaged.
- Pole 1019F - A "HIGH VOLTAGE" sign was damaged.

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, Ground Wires, states in part:

> *That portion of the ground wires attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).*

The ground moulding on each of the following poles was damaged:

- Pole 3981F - A section of ground molding located 7 feet above ground was separating from the surface of the pole, exposing the ground wire.
- Pole 360F - A section of ground molding was damaged at the base of the pole exposing the ground wire.

General Order 95, Rule 54.8, Service Drops, 0 – 750 Volts, Table 10: Minimum Allowable Clearance of Service Drops of 0-750 Volts from Buildings requires the minimum clearance between "Insulated Conductors (Rule 20.9-G) 0-750 Volts" and "All portions of building including metallic or non-metallic cornice, decorative appendage, eaves, roof or parapet wall of the building served" to be 0.5 inches.

A service drop attached to Pole 3980F was touching a vent pipe on the roof of the home being served at 914 East Shasta Drive.

GO 965, Rule 54.9, Guy Marker (Guy Guard), states:

> *A substantial marker of suitable material, including but not limited to metal or plastic, not less than 8 feet in length, shall be securely attached to all anchor guys. Where more than one guy is attached to an anchor rod, only the outermost guy is required to have a marker.*

The down guy wire attached to Pole 294F and in the outermost position was missing a guy marker.

GO 128, Rule 17.1, 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 following underground facilities required maintenance:

- Pad Mount 1709 – The pad mount transformer was surrounded by 5-foot-tall vegetation, not allowing an access path for maintenance and inspections.
- Pull Box PB311 – The access lid doors of the below ground pull box, located on a sidewalk, had corrosion that had penetrated through the metal.
- Pad mount 2661 – The access area of the padmount transformer was obstructed by several palm fonds.

- Pad Mount 3692 – A corner of the concrete pad of the padmounted transformer was damaged and had detached.
- Pull Box PB174 – The concrete housing and the steel access lid of the pull box was deteriorated.
- Pad Mount 3683 – The padmount transformer had an oil leak.
- Pad Mount 2402 – The housing of the padmount transformer had corrosion through the metal at the base near the opening.
- Pad Mount 3550 – The padmount transformer had an oil leak.