

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 22, 2025

SA2025-1215

Melvin Stark
Principal Manager, T&D Compliance Integration
Southern California Edison
1 Innovation Way
Pomona, CA 91768

SUBJECT: Substation Audit of Southern California Edison Ventura AOR

Mr. Stark:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Sultan Tipu and SM Arafat Kamal of my staff conducted a substation audit of Southern California Edison (SCE) Ventura AOR from June 23, 2025 to June 27, 2025. The audit included a review of SCE's records and field inspections of SCE's substation 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 September 22, 2025, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SCE 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 Sultan Tipu at (213) 660-5524 or Sultan.Tipu@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

Enclosures: Audit Findings

Cc: Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
Eric Wu, Program Manager, ESRB, SED, CPUC
Majed Ibrahim, Senior Utilities Engineer, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC
Sultan Tipu, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC
SM Arafat Kamal, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Inspection Records
- Substation Operation and Maintenance Procedure
- Substation Construction and Maintenance Procedure
- Fire Extinguisher Maintenance and Inspection Procedure
- Substation Construction and Maintenance Request Process
- Staff Training Records
- Substation Inspection Records
- Substation Equipment Testing Records (Batteries, Breakers, Capacitors, and Regulators)
- Electrical Testing Records
- Oil Test Results
- Pending and Completed Workorders
- Infrared Testing Records

II. Field Inspections

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

No.	Substation Name	Location
1	Somis Substation	Somis
2	Saticoy Substation	Ventura
3	Pierpont Substation	Ventura
4	San Miguel Substation	Ventura
5	Gonzales Substation	Oxnard
6	Gaviota Substation	Gaviota
7	Goleta Substation	Goleta
8	Isla Vista Substation	Goleta
9	Colegio Substation	UC Santa Barbara
10	Vegas Substation	Santa Barbara
11	San Marcos Substation	Santa Barbara
12	Santa Barbara Substation	Santa Barbara
13	Montecito Substation	Santa Barbara
14	Carpinteria Substation	Carpinteria
15	Tapia Substation	Malibu
16	Crater Substation	Agoura Hills
17	Newbury Substation	Thousand Oaks
18	Thousand Oaks Substation	Thousand Oaks
19	Royal Substation	Simi Valley

III. Field Inspection - Violations List

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

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:

Somis Substation

- The No. 1 Bank 66/16 kV South Unit transformer was leaking oil from gasket.
- One of the cooling fans on the No. 1 Bank 66/16 kV North Unit transformer was not running.
- The “DVVC Enabled Capacitor” signage on the No. 1 Capacitor 16 kV was damaged.

Saticov Substation

- The warning and high voltage signs on the Santa Clara No. 1 Line 66 kV Circuit Breaker were damaged.
- All the high voltage signs on the No. 1 Capacitor 16 kV were damaged.

Pierpont Substation

- The No. 1 Bank 16/4 kV transformer was leaking oil from the tap changer handle gasket.
- The No. 2 Bank 16/4 kV transformer was leaking oil from the tap changer handle gasket.

San Miguel Substation

- The No. 2 Bank 66/16 kV transformer was leaking oil from sample valve.

Gaviota Substation

- Two high voltage signs on the No. 1 Capacitor 16 kV were damaged.

Goleta Substation

- All the high voltage signs on the No. 2 Capacitor 66 kV were damaged

Isla Vista Substation

- The glass cover of the hotspot indicator on the No. 2 Bank 66/16 kV transformer oil temperature gauge was cracked.

Vegas Substation

- The No. 2 Bank 66/16 kV transformer was leaking oil from sample valve.
- The No. 2 Bank 66/16 kV transformer was leaking oil from all the radiators.
- The “DVVC Enabled Capacitor” signage on the No. 1B Capacitor 16 kV was damaged.

San Marcos Substation

- The No. 1 Bank North 66/16 kV transformer was leaking oil from the tap changer handle gasket.

Santa Barbara Substation

- Two “Danger Confined Space Permit Required Do Not Enter” signs on the No. 3 Bank 66/16 kV transformer were damaged.

Montecito Substation

- The No. 1 Bank C 16/4 kV transformer was leaking oil from the radiator top gasket.

Crater Substation

- The “DE - ENERGIZE” signage on the No. 1 Capacitor 16 kV was damaged.
- The “DVVC Enabled Capacitor” signage on the No. 1 Capacitor 16 kV was damaged.
- The “DVVC Enabled Capacitor” signage on the No. 2 Capacitor 16 kV was damaged.
- A bird nest was found under the Plateau 16 kV circuit breaker bus.
- Four bird nests were found between the radiator fan of the No. 3 Bank 66/16kV transformer.

Newbury Substation

- All the high voltage signs on the No. 2 Capacitor 16 kV were damaged.
- The “DVVC Enabled Capacitor” signage on the No. 2 Capacitor 16 kV was damaged.

Royal Substation

- The No. 2 Bank 66/16 kV East Unit transformer was leaking oil from sample valve.
- All the high voltage signs on the No. 3 Capacitor 16 kV were damaged.