

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



July 7, 2022

SA2022-958

Paul Marconi
President and Treasurer
Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc.
42020 Garstin Drive
P.O. Box 1547
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Subject: Audit of BVES Substations.

Mr. Marconi:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Calvin Choi and Mily Vaidya of my staff conducted a substation audit of Bear Valley Electric Service (BVES) from April 21, 2022 to April 22, 2022. The audit included a review of BVES's records and field inspections of BVES'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 August 8, 2022, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by BVES to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, you can contact Calvin Choi at (213) 266-4730 or Calvin.Choi@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
Nika Kjensli, Program Manager, ESRB, SED, CPUC
Calvin Choi, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- GO 174 Substation Inspection Practice
- Transformer Outage, Test & Restoration Manual
- Doble Testing of Transformer & Transformer Bushings Manual
- Ground Grid Integrity Testing Practices
- Soil Resistivity Testing Procedures
- Inspection and Testing of Live Line Tools Manual
- Substation Maintenance Practice
- Battery Testing & Maintenance
- Fire Protection System Maintenance & Inspection Program
- Substation Inspection Records
- Pending and Completed Workorders for the year 2021
- Inspection Checklists and One-Line Diagrams
- Electrical Testing Records
- Oil Sample Test Results
- Infrared Testing Results

II. Field Inspections

My staff inspected the following facilities during the field inspection:

No.	Substation Name	Address
1	Bear City	322 West Meadow Ln. Big Bear City, 92314
2	Bear Mountain	Lassen Dr, 1500 Ft W/O Primrose Dr. Big Bear City, 92314
3	Division	150' W/O Division Dr. Big Bear Lake, 92314
4	Fawnskin	S/E Corner of Mast Dr. Big Bear Lake, 92314
5	Lake	Garstin Dr. N/O Fox Farm Rd , Big Bear Lake, 92315
6	Maltby	S/E Corner of Maltby Blvd. & Shore Dr. Big Bear City, 92314
7	Maple	N/O Baldwin Ln & 500' W/O Maple Ln. Big Bear City, 92314
8	Meadow	N/O 42020 Garstin Dr. Big Bear Lake, 92315
9	Moonridge	S/E Corner of Clubview Dr. & Clover Dr. Big Bear Lake, 92315
10	Palomino	N/O Shay Rd & E/O Palomino Dr. Big Bear City, 92314
11	Pine Knot	S/E Corner of Lahontan Dr. & Georgia St. Big Bear Lake, 92315
12	Summit	S/W Corner of Summit Blvd, Snow Summit Parking Lot, Big Bear Lake 92315
13	Village	150' W/O Knickerbocker Rd Big Bear Lake, 92315

III. Field Inspection - Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspections 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:

Village Substation

- The concrete pad for the station power transformer was cracking and deteriorated.

Fawnskin Substation

- The concrete foundation where the voltage regulator was located had a substantial crack through it, only allowing the equipment to be secured to the foundation on one side.