

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
N FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 25, 2010

CPUC File No.: EA2010-06

Mr. Melvin Stark  
Manager, Maintenance and Inspection  
Southern California Edison (SCE)  
2885 W. Foothill Blvd.  
Rialto, CA 92476

SUBJECT: Audit of SCE's Montebello District

Dear Mr. Stark:

On behalf of the Utilities Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission, I conducted an electric audit of SCE's Montebello District from March 22-26, 2010. The audit included a review of SCE's records and a field inspection of recently inspected overhead and underground facilities.

During the audit, I identified violations of General Order (GO) 95, 128, and 165. An Inspection Summary itemizing these findings is enclosed. Within 30 days, provide a written response indicating the corrective measures taken by SCE regarding the above violations.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (213) 620-2780.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Lee".

Cynthia Lee  
Utilities Engineer  
Utilities Safety and Reliability Branch  
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

Enclosure: Inspection Summary

Cc: Robert Conway, Technical Specialist 3, SCE  
Moses Varela, Manager Program Contract 3, SCE

## **Inspection Summary**

### **GO 165, Section IV – Standards for Inspection, Record-keeping, and Reporting, states:**

*“For all inspections, within a reasonable period, company records shall specify the circuit, area, or equipment inspected, the name of the inspector, the date of the inspection, and any problems identified during each inspection, as well as the scheduled date of corrective action.”*

During the audit, I identified 2441 work orders, from 2007 to 2010, that were completed late.

The following is a list of GO 95 and 128 violations that were observed during the audit and were not documented in SCE Montebello District’s inspection records.

#### **1. GO 95, Rule 18B Notification of Safety Hazards, states:**

*“If a company, while inspecting its facilities, discovers a safety hazard on or near a communications facility, electric transmission or distribution facility involving another company, the inspecting company shall notify the other company and/or facility owner of such safety hazard no later than 10 business days after the discovery.”*

During its recent detail inspection of Pole 189051A, the inspector, Hiraldo Lopez, did not document and notify the other company and/or facility owner of the safety hazard of a broken down guy wire and lashing wire at the public level. After interviewing Mr. Lopez regarding this safety hazard, he stated he did not know that this action was required.

#### **2. GO 95, Rule 31.1 Design, Construction and Maintenance, states:**

*“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.”*

Pole 1430423E had a broken perform line on the secondary crossarm.

**3. 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.”*

The following poles had abandoned lines or portions of lines:

- 4314330E
- 759364E
- 1962495E

**4. GO 95, Rule 38 Minimum Clearances of Wires from Other Wires, states:**

*“The minimum vertical, horizontal or radial clearances of wires from other wires shall not be less than the values given in Table 2...”*

The following poles had a down guy wire contacting a communication line:

- 4338917E
- 4338921E

**5. GO 95, Rule 54.6E(2) Risers, Covered from 8 feet above the Ground Level and above, states:**

*“All risers from underground cables or other conductors which pass through an unrelated conductor or cable level shall be covered or encased by material as described in Rule 54.6–E1 or by a suitable protective covering as described in Rule 22.8 from a distance of 8 feet above the ground to...”*

Pole 881757E had a broken riser.

**6. GO 95, Rule 54.6E(3) Risers, Covering Joints, states:**

*“Where two sections of suitable protective covering join together (at joints) they shall be covered to prevent exposing the underground cables or other conductors by:*

- a) *The extension of either or both such coverings; or*
- b) *A coupling of equal material; or*
- c) *A strap of equal material.”*

Pole 1387967E had a broken riser coupling at the public level.

**7. GO 95, Rule 54.7 Climbing and Working Space, states:**

*“Climbing space shall be maintained from the ground level. Climbing space, measured from center line of pole, shall be provided on one side or in one quadrant of all poles or structures with dimensions as specified...”*

Pole 4338917E had climbing space obstructed on all sides by vegetation.

**8. GO 95, Rule 56.9 Guy Marker, 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 on pole 1962494E was missing a guy marker.

**9. GO 128, Rule 17.1 Design, Construction and Maintenance, states:**

*“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.”*

Switch number S5051691 was missing one (1) bolt on the vault cover.

Manhole number 5009027 had excessive vegetation in the work space.

**10. GO 128, Rule 34.3A Strength, states:**

*“The equipment case or enclosure shall be secured in place and be of sufficient strength to resist entrance or damage to the equipment by unauthorized persons.”*

The following padmount transformer equipment was not secured in place:

- P5015301
- P5459826

**11. GO 128, Rule 34.3B Guarding Live Parts, states:**

*“Compartments and enclosures which will, during normal operation, contain exposed live parts shall be designed and installed to prevent a person from passing a wire or other conducting material into such compartment from the outside when it is closed. This requirement is not intended to prevent normal work operations such as fishing ducts and installing cable.”*

The following padmount transformer equipment had openings accessible to the public:

- P5015301
- P5459826