

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



October 25, 2012

Gregory Walters
Team Lead – Compliance Management
San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E)
8316 Century Park Court CP51D
San Diego, CA 92123

EA2012-012

SUBJECT: Electric Audit of SDG&E's Beach Cities District

Dear Mr. Walters:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission, Koko Tomassian of my staff conducted an Electric Audit of SDG&E's Beach Cities District from September 17, 2012 to September 21, 2012. The audit included a review of SDG&E's records, compliance with the 2009 settlement agreement, compliance with the requirements of CPSD letter to Lee Schavrien dated December 7, 2011 (inspection, documentation, and correction of all violations on circuits 0481 and 0921), and field inspections of SDG&E's facilities.

During the audit, my staff found that SDG&E did not document all General Orders (GOs) 95 and 128 violations at the time of its inspections. A copy of the audit summary itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than November 30, 2012, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SDG&E to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions, you can contact Koko Tomassian at (213) 576-7099 or koko.tomassian@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

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

Raffy Stepanian, P.E.
Program Manager
Electric Safety and Reliability Branch
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

Enclosure: Audit Summary

CC: Raymond Fugere, Program and Project Supervisor, CPUC

AUDIT SUMMARY

Company: SDG&E – Beach Cities District
Electric Audit Date: September 17 to September 21, 2012

1.	Location:	Pole No.: 2Z79689
	Previous SDG&E Visit Details:	July 18, 2012 – Overhead (OH) Repair
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	September 18, 2012
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Loose Guy Wire</u>		
<p>GO 95, Rule 56.2, Overhead Guys, Anchor Guys and Span Wires, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Guys shall be attached to structures, as nearly as practicable, at the center of load. They shall be maintained taut, and of such strength as to meet the safety factors of Rule 44.</i></p> <p>The pole had a slack guy wire. SDG&E records indicate that this violation was corrected when SDG&E last inspected the pole. However, a field visit during the CPUC inspection revealed that the violation was still present.</p>		
2.	Location:	Pole No.: P932194
	Previous SDG&E Visit Details:	September 14, 2012 – OH Detailed Inspection
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	September 19, 2012
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Insufficient Clearance Between Communication Service Drop and Electric Down Guy Wire</u>		
<p>GO 95, Rule 38, Table 2, Case 19C, requires that:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Guys and span wires passing communication conductors (including service drops) supported on the same pole must maintain a three (3) inch radial separation.</i></p> <p>The pole had a communication service drop in contact with a guy wire. This violation was not documented when SDG&E last inspected the pole.</p>		

3.	Location:	Pole No.: P932203
	Previous SDG&E Visit Details:	September 14, 2012 – OH Detailed Inspection
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	September 19, 2012
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Insufficient Radial Clearance between Electric and Communication Infrastructure Provider (CIP) Service Drops</u>		
<p>GO 95, Rule 18-A1c, Resolution of Safety Hazards and GO 95 Nonconformances, states:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Where a communications company's or an electric utility' actions result in GO nonconformances for another entity, that entity's remedial action will be to transmit a single documented notice of identified nonconformances to the communications company or electric utility for compliance.</i></p> <p>GO 95, Rule 54.8-C4, Clearances between Supply Service Drops and Other Conductors, states:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The radial clearance between supply service drop conductors and communication service drop conductors may be less than 48 inches as specified in Table 2, Column C, Cases 4 and 9; Column D, Cases 3 and 8, but shall be not less than 24 inches. Where within 15 feet of the point of attachment of either service drop on a building, this clearance may be further reduced but shall be not less than 12 inches.</i></p> <p>The pole supported electric and communication service drops with less than 24 inches of radial clearance beyond 15 feet from the point of attachment. This violation was not documented when SDG&E last inspected the pole, and SDG&E did not notify the CIP of this GO nonconformance.</p>		

4.	Location:	Structure No.: D151002
	Previous SDG&E Visit Details:	August 16, 2012 – Underground (UG) Detailed Inspection
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	September 20, 2012
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Pad Mounted Structure’s Opening Obstructed by Vegetation</u>		
<p>GO 128, Rule 17.1, Design, Construction, and Maintenance, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>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.</i></p> <p>The pad mounted structure’s opening was obstructed by vegetation. This violation was not documented the last time SDG&E inspected the structure.</p>		

5.	Location:	Structure No.: H2430869791
	Previous SDG&E Visit Details:	July 6, 2012 – Underground (UG) Detailed Inspection
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	September 20, 2012
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Unracked UG Cables</u>		
<p>GO 128, Rule 17.1, Design, Construction, and Maintenance, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>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.</i></p> <p>The handhole structure housed secondary underground cables which were not supported properly. This violation was not documented the last time SDG&E inspected the structure.</p>		