#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor

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

Audit Summary



August 24, 2012

kection III-B - Standards for Incoections, states:

EA2012-013

Casey Kelley General Foreman Liberty Utilities P.O. Box 107 Tahoe Vista, CA 96148

SUBJECT: Audit of Liberty Utilities

Dear Mr. Kelley:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission, Paul Penney and Ryan Yamamoto of my staff conducted an audit of Liberty Utilities (LU) from June 4, 2012 to June 7, 2012. The audit included a review of LU's maintenance records and inspections of LU's facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders. A copy of the audit summary itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than September 28, 2012, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by LU to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions concerning this audit you can contact, Ryan Yamamoto at (415) 703-2192 or ryan.yamamoto@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures: CPUC Audit Summary

CC: Raymond Fugere, Program and Project Supervisor, CPUC Alok Kumar, Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor), CPUC Paul Penney, Utilities Engineer, CPUC Ryan Yamamoto, Utilities Engineer, CPUC

# Audit Summary

#### GO 165, Section III-B – Standards for Inspections, states:

"Each utility subject to this General Order shall conduct inspections of its distribution facilities, as necessary, to ensure reliable, high-quality, and safe operation, but in no case may the period between inspections (measured in years) exceed the time specified in Table 1."

LU did not have sufficient records to demonstrate compliance with the inspection requirements of GO 165.

#### GO 165, Section III-C – Record Keeping states in part:

"The utility shall maintain records for (1) at least ten (10) years of patrol and detailed inspection activities, and (2) the life of the pole for intrusive inspection activities. Such records shall be made available to parties or pursuant to Commission rules upon 30 days notice. Commission staff shall be permitted to inspect such records consistent with Public Utilities Code Section 314 (a).

LU does not have a written inspection program that requires recording keeping as specified in GO 165.

# GO 165, Section III-C – Record Keeping states in part:

"For all inspections records shall specify the circuit, area, facility or equipment inspected, the inspector, the date of the inspection, and any problems (or items requiring corrective action) identified during each inspection, as well as the scheduled date of corrective action."

LU did not document all violations of General Orders 95 and 128 during its inspections. Additionally, all violations that were discovered by the utility were not scheduled for corrective action.

#### GO 165, Section III-D, - Reporting, states in part:

"By July 1<sup>st</sup> each each utility subject to this General Order shall submit an annual report for the previous year under penalty of perjury."

LU has not submitted any annual reports to the Commission. Annual reports must be submitted to the Commission by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

# GO 95, Rule 18-A1a, - Resolution of Safety Hazards and GO 95 Nonconformances, states in part:

"Each company (including utilities and CIPs) is responsible for taking appropriate corrective action to remedy Safety Hazards and GO 95 nonconformances posed by its facilities."

LU did not document, schedule for correction and correct all Safety Hazards received from other companies.

# GO 95, Rule 18-B, - Notification of Safety Hazards, states in part:

"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 company and/or facility owner of such safety hazard(s) no later than 10 business days after the discovery. To the extent the inspecting company cannot determine the facility owner/operator, it shall contact the pole owner(s), who shall be responsible for promptly notifying the company owning/operating the facility with the safety hazard(s), normally not to exceed five business days after being notified of the safety hazard. The notification shall be documented and such documentation must be preserved by all parties for at least ten years."

LU does not notify other companies of safety hazards as required by GO 95.

#### GO 95, Rule 44.2, Additional Construction, States:

"Any entity planning the addition of facilities that materially increase vertical, transverse or longitudinal loading on a structure shall perform a loading calculation to ensure that the addition of the facilities will not reduce the safety factors below the values specified by Rule 44.3. Such entity shall maintain these pole loading calculations for ten years and shall provide such information to authorized joint use pole occupants and the Commission upon request."

LU's pole load calculations did not contain accurate information; specifically, the data used in the calculation did not accurately reflect the facilities in the field. Pole loading calculations need to use accurate information.

# <u>GO 128, Rule 17.8, Identification of Manholes, Handholes, Subsurface and</u> <u>Self-contained Surface-mounted Equipment Enclosures, states:</u>

"Manholes, handholes, subsurface and self-contained surfacemounted equipment enclosures shall be marked as to ownership to facilitate identification by persons authorized to work therein and by other persons performing work in their vicinity."

LU needs to update the ownership identification signs on its padmounted equipment. Currently, LU staff is not always documenting this violation when it inspects its facilities.

# **Field Violations**

1.	Location:	7276 Highway 28, Tahoe Vista (Equipment # 244289)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	03/07/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Vio	lation(s):
	GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part:	
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)"	
	At this location, LU's pole had a ground wire that was exposed. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	

2.	Location:	480 North Ridge Road, Carnelian Bay (Equipment # 96794)	
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/23/11	
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12	
	Explanation of Violation(s):		
	Secondary Crossa	rm Contact Above Insulator On Anchor Guy	
	GO 95, Rule 56.7-B	, states in part:	
	"In order to prevent trees, buildings, messengers, metal–sheathed cables or other similar objects from grounding portions of guys above guy insulators, it is suggested that anchor guys be sectionalized, where practicable, near the highest level permitted by this Rule."		
	At this location, LU's anchor guy had secondary crossarm contact above the guy insulator. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.		

3.	Location:	620 North Ridge Road, Carnelian Bay (Equipment # 90576)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	03/23/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Vio	ation(s):
	Secondary Crossa	rm Contact Above Insulator On Anchor Guy
GO 95, Rule 56.7-B, states in part: <i>"In order to prevent trees, buildings, messengers, metal–sheathed cables similar objects from grounding portions of guys above guy insulators, it is suggested that anchor guys be sectionalized, where practicable, near the level permitted by this Rule."</i>		, states in part:
		ects from grounding portions of guys above guy insulators, it is that anchor guys be sectionalized, where practicable, near the highest
	At this location, LU's anchor guy had secondary crossarm contact above the guy insulator. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	

4.	Location:	620 North Ridge Road, Carnelian Bay (Equipment # 90575)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/23/11
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Viol	ation(s):
	Anchor Guy Less 1	Then Three (3) Inches From Secondary Conductor
GO 95, Rule 38, Table 2 states in part:		ble 2 states in part:
	shall not b of 60° F. a reduced cl	num vertical, horizontal or radial clearances of wires from other wires e less than the values given in Table 2_and are based on a temperature nd no wind. Conductors may be deadended at the crossarm or have earances at points of transposition, and shall not be held in violation Cases 8–15, inclusive."
	At this location, LU's anchor guy less then three (3) inches from the secondary conductor. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	

5.	Location:	Woodchuck Drive & North Ridge Road, Carnelian Bay (Equipment # 90568)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/23/11
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Viol	ation(s):
	"Where overhead conductors traverse trees and vegetation, safety and reliability of service demand that certain vegetation management activities be performed in order to establish necessary and reasonable clearances, the minimum clearances set forth in Table 1, Cases 13 and 14, measured between line conductors and vegetation under normal conditions shall be maintained. (Also see Appendix E for tree trimming guidelines.) These requirements apply to all overhead electrical supply and communication facilities that are covered by this General Order, including facilities on lands owned and maintained by California state and local agencies."	
	At this location, LU's overhead conductor was less than 18 inches from a tree. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	

6.	Location:	457 Terrace Drive, Carnelian Bay (Equipment # 45303)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	03/23/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Viol	lation(s):
	<ul> <li><u>Ground Wire Exposed</u></li> <li>GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part:</li> <li><i>"That portion of the ground wire 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)."</i></li> <li>At this location, LU's pole had a ground wire that was exposed. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.</li> </ul>	
	Missing High Voltage Sign GO 95, Rule 51.6-A, states in part: <i>"Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs"</i>	
	At this location, LU's	s pole was missing a high voltage sign. This violation was not U last visited this location.

7.	Location:	5850 Ophir Street, Carnelian Bay (Equipment # 39579)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	03/20/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Viol	ation(s):
	Slack Anchor Guy GO 95, Rule 56.2 st	ates in part:
	"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."	
	At this location, LU's anchor guy was slack. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	
	<u>Ground Wire Exposed</u> GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part:	
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)."	
		s pole had a ground wire that was exposed. This violation was not U last visited this location.

8.	Location:	Mountain Circle & Wildwood Road, Tahoe Vista (Equipment # 81583)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	01/20/11
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Viol	ation(s):
	GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part: "That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarr or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8)."	
	At this location, LU's pole had a ground wire that was exposed. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	

9.	Location:	5984 Dodowah Road (Equipment # 85741)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	01/13/11
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Viol	ation(s):
	Slack Anchor Guy GO 95, Rule 56.2 states in part: "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."	
	last visited this locat	anchor guy was slack. This violation was not documented when LU ion.
	<u>Missing High Volta</u> GO 95, Rule 51.6-A	
		ch support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with le signs"
		pole was missing a high voltage sign. This violation was not U last visited this location.

10.	Location:	6548 North Lake Boulevard, Tahoe Vista (Equipment # 81463)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	01/10/11
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Vio	lation(s):
Ground Wire Exposed GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part:		
	"That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarr or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8)."	
	-	s pole had ground wire that was exposed. This violation was not U last visited this location.

11.	Location:	8486 Golden Avenue, Kings Beach (Equipment # 81447)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	05/18/11
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Vio	lation(s):
	GO 95, Rule 54.6, E	
	or on the s	on of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable covering (see Rule 22.8)."
		s pole had a ground wire that was exposed. This violation was not U last visited this location.
	Foreign Attachmer GO 95, Rule 34, sta	
	attachmen antennas,	n these rules shall be construed as permitting the unauthorized t, to supply, street light or communication poles or structures, of signs, posters, banners, decorations, wires, lighting fixtures, guys, any other such equipment foreign to the purposes of overhead electric uction.
	permission poles or fa consent of which attac	erein contained shall be construed as requiring utilities to grant of for such use of their overhead facilities; or permitting any use of joint cilities for such permanent or temporary construction without the f all parties having any ownership whatever in the poles or structures to chments may be made; or granting authority for the use of any poles, or facilities without the owner's or owners' consent."
	At this location, LU's when LU last visited	s pole had a foreign attachment. This violation was not documented I this location.

12.	Location:	8434 Loch Levon Avenue, Kings Beach (Equipment # 68531)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/23/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Vio	lation(s):
		Ground Wire Exposed
	GO 95, Rule 54.6, E	3, states in part:
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)."	
	At this location, LU's ground wire and ground rod was exposed. This violation was n documented when LU last visited this location.	

13.	Location:	Golden Avenue & Deer Street, Kings Beach (Equipment # 81441)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	03/22/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Vio	lation(s):
	GO 95, Rule 54.6, E	
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)."	
	At this location, LU's	s ground wire was exposed. This violation was not documented when ocation.
	Cable Attached To GO 95, Rule 33.3, E	
		onnections for equipment of any one of the types listed in Rule 33.3– be interconnected with ground connections for equipment of any other therein:
		s ground connection has a cable ground wire attached. This violation d when LU last visited this location.

14.	Location:	8779 Brockway Vista Avenue, Kings Beach (Equipment # 208483)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	03/22/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	Anchor Guy Touching Communication Cable GO 95, Rule 38, Table 2 states in part: "The minimum vertical, horizontal or radial clearances of wires from other wires shall not be less than the values given in Table 2_and are based on a temperature of 60° F. and no wind. Conductors may be deadended at the crossarm or have reduced clearances at points of transposition, and shall not be held in violation of Table 2, Cases 8–15, inclusive."	
		s anchor guy was in contact with a communication cable. This violation d when LU last visited this location.

15.	Location:	8732 Rainbow Avenue, Kings Beach (Equipment # 92275)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	03/20/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Vio	lation(s):
	GO 95, Rule 54.6, B, states in part:	
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)."	
	At this location, LU's LU last visited this lo	s ground wire was exposed. This violation was not documented when ocation.
	Anchor Guy Touch GO 95, Rule 38, Tal	hing Communication Cable ble 2 states in part:
	shall not b of 60° F. a reduced cl	num vertical, horizontal or radial clearances of wires from other wires e less than the values given in Table 2_and are based on a temperature and no wind. Conductors may be deadended at the crossarm or have learances at points of transposition, and shall not be held in violation , Cases 8–15, inclusive.
	The cleara because o difference clearances	ances in Table 2 shall in no case be reduced more than 10 percent f temperature and loading as specified in Rule 43 or because of a in size or design of the supporting pins, hardware or insulators. All s of less than 5 inches shall be applied between surfaces, and s of 5 inches or more shall be applied to the center lines of such items."
		s anchor guy was in contact with a communication cable. This violation d when LU last visited this location.

16.	Location:	8681 Rainbow Avenue, Kings Beach (Equipment # 81456)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/08/11
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	GO 95, Rule 54.6, B, states in part:	
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)."	
	At this location, LU's	s ground wire was exposed. This violation was not documented when ocation.

17.	Location:	970 Snow Show Road, Tahoe City (Equipment # 109225)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/07/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	Tree Contact and Secondary Crossarm Contact Above Insulator On Anchor Guy	
	GO 95, Rule 56.7-B, Location of Sectionalizing Insulators states in part:	
	"In order to prevent trees, buildings, messengers, metal–sheathed cables or other similar objects from grounding portions of guys above guy insulators, it is suggested that anchor guys be sectionalized, where practicable, near the highest level permitted by this Rule."	
		s anchor guy had tree contact and secondary crossarm contact above his violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.

18.	Location:	970 Sky Way, Tahoe City (Equipment # 201316)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/07/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	Anchor Guy Touching Communication Cable	
	GO 95, Rule 38, Table 2 states in part:	
	"The minimum vertical, horizontal or radial clearances of wires from other wires shall not be less than the values given in Table 2_and are based on a temperature of 60° F. and no wind. Conductors may be deadended at the crossarm or have reduced clearances at points of transposition, and shall not be held in violation of Table 2, Cases 8–15, inclusive"	
	At this location, LU's anchor guy was in contact with a communication cable. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	

19.	Location:	125 Talmont Circle, Tahoe City (Equipment # 155257)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/07/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	Ground Rod And Ground Wire Exposed GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part:	
	"That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarm or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8)."	
	At this location, LU's ground wire and ground rod was exposed. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	
	<u>Missing High Voltage Sign</u> GO 95, Rule 51.6-A, states in part:	
	"Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs"	
	At this location, LU's pole had a damaged a high voltage sign. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	

20.	Location:	445 John Cain Road, Tahoe City (Equipment # 139525)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/07/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Vio	lation(s):
	GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part:	
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)."	
	At this location, LU's	s ground wire was exposed. This violation was not documented when ocation.

21.	Location:	1975 Silver Tip Drive, Tahoe City (Equipment # 131178)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/07/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
		r <mark>e Insulator On Anchor Guy</mark> , Location of Sectionalizing Insulators states in part:
	similar obje suggested	o prevent trees, buildings, messengers, metal–sheathed cables or other ects from grounding portions of guys above guy insulators, it is that anchor guys be sectionalized, where practicable, near the highest itted by this Rule."
	At this location, LU's anchor guy had tree contact above the guy insulator. This violation was not documented when LU last visited this location.	
	<u>Ground Wire Exposed</u> GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part:	
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)."	
	At this location, LU's LU last visited this lo	s ground wire was exposed. This violation was not documented when ocation.
	Missing High Volta GO 95, Rule 51.6-A	
	,	
	"Poles whi	ich support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with ge signs"

22.	Location:	2090 Woodleigh Road, Tahoe City (Equipment # 180628)
	Previous LU Visit Details:	02/07/12
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	06/06/12
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, states in part:	
	"That portion of the ground wire 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)."	
		s ground wire and ground rod was exposed. This violation was not U last visited this location.