

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



November 12, 2020

EA2020-856

Gary Lehmann
Manager of Compliance Management
San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E)
904 West Main Street
El Cajon, CA 92020

Subject: Audit of SDG&E Northeast District

Mr. Lehmann:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), James Miller, Stacey Ocampo and Mily Vaidya of my staff conducted the field inspection portion of SDG&E Northeast District audit from September 21, 2020 to September 25, 2020.

During the field inspection, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders (GOs). A copy of the findings itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than December 14, 2020, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SDG&E to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, you can contact James Miller at (213) 266-4715 or James.Miller@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
James Miller, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Field Inspections

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

	Structure No.	Structure Type	Location
1	P116198	Pole	Rainbow
2	P216389	Pole	Rainbow
3	P116197	Pole	Rainbow
4	P119589	Pole	Rainbow
5	P119590	Pole	Rainbow
6	P119591J	Pole	Rainbow
7	P22232	Pole	Rainbow
8	P119592	Pole	Rainbow
9	P119593	Pole	Rainbow
10	P317820	Pole	Rainbow
11	P317821	Pole	Rainbow
12	P413380	Pole	Rainbow
13	P715604	Pole	Rainbow
14	P814323	Pole	Rainbow
15	P226675	Pole	Fallbrook
16	P226674	Pole	Fallbrook
17	P226673	Pole	Fallbrook
18	JP235921	Pole	Fallbrook
19	P812048	Pole	Fallbrook
20	P812047	Pole	Fallbrook
21	P17124	Pole	Fallbrook
22	P18817	Pole	Fallbrook
23	P18818	Pole	Fallbrook
24	P18819	Pole	Fallbrook
25	P18820	Pole	Fallbrook
26	P135285	Pole	Fallbrook
27	P17125	Pole	Fallbrook
28	P515245	Pole	Fallbrook
29	P618319	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
30	P618320	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
31	P618321	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
32	P227363	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
33	P227364	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
34	P167404	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
35	P167416	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation

36	P167417	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
37	P817430	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
38	P618318	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
39	P257269	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
40	P617813	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
41	P617816	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
42	P32478	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
43	P32479	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
44	P617808	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
45	P228022	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
46	P617807	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
47	P617806	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
48	P617803	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
49	P617801	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
50	P617799	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
51	P617798	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
52	P617797	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
53	P617790	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
54	P617789	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
55	P617780	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
56	P617776	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
57	P617774	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
58	P131042	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
59	P617775	Pole	La Jolla Indian Reservation
60	P613169	Pole	Valley Center
61	P716159	Pole	Valley Center
62	P115237	Pole	Valley Center
63	P516315	Pole	Valley Center
64	P414891	Pole	Valley Center
65	P414090	Pole	Valley Center
66	P414887	Pole	Valley Center
67	P414886	Pole	Valley Center
68	P228115	Pole	Valley Center
69	P414880	Pole	Valley Center
70	P414881J	Pole	Valley Center
71	P414882J	Pole	Valley Center
72	P414883	Pole	Valley Center
73	P414884	Pole	Valley Center
74	P418307	Pole	Valley Center
75	P418308	Pole	Valley Center
76	P414889J	Pole	Valley Center

77	P414888	Pole	Valley Center
78	P416975	Pole	Valley Center
79	P515299	Pole	Valley Center
80	P415362	Pole	Escondido
81	P516616	Pole	Escondido
82	P418510	Pole	Ramona
83	P112756	Pole	Ramona
84	P36088	Pole	Ramona
85	P319561	Pole	Ramona
86	P113283	Pole	Ramona
87	P413939	Pole	Ramona
88	P13154	Pole	Ramona
89	P233507	Pole	Ramona
90	P35990	Pole	Ramona
91	P35991	Pole	Ramona
92	D156709	Padmounted Transformer	Valley Center
93	D156746	Terminator	Valley Center
94	D156745	Padmounted Transformer	Valley Center
95	D158209	Padmounted Transformer	Valley Center
96	D156720	Terminator	Valley Center
97	D156719	Padmounted Transformer	Valley Center
98	D156718	Padmounted Transformer	Valley Center
99	D156717	Terminator	Valley Center
100	D156716	Padmounted Transformer	Valley Center
101	D156715	Padmounted Transformer	Valley Center
102	D156714	Terminator	Valley Center
103	D156713	Padmounted Transformer	Valley Center
104	D156813	Padmounted Switch	Valley Center
105	D156711	Fuse Box	Valley Center
106	D150996	Padmounted Transformer	San Marcos
107	D120040	Padmounted Transformer	San Marcos
108	D120045	Padmounted Transformer	San Marcos
109	D120046	Padmounted Transformer	San Marcos
110	D120049	Padmounted Transformer	San Marcos
111	D120048	Padmounted Transformer	San Marcos
112	D119865	Padmounted Transformer	San Marcos
113	D3127574535	Padmounted Transformer	Rancho Bernardo
114	D123688	Padmounted Transformer	Rancho Bernardo
115	W102491	Padmounted Switch	Rancho Bernardo
116	W102490	Padmounted Switch	Rancho Bernardo
117	D136591	Padmounted Switch	Rancho Bernardo

118	D3094574389	Padmounted Switch	Rancho Bernardo
119	D3094574388	Fuse Cabinet	Rancho Bernardo
120	D3094274433	Padmounted Transformer	Rancho Bernardo
121	D138014	Fuse Cabinet	Rancho Bernardo
122	P200058	Pole	Valley Center
123	P200057	Pole	Valley Center
124	P200056	Pole	Valley Center
125	P710694	Pole	Valley Center
126	P415034	Pole	Valley Center
127	P619002	Pole	Escondido
128	P113738	Pole	Escondido
129	P511150	Pole	Pauma
130	P511151	Pole	Pauma
131	P186589	Pole	Escondido
132	P512139	Pole	Escondido

II. Field Inspection Violations List

GO 95, Rule 51.6, Marking and Guarding, High Voltage Marking of Poles, states in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs. This marking shall consist of a single sign showing the words "HIGH VOLTAGE", or pair of signs showing the words "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE", not more than six (6) inches in height with letters not less than 3 inches in height. A pair of signs may be stacked to a height of no more than 12 inches. Such signs shall be of weather and corrosion-resisting material, solid or with letters cut out therefrom and clearly legible.

The high voltage signs on each of the following poles were either missing or damaged:

- P116198
- P119592
- P13154

GO 95, Rule 56.2 Overhead Guys, Anchor Guys and Span Wires, Use, 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 .

The guy wire attached to each of the following poles was not taut:

- P61832
- P617790
- P812048
- P115237
- JP235921
- P617808

GO 95, Rule 38 - Minimum Clearances of Wires from Other Wires, Table 2, Column C, Case 19, requires the minimum radial clearance between guys and communication conductors supported on the same poles to be three inches.

A down guy wire attached to Pole No. P617807 was in contact with a communication conductor supported on the same pole.

GO 95, Rule 31.1 Design, Construction and Maintenance, states in part:

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.

For all particulars not specified in these rules, design, construction, and maintenance should be done in accordance with accepted good practice for the given local conditions known at the time by those responsible for the design, construction, or maintenance of communication or supply lines and equipment.

The avian protector on Pole No. P618319 had fallen off its lightning arrestor.