

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 16, 2020

EA2020-859

Melvin Stark
Principle Manager, T&D Compliance Integration
Southern California Edison Company
1 Innovation Way
Pomona, CA 91786

Subject: Audit of Southern California Edison's Yucca Valley District

Mr. Stark:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Saimon Islam, Richard Le and Stacey Ocampo of my staff conducted an electric distribution audit of Southern California Edison's (SCE) Yucca Valley District from February 10, 2020 to February 14, 2020. The audit included a review of SCE's records and field inspections of SCE's 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 May 18, 2020, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SCE to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, you can contact Saimon Islam at (213) 266-4733 or saimon.islam@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
Charlotte TerKeurst, ESRB, SED, CPUC
Saimon Islam, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Overhead and underground detailed inspections records.
- Completed and pending corrective action work orders.
- Pole loading calculations.
- Safety hazard notifications.
- Intrusive test records
- SCE's documented inspection program.
- Vegetation Management Records

II. Records Review – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the records review portion of the audit:

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

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.

- SCE's records indicated that from 2014 to 2019, SCE completed 36 work orders past their due date for corrective action. Additionally, as of the date of the audit, SCE had 99 open work orders that were past their scheduled due date for corrective action.

GO 95, Rule 31.2, Inspection of Lines, states in part:

Lines shall be inspected frequently and thoroughly for the purpose of ensuring that they are in good condition so as to conform with these rules. Lines temporarily out of service shall be inspected and maintained in such condition as not to create a hazard.

GO 165, Standard III-B, Distribution Facilities, Standards for Inspections, states in part:

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](#)

- SCE's records indicated that from 2014 to 2019, SCE completed 62 annual grid patrol inspections and 160 overhead detailed inspections past their scheduled due dates.

GO 128, Rule 17.1, 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.

- SCE’s records indicated that from 2014 to 2019, SCE had one open work order that was past its scheduled due date for corrective action.

Work Order No.	Notification Date	Required End Date
408071262	09/13/2016	09/13/2017

III. Field Inspections

My staff inspected the following facilities during the field inspection:

No.	Structure ID.	Type of Structure	Location
1.	2232624E	Pole	29 Palms
2.	2232623E	Pole	29 Palms
3.	1779426E	Pole	29 Palms
4.	1779427E	Pole	29 Palms
5.	1690610E	Pole	29 Palms
6.	1690607E	Pole	29 Palms
7.	1691688E	Pole	29 Palms
8.	4661368E	Pole	Joshua Tree
9.	1697739E	Pole	Joshua Tree
10.	2233016E	Pole	Yucca Valley
11.	4034537	Pole	Yucca Valley
12.	1573874E	Pole	Yucca Valley
13.	1573875E	Pole	Yucca Valley
14.	4035379E	Pole	Yucca Valley
15.	4035378E	Pole	Yucca Valley
16.	2351540E	Pole	Yucca Valley
17.	241662	Pole	Yucca Valley
18.	243549	Pole	Yucca Valley
19.	4879749E	Pole	Yucca Valley
20.	2351533E	Pole	Yucca Valley
21.	1883384E	Pole	Yucca Valley
22.	1883383E	Pole	Yucca Valley
23.	1883382E	Pole	Yucca Valley
24.	2231594E	Pole	Yucca Valley
25.	2231592E	Pole	Yucca Valley
26.	2231591E	Pole	Yucca Valley
27.	243349S	Pole	Yucca Valley
28.	243350	Pole	Yucca Valley
29.	243348	Pole	Yucca Valley
30.	341679	Pole	Yucca Valley
31.	1942141E	Pole	Yucca Valley
32.	1942142E	Pole	Yucca Valley
33.	1942143E	Pole	Yucca Valley
34.	4033901E	Pole	Yucca Valley
35.	1555985E	Pole	Yucca Valley
36.	2231518E	Pole	Yucca Valley
37.	4586381E	Pole	Yucca Valley
38.	240362S	Pole	Yucca Valley
39.	43405S	Pole	Yucca Valley
40.	43406S	Pole	Yucca Valley
41.	1685685E	Pole	Morongo
42.	2201066E	Pole	Morongo
43.	2201068E	Pole	Morongo
44.	2201067E	Pole	Morongo

45.	43781S	Pole	Morongo
46.	1801675E	Pole	Morongo
47.	42493	Pole	Morongo
48.	2350166E	Pole	Morongo
49.	4850357E	Pole	Morongo
50.	24388S	Pole	Morongo
51.	243889	Pole	Morongo
52.	4883283E	Pole	Morongo
53.	1606119E	Pole	Morongo
54.	1556153E	Pole	Morongo
55.	1555830E	Pole	Yucca Valley
56.	V5585104	Vault	Yucca Valley
57.	5511350	Vault	Joshua Tree
58.	5596037	Vault/Switch	Joshua Tree
59.	5190905	Switch	Yucca Valley
60.	5190907	Switch	Yucca Valley
61.	5520793	Pad-Mounted Transformer	Yucca Valley
62.	P5527564	Pad-Mounted Transformer	Yucca Valley
63.	P5527559	Pad-Mounted Transformer	Yucca Valley
64.	5503283	Switch	Yucca Valley
65.	S5054536	Switch	Yucca Valley
66.	P558485	Pad-Mounted Transformer	Yucca Valley
67.	P5585387	Pad-Mounted Transformer	Yucca Valley
68.	P5585388	Pad-Mounted Transformer	Yucca Valley
69.	P5584851	Pad-Mounted Transformer	Yucca Valley
70.	5583196	Switch	29 Palms
71.	P5591100	Pad-Mounted Transformer	29 Palms
72.	P5591107	Pad-Mounted Transformer	29 Palms
73.	4833744E	Pole	29 Palms
74.	416875	Pole	29 Palms
75.	264246T	Pole	29 Palms
76.	22408CWT	Pole	29 Palms
77.	4840863E	Pole	29 Palms
78.	40667	Pole	29 Palms
79.	4847281E	Pole	29 Palms
80.	4833743E	Pole	29 Palms

IV. Field Inspection Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspection portion of the audit:

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A, 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 SCE poles were damaged and/or missing:
 - Pole No. 1779426E - Damaged "High Voltage" sign
 - Pole No. 1690610E - Damaged "High Voltage" sign
 - Pole No. 2351540E - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.
 - Pole No. 2231592E - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.
 - Pole No. 1942141E - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.
 - Pole No. 1942142E - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.
 - Pole No. 2201067E - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.
 - Pole No. 42493 - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.
 - Pole No. 2350166E - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.
 - Pole No. 416875 - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.
 - Pole No. 264246T - The "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE" markers are missing.

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wires 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).

- The ground moulding on pole number 4035379E is broken, exposing SCE ground wire.
- The ground moulding on pole number 4661368E is missing on top section of the pole, exposing SCE ground wire.

GO 95, Rule 34, Foreign Attachments, states in part:

Nothing in these rules shall be construed as permitting the unauthorized attachment, to supply, street light or communication poles or structures, of antennas, signs, posters, banners, decorations, wires, lighting fixtures, guys, ropes and any other such equipment foreign to the purposes of overhead electric line construction.

- An unauthorized advertisement sign was attached to SCE pole No. 1883384E.

GO 95, Rule 31.6, Abandoned Lines, states in part:

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.

- An abandoned guy wire and a service drop were still attached to Pole number 2201066E.

GO 95, Table 2, Column C, Case 10, requires four feet separation between supply service drops and communication service drops

- A supply service drop attached to Pole No. 4586381E had less than four feet separation from communication service drop

GO 128, Rule 17.1, 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.

GO 128, Rule 12.2, Maintenance, states in part:

Systems shall be maintained in such condition as to secure safety to workmen and the public in general.

- The oil level of SCE pad mounted transformer No. 5520793 was below the minimum level as indicated by the sight glass.
- Pad mounted structure No. P5591107 was corroded and had accumulated buildup on the inside.