

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



November 9, 2020

EA2020-862

Lise Jordan, Sr. Director
Regulatory Compliance and Quality Assurance
Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)
77 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

SUBJECT: Field Inspection Findings- PG&E's Stockton Division Distribution Audit

Dear Ms. Jordan:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Brandon Vazquez and Samuel Mandell of ESRB conducted field inspection of PG&E's distribution facilities and equipment in the Stockton Division from October 5, 2020 through October 9, 2020.

As a result of the field inspection, ESRB staff identified violations of one or more General Orders (GOs). A copy of the audit findings itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please provide a response no later than December 7, 2020, by electronic copy of all corrective actions and preventive measures taken by PG&E to correct the identified violations and prevent the recurrence of such violations. The response should indicate the date of each remedial action and preventive measure completed. For any outstanding items not addressed, please provide the projected completion dates of all corrective actions for the violations outlined in Section II and responses to Section III of the enclosed Field Audit Findings.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, please contact Brandon Vazquez at (415) 703-1076 or brandon.vazquez@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Banu Acimis".

Banu Acimis, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Electric Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission

Enclosure: CPUC Field Audit Findings

Cc: Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
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**PG&E STOCKTON DIVISION
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION
FIELD AUDIT FINDINGS
October 5-9, 2020**

I. Field Inspection

During the field inspection, ESRB staff inspected the following facilities:

Location	SAP Number	Equipment Number	Type of Structure	Approximate Location	City
1	103951108	120139362	Pole	5955 W Turner Rd	Lodi
2	102076086	120528900	Pole	1 Pole East of Loc 1	Lodi
3	102076098	120012526	Pole	2 Poles East of Loc 1	Lodi
4	102075393	120757434	Pole	Devries Rd (1 Pole South of D4587)	Lodi
5	102075051	120513331	Pole	Devries Rd (D4587)	Lodi
6	102075012	120513330	Pole	Devries Rd (1 Pole North of D4587)	Lodi
7	102075021	120556114	Pole	Devries Rd (2 Poles South of D4587)	Lodi
8	102108152	120459661	Pole	1607 Armstrong Rd	Lodi
9	102108149	120459662	Pole	1 Pole East of Loc 8	Lodi
10	102108148	120459663	Pole	1 Pole South of Loc 9	Lodi
11	102080411	23-407	Pole	3 Poles East of 1610 Harney Ln	Lodi
12	102074190	23-408	Pole	16177 E Harney Ln (1 Pole W of Loc 11)	Lodi
13	102080409	23-409	Pole	1 Pole West of Loc 12	Lodi
14		T-42668	Padmount Transformer	11900 Furry Rd	Lodi
15	102105757		Pole	Adjacent to Loc 14 (D8051)	Lodi
16	103953090	120790087	Pole	5055 Bear Creek Rd	Lodi
17	107045809	T-16846	Padmount Transformer	10437 Albert Dr	Stockton
18	107037766	T-16845	Padmount Transformer	10513 Albert Dr	Stockton
19	102065110	120019052	Pole	2 Poles South of 21113 San Jose Rd	Tracy
20	103957610	120813777	Pole	21315 San Jose Rd	Tracy
21	102065116	120890036	Pole	1 Pole North of Loc 20	Tracy
22	102094613		Pole	20889 San Jose Rd	Tracy
23	102094611	120890040	Pole	1 Pole South of Loc 22	Tracy
24	102094607		Pole	20600 San Jose Rd (1 Pole South of Loc 22)	Tracy
25	103943243		Pole	2875 Holly Dr	Tracy

26		T-1234	Subsurface Transformer	92 Golden Rain Ct	Tracy
27		T-1622	Subsurface Transformer	212 White Oak Dr	Tracy
28	102054710		Pole	2 Poles West of W Linne Rd X Depot Master Dr	Tracy
29	102054714		Pole	1 Pole West of W Linne Rd X Depot Master Dr	Tracy
30	102054716		Pole	1 Pole East of W Linne Rd X Depot Master Dr	Tracy
31	102044931		Pole	28465 S Chrisman Rd	Tracy
32	102044935		Pole	28459 S Chrisman Rd	Tracy
33		T-1143	Subsurface Transformer	435 E 6 th St	Tracy
34		T-8347	Padmount Transformer	750 E Yosemite Ave	Manteca
35		T-954	Subsurface Transformer	477 Ribier Ct	Manteca
36		J-410	Junction Box	719 E Alameda St	Manteca
37	102084912	120015023	Pole	719 E Alameda St	Manteca
38			Pole	719 E Alameda St (Fuse 8587)	Manteca
39	102091060		Pole	821 Jahns Ct	Manteca
40	102107405		Pole	3221 Yosemite Ave	Lathrop
41	102107412		Pole	2138 Yosemite Ave	Lathrop
42	102105331		Pole	1 Pole East of Loc 41	Lathrop
43	102085777		Pole	1 Pole North of Manthey Rd X De Lima Rd	Lathrop
44	102085779		Pole	Manthey Rd X De Lima Rd	Lathrop
45	103945044		Pole	16451 Rams Horn Grade Rd	Volcano
46	101261917		Pole	1 Pole North of Loc 45	Volcano
47	101261920		Pole	2 Poles North of Loc 45	Volcano
48	101262037		Pole	16401 Charleston Rd	Volcano
49	101262524		Secondary Pole	R/O 14701 Diamond View Dr	Pioneer
50	101262523		Pole	2 Poles Northwest of Loc 49	Pioneer
51	103388869		Pole	3 Poles Northwest of Loc 49	Pioneer
52	101262522		Pole	1 Pole East of Loc 51	Pioneer
53	101262735		Pole	22975 Hwy 88	Pioneer
54	101262736		Pole	22985 Hwy 88	Pioneer
55	101262923		Pole	17077 Rams Horn Grade Rd	Volcano
56	101262922		Pole	1 Pole Northwest of Loc 55 (L1141)	Volcano
57	101891652		Pole	110 Ridge Rd	Sutter Creek
58	101256201		Pole	Across road from 501 Argonaut Ln (Fuse 9175)	Jackson

59	101256205		Pole	1 Pole North of Loc 58	Jackson
60	101256206		Pole	2 Poles North of Loc 58	Jackson
61	101256207		Pole	3 Poles North of Loc 58	Jackson
62	101270105		Pole	645 Mauna Kea Dr	Arnold
63	101270165		Pole	677 St Andrews Dr	Arnold
64	101270169		Pole	Meadow Dr X St Andrews Dr	Arnold
65	103944337	120791013	Pole	2042 Sierra View	Arnold
66	101270022		Pole	2011 Sierra View	Arnold
67	101270027		Pole	1961 Sierra View	Arnold
68	101270035		Secondary Pole	1931 Sierra View	Arnold
69	101369957	120443583	Pole	Across road from 1897 Sierra View	Arnold
70	101269460		Service Pole	1806 Pine Cone Dr	Arnold
71	101269463		Pole	Across road from 1770 Pine Cone Dr	Arnold
72	101269450		Pole	1770 Pine Cone Dr	Arnold
73	101269447		Pole	1806 Pine Cone Dr (L2039)	Arnold
74	103958639		Pole	143 Woodland Dr	Murphys
75	101279053		Pole	85 Woodland Dr	Murphys
76	103962115		Service Pole	30 Woodland Dr	Murphys
77	101279088		Pole	30 Woodland Dr	Murphys
78	101276307		Service Pole	1326 French Gulch Rd	Murphys
79	101276306		Pole	1326 French Gulch Rd	Murphys
80	101276302		Pole	1342 French Gulch Rd	Murphys
81	103943492		Pole	1392 Main St	Douglas Flat
82	101285170		Pole	1405 Main St	Douglas Flat
83	101285137		Pole	1555 Main St	Douglas Flat
84	101285140		Pole	1555 Main St	Douglas Flat
85	101266303		Pole	700 Placer Ave	Angels Camp
86	101266243		Pole	649 Pacer Ave	Angels Camp
87	101266239		Pole	641 Placer Ave	Angels Camp
88	103361729	110304684	Pole	636 Placer Ave	Angels Camp
89	103361728	110304683	Pole	692 Tuolumne Ave	Angels Camp

II. Field Inspection Violations

ESRB staff observed the following violations during the field inspection:

1. 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.”

1.1) The 1st pole south of 20600 San Jose Rd in Tracy (location 24) is leaning more than 10%.

1.2) The 1st pole west of W Linne Rd and Depot Master Dr in Tracy (Location 29) has a faded fuse cutout number. EC notification #116837703 was open prior to the audit to replace the faded number.

1.3) The pole located at 28465 S Chrisman Rd in Tracy (Location 31) is broken at its base and leaning more than 10%. EC notification #119728464 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

1.4) The pole located at 28459 S Chrisman Rd in Tracy (Location 32) is leaning more than 10% due to the pole at Location 31.

1.5) The 1st pole north of 16451 Rams Horn Grade Rd in Volcano (Location 46) is rotten/decayed and has an incorrectly installed connector. EC notification #116845455 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole and connector.

1.6) The pole located at 16401 Charleston Rd in Volcano (Location 48) has vegetation contact above the anchor guy insulator.

1.7) The pole located at the rear of 14701 Diamond View Dr in Pioneer (Location 50) has incorrectly installed connectors, loose hardware, and damaged bolt covers. EC notification #119027465 was open prior to the audit to correct the aforementioned issues.

1.8) There is an abandoned pole and debris from trimmed trees scattered throughout the rear of 14701 Diamond View Dr in Pioneer (Location 50).

1.9) The pole located at the rear of 14701 Diamond View Dr in Pioneer (Location 51) has incorrectly installed connectors. EC tag #119027543 was open prior to the audit to replace the connectors.

1.10) The pole located at 22975 Hwy 88 in Pioneer (Location 53) is decayed/rotten. EC tag #116854390 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole. The required end date for this EC tag was September 28, 2019. ESRB notes that this EC tag is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

1.11) The pole located at 22985 Hwy 88 in Pioneer (Location 54) has a damaged primary crossarm and incorrectly installed connectors. EC tag #119036766 was open prior to the audit to correct the aforementioned issues.

1.12) The pole located at 501 Argonaut Ln in Jackson (Location 58) has woodpecker holes. EC tag #117908469 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

1.13) The 2nd pole north of Location 58 in Jackson (Location 60) has woodpecker holes. EC tag #117908521 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

1.14) The pole at 645 Mauna Kea Dr in Arnold (Location 62) is damaged at the top and has incorrectly installed connectors. EC notification #117114223 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole. The required end date for this EC notification was October 28, 2019. ESRB notes that this EC notification is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

1.15) A tree is grounding and causing abrasion on the primary anchor guy at 677 St Andrews Dr in Arnold (Location 63). EC notification #117689446 was open prior to the audit to correct the aforementioned issue.

1.16) The pole located at Meadow Dr and St Andrews Dr in Arnold (Location 64) has incorrectly installed connectors and vegetation contact at/above the anchor guy insulator. EC notification #118932537 was open prior to the audit to correct the aforementioned issues.

1.17) The pole located at 2011 Sierra View in Arnold (Location 66) is deteriorated and has vegetation contact above the anchor guy insulator. EC notification #116863121 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole. The required end date for this EC notification was September 29, 2019. ESRB notes that this EC notification is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

1.18) The pole located at 1961 Sierra View in Arnold (Location 67) is deteriorated and split at the top. EC notification #116863324 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole. The required end date for this EC notification was September 25, 2019. ESRB notes that this EC notification is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

1.19) The pole located at 1897 Sierra View in Arnold (Location 69) is deteriorated and split at the top. EC notification #116862911 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole. The required end date for this EC notification was September 29, 2019. ESRB notes that this notification is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

1.20) The 1st pole north of 1770 Pine Cone Dr in Arnold (Location 71) is deteriorated, has incorrectly installed connectors, and has vegetation contact at/above the anchor guy insulator. EC notification #118573227 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

1.21) The pole located at 1770 Pine Cone Dr in Arnold (Location 72) has incorrectly installed connectors. EC notification #118573609 was open prior to the audit to replace the connectors.

1.22) The pole located at 1806 Pine Cone Dr in Arnold (Location 73) has incorrectly installed connectors. EC notification #116842362 was open prior to the audit to replace the connectors.

1.23) The pole located at 85 Woodland Dr in Murphys (Location 75) has incorrectly installed connectors. EC notification #116836162 was open prior to the audit to replace the connectors.

1.24) The pole located at 1326 French Gulch Rd in Murphys (Location 78) has vegetation contact at/above the anchor guy insulator. EC notification #111632887 was open prior to the audit to trim the vegetation.

1.25) The pole located at 1326 French Gulch Rd in Murphys (Location 79) is damaged and has vegetation contact at/above the anchor guy insulator. EC notification #116863744 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

1.26) The pole located at 1342 French Gulch Rd in Murphys (Location 80) has incorrectly installed connectors. EC notification #116863749 was open prior to the audit to replace the connectors.

1.27) The pole located at 1405 Main St in Douglas Flat (Location 82) is decayed/rotten. EC notification #117102861 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

1.28) The pole located at 1555 Main St in Douglas Flat (Location 84) is decayed/rotten. EC notification #117113997 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

1.29) The pole located at 649 Placer Ave in Angels Camp (Location 86) has woodpecker holes and vegetation contact at/above the anchor guy insulator.

1.30) The pole located at 636 Placer Ave in Angels Camp (Location 88) has vegetation contact above the anchor guy insulator.

2. GO 95, Rule 54.6-E1, Risers, Encased from Ground Level to 8 Feet Above the Ground states in part:

“Risers from underground cables or other conductors shall be encased from the ground level to a level not less than 8 feet above the ground.”

The 1st pole east of 1607 Armstrong Rd in Lodi (Location 9) has an exposed riser cable.

3. 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.”

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 [the] communication or supply lines and equipment.”

3.1) The subsurface transformer located at 92 Golden Rain Ct in Tracy (Location 26) is missing a 2019 detailed inspection sticker which PG&E’s EDPM requires be placed. PG&E detailed inspection records confirm that the subsurface transformer was inspected on October 15, 2019.

3.2) The subsurface transformer located at 435 E 6th St in Tracy (Location 33) has a broken lid and frame. EC notification #113142112 was open prior to the audit to repair the lid and frame. The required end date for this EC notification was February 28, 2020. ESRB notes that this notification is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

3.3) The subsurface transformer located at 477 Ribier Ct in Manteca (Location 35) has a damaged top cap. EC notification #118526085 was open prior to the audit to replace the top cap.

4. GO 95, Rule 51.6-A, High Voltage Marking 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. Such signs shall be of weather and corrosion-resisting material, solid or with letters cut out therefrom and clearly legible.”

4.1) The 2nd pole west of W Linne Rd and Depot Master Dr in Tracy (Location 28) is missing a high voltage sign. EC notification #116837716 was open prior to the audit to replace the high voltage sign.

4.2) The 1st pole east of W Linne Rd and Depot Master Dr in Tracy (Location 30) has a loose/damaged high voltage sign. EC notification #116837732 was open prior to the audit to replace the high voltage sign.

4.3) The 1st pole east of 3128 Yosemite Ave in Lathrop (Location 42) is missing a high voltage sign.

4.4) The 2nd pole north of Location 58 in Jackson (Location 60) is missing a high voltage sign. EC tag #117908521 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

4.5) The pole located at 677 St Andrew Dr in Arnold (Location 63) has a loose high voltage sign.

4.6) The pole located at 649 Placer Ave in Angels Camp (Location 86) has a damaged high voltage sign.

5. GO 95, Rule 35, Vegetation Management, Table 1 Case 14E states:

“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.

The minimum allowable radial clearance of vegetation from 750 – 22,500 V conductors in High Fire-Threat Districts (HFTD) is 48 inches.”

There is vegetation located midspan at 16401 Charleston Rd in Volcano (Location 48) within 4 feet of primary conductors. EC notification #118987913 was open prior to the audit to trim the vegetation.

6. GO 95, Rule 56.9, Guy Marker (Guy Guard) 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.”

6.1) The pole located at the rear of 14701 Diamond View Dr in Pioneer (Location 51) is missing a guy marker. EC tag #119027543 was open prior to the audit to install the guy marker.

6.2) The pole located at 22985 Hwy 88 in Pioneer (Location 54) is missing a guy marker. EC tag #119036766 was open prior to the audit to install the guy marker.

7. 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.”

7.1) The 2nd pole north of Location 58 in Jackson (Location 60) has a slacked anchor guy. EC tag #117908521 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole.

7.2) The pole located at 1897 Sierra View in Arnold (Location 69) has a slacked anchor guy. EC notification #116862911 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole. The required end date for this EC notification was September 29, 2019. ESRB notes that this notification is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

7.3) The pole located at 143 Woodland Dr in Murphys (Location 74) has a slacked anchor guy.

8. GO 95, Rule 35, Vegetation Management states in part:

“When a supply or communication company has actual knowledge, obtained either through normal operating practices or notification to the company, that its circuit energized at 750 volts or less shows strain or evidences abrasion from vegetation contact, the condition shall be corrected by reducing conductor tension, rearranging or replacing the conductor, pruning the vegetation, or placing mechanical protection on the conductor(s).”

8.1) There is vegetation causing strain on the service drop at 645 Mauna Kea Dr in Arnold (Location 62). EC notification #117114223 was open prior to the audit to correct the aforementioned issue. The required end date for this EC notification was October 28, 2019. ESRB notes that this notification is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

8.2) There is vegetation causing abrasion on the service drop at 1961 Sierra View in Arnold (Location 67). EC notification #116863324 was open prior to the audit to correct the aforementioned issue. The required end date for this EC notification was September 25, 2019. ESRB notes that this notification is past its required end date; therefore, it is a violation.

8.3) There is a large overhanging branch causing strain/abrasion on the service drop at 636 Placer Ave in Angels Camp (Location 88).

9. GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, Vertical and Lateral Conductors, Ground Wires 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).”

9.1) The 1st pole north of 1770 Pine Cone Dr in Arnold (Location 71) has exposed ground wire. EC notification #118573227 was open prior to the audit to replace the pole

9.2) The pole located at 1806 Pine Cone Dr in Arnold (Location 73) has exposed ground wire. EC notification #116842362 was open prior to the audit to cover the ground wire.

III. Observations

ESRB staff observed the following during the field inspection:

1. The following locations had third-party potential safety concerns:
 - 1.1) The Verizon service line located at 20889 San Jose Rd in Tracy (Location 22) is low.
 - 1.2) The Comcast ground wire located at 719 E Alameda St in Manteca (Location 37) is exposed.
 - 1.3) The AT&T splice box located at 649 Placer Ave in Angels Camp (Location 86) is covered with a plastic bag instead of a proper covering.