

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 24, 2008

Mr. Rick Coleman, P.E.
General Manager
Trinity P.U.D.
PO Box 1261
Weaverville, CA 96093-1216

CPUC File No. EA2008-27

SUBJECT: General Order 95, 128, and 165 Audit of Trinity Public Utility District (TPUD)

Dear Mr. Coleman

On behalf of the Utility Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission, Julian Ajello and I conducted a General Order (GO) 95, 128, and 165 Inspection of Trinity P.U.D. from Sept 30 – Oct 2, 2008. The audit included a review of any GO 165 records.

During the audit, we identified violations of one or more General Orders. A copy of the inspection summary itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me of all corrective measures taken by the utility regarding the above violation(s). Please provide the electronic or hard copy records showing the correction date for each violation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 703-1555.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George E. Carter".

George E. Carter
Utilities Engineer
Utilities Safety and Reliability Branch
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

Enclosure: Appendix A
1.0 GO 165 Record Review
2.0 GO 95 Field Notes and Programs Review
3.0 GO 128 Field Notes and Programs Review
4.0 Recommendations

Copy: Mr. Russ Johnson – AT&T
Mr. Gary Beauchamp – Marks CableVision
Ms. Gail Long – TDS Telecom

APPENDIX A

1.1 GO 165 Record Review

General Order No. 165, INSPECTION CYCLES FOR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES

1.1.1 Paragraph IV (1st sub-paragraph).states:

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

Review of Trinity Public Utility District's (TPUD) Service Order Summary and Power Outages Planned and Emergency 2008 Log plus discussion with key TPUD personnel: Rick Coleman, General Manager; Andy Lethbridge, Electric Superintendent; and David DeLange, Utility Arborist leads me to the conclusion that TPUD does not have a formal inspection program to comply with GO 165 allowable inspection cycle lengths.

TPUD needs to develop a formal written Procedure/Standard for Inspection and Maintenance for Overhead and Underground Transmission and Distribution Circuits.

1.1.2. Paragraph IV (5th sub-paragraph) states:

"For all inspections, within a reasonable period, company records shall specify the circuit, area, or equipment inspected, the name of the inspector, the date of the inspection, and any problems identified during each inspection, as well as the scheduled date of corrective action. ..."

TPUD has invested a substantial amount of resources to upgrade Substation material conditions and Pole replacements. TPUD now feels that they have a reliable utility system.

Institute a formal Inspection program which would document the attributes listed in the above paragraph (GO 165 Paragraph IV, 5th sub-paragraph) for the TPUD Utility Infrastructure.

2.1 GO 95 Inspection Field Notes and Programs Review

2.1.1. Inspection of Recent Pole Construction

This Field Inspection was conducted on Oct 1 – 2, 2008, **see attached GO 95 Inspection Field Sheets.**

2.1.2. Inspections of Existing Pole Facilities

This Field Inspection was conducted on Oct 1 – 2, 2008, **see attached GO 95 Inspection Field Sheets.**

2.1.3. Tree Trimming Program

Discussion with key TPUD personnel determined that the Utility Arborist, David DeLange was able to Patrol the complete TPUD Utility Infrastructure within a one year time frame. Actual pruning and tree removal were accomplished jointly by TPUD and contractor personnel with some income derived by the TPUD from sales of the large timber.

3.1 GO 128 Inspection Field Notes and Programs Review

3.1.1. Inspection of Recent Underground Construction
No Field Inspections Accomplished.

3.1.2. Inspection of Existing Underground Facilities
No Field Inspections Accomplished.

4.1 Recommendations

None

C.P.U.C. G.O. 95 INSPECTION FIELD SHEET

File No.: EA2008-27

Inspection Team PUC: George Carter
Julian Ajello

Inspection

None

None

None

Date: 9/30/2008

Names & Utility:

County: Trinity

Infractions

Inspection Area: Weaverville		Utility: TPUUD	Utility: AT&T	Utility: Marks Cable/Vision
Pole No.	Pole or Infraction Location	Vaults or Boxes:	Vaults or Boxes:	Vaults or Boxes:
		Poles:	Poles:	Poles:
1	15056 Hwy 3 North, Wwvl (Install 1 pole)	OK	OK	NA
1	9702 Hwy 3, Wwvl (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 56.2: 86.2: Guys shall be maintained taut. (Loose Guy.)	OK	NA
2	3652 Hwy 3, Wwvl (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 56.2: 86.2: Guys shall be maintained taut. (Loose guy.)	OK	Rule 31.6: Abandoned lines or portions thereof must be removed. (Abandon old pole and rope being used to hold cable on new pole.)
2		Rule 32.3: 54.4D3: 54.8D: 84.4D4: 84.8E: Supply and communication conductors and service drops passing pole and unattached must clear centerline by 22.5 in. (Two secondary services wrapped to a single anchor.)		
2	3653 Hwy 3, Wwvl (Replace 1 pole)	OK	OK	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (Rope use to hold cable to pole.)
3	9646 Hwy 3, Wwvl (Replace pole – car vs pole)	OK	OK	Rule 84.6D: Vertical communication runs shall be supported every 2 ft. (Loose riser no clips every 2 feet.)
4	15057 Ransom Rd. Wwvy (Install 1 new pole)	OK	OK	Rule 84.6D: Vertical communication runs shall be supported every 2 ft. (Loose riser no clips every 2 feet.)
4	4056 Ransom Rd. Wwvy	Rule 54.8B1: 84.8C1: Crossing and above public throughfares, more than 12 ft. out from curb or traveled way or in center of road. 18 ft. (Only 15'-8" at center of Street.)	OK	OK
4	13472 Loomis Ln. Wwvy (Replace burned pole)	OK Note: needs pole number sign.	OK	OK
5	12079 Oregon St. Wwvy (Replace burned pole)	OK	OK	NA
5	14783 Bean Tap. Wwvy (Replace burned pole)	OK	OK	NA

County: Trinity		Infractions					
Inspection Area: Weaverville		Utility: TPUD	Utility: AT&T	Utility: Marks CableVision			
Pole No.	Pole or Infraction Location	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:
515664	Mnt View, Wwvy (Replace VZ pole & attach to it) Note: three phase service to water pumping station with phone and radio communication.	OK	OK	NA			

C.P.U.C. G.O. 95 INSPECTION FIELD SHEET

File No.: EA2008-27

Inspection Team PUC: George Carter
Julian Ajello

Names & Utility:

Inspection

None

None

None

Date: 10/1/2008

County: Trinity

Infractions

Inspection Area:		Utility: TPUD	Utility: TDS Telecom	Utility: Mallard Cable/Vision	
Pole No.	Pole or Infraction Location	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:
1	14219 McDevitt Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 34: Unauthorized attachment of equipment foreign to the purposes of overhead electric line construction is not permitted. (No Trespassing sign.)	NA	NA	NA
1	14212 Mann Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	Rule 31.6: Abandoned lines or portions thereof must be removed. (Remove old pole and complete backfill. Transfer phone line to complete installation.)	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (Transfer cable line.)	Rule 31.6: Abandoned lines or portions thereof must be removed. (Rope being used to hold cable on new pole.)
1	14229 Cedar Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	Rule 31.6: Abandoned lines or portions thereof must be removed. (Abandoned phone line laying on the ground.)	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (loose boxes need to be secured to pole.)	Rule 84.6D: Vertical communication runs shall be supported every 2 ft. (Loose risers no clips every 2 feet.)
1	14231 Pine & Cedar Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	OK	OK	OK
1	14236 Between Pine & Cedar Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	Rule 84.6D: Vertical communication runs shall be supported every 2 ft. (Loose risers no clips every 2 feet.)	NA	NA
1	3584 Pine St, CC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	Rule 84.6D: Vertical communication runs shall be supported every 2 ft. (Loose riser no clip every 2 feet.)	OK	OK
2	14006 Derrick Flat Rd, CC	Rule 51.6A: High Voltage signs are required on poles or cross arms which support conductors of more than 750 volts.	Rule 31.6: Abandoned lines or portions thereof must be removed. (Abandoned phone line laying on the ground.)	NA	NA
2	14000 Derrick Flat Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	Rule 31.6: Abandoned lines or portions thereof must be removed. (Abandoned phone line laying on the ground.)	NA	NA
2	14002 Derrick Flat Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 59.4A(1)(a) The grounding conductor from each ground rod to the base of the pole shall not be less than 1 foot below the surface of the ground. (Ground rod exposed.)	Rule 31.6: Abandoned lines or portions thereof must be removed. (Abandoned phone line laying on the ground.)	NA	NA

County: Trinity

Infractions

Inspection Coffee Creek & Trinity Center Area:		Utility: TPUD	Utility: TDS Telecom	Utility: Mallard CableVision	
Pole No.	Pole or Infraction Location	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:
3 13943	Maywood Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 31.1: 54.6B: Ground wires of supply circuits must be protected by suitable covering and be in good repair throughout their length. (Ground cover slipped and ground conductor is exposed.)	OK	NA	
3 14202	S of Maywood Rd, CC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	OK	OK	
1 14290	EI Dorado Way, TC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 31.1: 56.9: 86.9: Anchor guys exposed to traffic are required to have a guy marker securely attached and in good repair. (No guy markers.)	NA	OK	
1 14276	Placer Dr, TC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (Transformer bolts covers are loose.)	Rule 84.6D: 87.7D: Risers and vertical runs shall be covered to 8 ft. above ground and where they pass through unrelated conductor levels shall be covered from ground level to 3 ft. above or 6 ft. below supply. (No ground cover for the first 8 feet of the ground conductor.)	OK	

C.P.U.C. G.O. 95 INSPECTION FIELD SHEET

File No.: EA2008-27

Inspection Team PUC: George Carter
Julian Ajello

Inspection

None

None

None

Date: 10/2/2008

Names & Utility:

County: Trinity

Infractions

Inspection Douglas City Area:		Utility: TPUD	Utility: AT&T	Utility: Marks Cable/Vision	
Pole No.	Pole or Infraction Location	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:
1 2967	Deerlick Springs Rd, DC (Replace 1 pole)	Table 2, Case 19: Minimum radial separation. Guys passing conductors supported on the same pole. 3 in. (Guy in contact with phone service drop.)	Table 2, Case 19: Minimum radial separation. Guys passing conductors supported on the same pole. 3 in. (Guy in contact with phone service drop.)	NA	NA
2 7577	B-Bar-K Rd, DC (Replace pole)	OK	OK	NA	NA
3 6358	B-Bar-K Rd, DC (Replace pole)	Rule 56.2: 86.2: Guys shall be maintained taut. (Loose guy.)	OK	NA	NA
4 7746	River Ranch Rd, DC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	OK	NA	NA
4 7747	River Ranch Rd, DC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 51.6A: High Voltage signs are required on poles or cross arms which support conductors of more than 750 volts. (No High Voltage sign.)	OK	NA	NA
4 7743	River Ranch Rd, DC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	OK	NA	NA
5 2164	Poker Bar, DC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	OK	NA	NA
5 8127	Poker Bar, DC (Install 1 pole)	Rule 59.4A(1)(a) The grounding conductor from each ground rod to the base of the pole shall not be less than 1 foot below the surface of the ground. (Ground wire needs to be 1 foot deep.)	Rule 59.4A(1)(a) The grounding conductor from each ground rod to the base of the pole shall not be less than 1 foot below the surface of the ground. (Ground wire needs to be 1 foot deep.)	NA	NA
6 3144	Thistle Ln, DC	OK	Rule 84.6D: 87.7D: Risers and vertical runs shall be covered to 8 ft. above ground and where they pass through unrelated conductor levels shall be covered from ground level to 3 ft. above or 6 ft. below supply. (Ground wire exposed.)	NA	NA

County: Trinity

Infractions

Inspection Area: Douglas City		Utility: TPUD	Utility: AT&T	Utility: Marks CableVision	
Pole No.	Pole or Infraction Location	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:
6 7403	Biggers Rd, DC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 34: Unauthorized attachment of equipment foreign to the purposes of overhead electric line construction is not permitted. (Two signs on the pole.)	OK	NA	
		Rule 31.1: 56.9: 86.9: Anchor guys exposed to traffic are required to have a guy marker securely attached and in good repair. (No guy marker.)			
6 7404	Biggers Rd, DC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (Transformer bolts covers missing.)	OK	NA	
7 8014	Tucker Hill Rd, DC (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 51.6A: High Voltage signs are required on poles or cross arms which support conductors of more than 750 volts. (No High Voltage sign.)	OK	NA	
7 8017	Tucker Hill Rd, DC (Replace 1 pole)	OK	OK	NA	

C.P.U.C. G.O. 95 INSPECTION FIELD SHEET

File No.: EA2008-27

Inspection Team PUC: George Carter

Names & Utility:

Inspection

None

None

None

Date: 10/2/2008

County: Trinity

Infractions

Inspection Area:		Utility: TPUD	Utility: AT&T	Utility: Marks CableVision	
Pole No.	Pole or Infraction Location	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:	Vaults or Boxes:	Poles:
1 6018	Sunset DR, Lew (Install 1 pole)	OK	OK	NA	
1 6008	Sunset DR, Lew (Install 1 pole)	OK	OK	NA	
2 6249	Texas Ave, Lew (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (Drawing error, pole has a 15 kV transformer and a service riser going to underground.)	OK	OK	
3 4243	Old Lewiston Rd, Lew (Replace 1 pole)	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (Drawing error, pole has a 15 kV transformer not a 10 kV transformer installation.)	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (Service still on old pole need to transfer.)	Rule 12.2: 13: 31.1: 31.2: Overhead lines shall be maintained in good repair and in accordance with accepted good practice. (Service still on old pole need to transfer.)	