

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 21, 2009

Mark Judy
Southern California Edison (SCE)
1444 E. McFadden Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92705

SUBJECT: Electric Audit of SCE's Palm Springs District

On behalf of the Utilities Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission, Derek Fong and I conducted an electric audit of SCE's Palm Springs District from February 2 - 6, 2009. The audit included a review of your records for the period of 2006-2009 and a follow-up inspection in areas where SCE recently performed detailed inspections of overhead and underground facilities.

During the audit, I found that SCE did not document all General Orders (GOs) 95 and 128 violations at the time of its inspections. In addition, SCE failed to provide us with adequate records clearly showing the reassessment dates for nine requested work orders whose priority number had changed. A copy of the inspection summary itemizing the violations is enclosed.

Please advise me within 30 days of corrective measures taken by SCE regarding the above violations. If you have any questions, please contact me at (213) 576-7099.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Yamamoto".

Ryan Yamamoto
Utilities Engineer
Utilities Safety and Reliability Branch
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

Cc: Melvin Stark, Maintenance and Inspection Organization - SCE
1444 E. McFadden Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Enclosure: Inspection Report

Inspection Report

List of GOs 95 and 128 violations that were observed during the field portion of the electric audit of SCE's Palm Spring District and were not documented by SCE.

GO 95, Rule 31.1: Design, Construction and Maintenance

Rule 31.1 states:

“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.”

- Poles 56921S, 56920S, 335656S, 335659S had damaged ground molding.

GO 95, Rule 51.6A: High Voltage Marking

Rule 51.6A states:

“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 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”.

- Pole 2130207E had a damaged “HIGH VOLTAGE” sign.

GO 95, Rule 54.7: Climbing and Working Space

Rule 54.7 states:

“Climbing space shall be maintained from the ground level. Climbing space, measured from center line of pole, shall be provided on one side or in one quadrant of all poles or structures with dimensions...”

- Pole 56921S did not have adequate climbing space. Specifically, all four quadrants, from the base of the pole to a height of approximately six feet, were obstructed; two quadrants were abutted by a wooden fence; one quadrant was flushed against a tree and/or its growth of branches and leaves; and one quadrant was occupied by several metallic risers.

GO 128, Rule 12.2: Maintenance

Rule 12.2 states:

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

- Equipment Number V575532 contained debris that requires clearing up.
- Equipment Number V5005850 had a bolt missing from the cover.
- Equipment Number E577393 was surrounded by vegetation obstructing access to the enclosure.
- Equipment Number P647525 had a gas switch with an inadequate gas level.

GO 128, Rule 34.3A: Strength

Rule 34.3A states:

“The equipment case or enclosure shall be secured in place and be of sufficient strength to resist entrance or damage to the equipment by unauthorized persons”.

- Equipment Number P650421 was not secured in place.

GO 128, Rule 35.1: Identification of Cables

Rule 35.1 states:

“Cables operating at a voltage in excess of 750 volts shall be permanently and clearly identified by tags or other suitable means to indicate their operating voltage and the circuit with which they are normally associated at each manhole or other commonly accessible location of the underground system”.

- Equipment number V5005850 did not have tags or other suitable means that clearly indicated the operating voltage

SCE did not provide us with adequate records for the following work orders that we requested during the audit and by email on February 27, 2009.

29578326	30379959
31203396	28133976
30733275	31057082
30373624	31632800
31249175	

During the audit we discovered many work orders with priority 2, 3 and 4 that were missing "problem dates". We have asked SCE to provide us with explanation for the missing "problem dates". SCE failed to provide us with an explanation/reason why its records for the work order mentioned above did not include the "problem dates".