

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 4, 2010

Anthony Nolasco
Surewest Communications
114 Vernon Street
Roseville, CA 95678

SUBJECT: Audit of Surewest Communications

On behalf of the Utilities Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Ivan Garcia and I conducted an audit of Surewest Communications' facilities in Sacramento and Placer Counties on July 12-13, 2010. The audit included a review of Surewest Communications' maintenance programs for compliance with General Orders (GOs) 95 and 128.

GO 95, Rule 31.2 Inspection of Lines, states:

"Lines shall be inspected frequently and thoroughly for the purpose of insuring 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 128, Rule 12.2 Maintenance, states:

"Systems shall be maintained in such condition as to secure safety to workmen and the public in general. Systems and portions thereof constructed, reconstructed, or replaced on or after the effective date of these rules shall be kept in conformity with the requirement of these rules."

GO 128, Rule 17.2 Inspection, states:

"Systems shall be inspected by the operator frequently and thoroughly for the purpose of insuring that they are in good condition and in conformance with all applicable requirements of these rules"

During our audit, we found that Surewest Communications does not frequently and thoroughly inspect its facilities and document all GOs 95 and 128 violations, and does not perform inspections that encompass all of the overhead and underground lines. The frequency of inspections must be determined by Surewest Communications at a level adequate enough to ensure that your facilities are in good condition and in compliance with GOs 95 and 128. A

thorough inspection of your facilities should include a detailed inspection to address and record unsafe conditions, and GOs 95 and 128 violations. Your current inspection program does not meet the requirements of GO 95, Rule 31.2, and GO 128, Rules 12.2 and 17.2.

In addition, Surewest Communications did not have an auditable maintenance program that meets the requirement of GO 95, Rule 18A.

We also found a GO 95 violation in area your company had recently performed work. See attached table and figures.

Please advise me within 30 days of corrective measures taken by Surewest Communications to ensure compliance with GOs 95 and 128. If you have any questions, you can contact me at (916) 928-2109.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan T. Yamamoto", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Ryan T. Yamamoto

Utilities Engineer

Utilities Safety and Reliability Branch

Consumer Protection and Safety Division

List of Field Violation

Location	General Order	Finding	Last Recorded Date Surewest Visited	Date of CPUC Audit Visit
Light rail station at Longview Drive (See figure 1-3)	GO 95, Rule 38, Minimum Clearances of Wires from Other Wires, Table 2, Case 2	Surewest and Light rail lines do not have clearance of 48 inches.	07/16/09	07/13/10



Figure 1: Surewest and light rail lines (West)



Figure 2: Surewest and light rail line (Northwest)

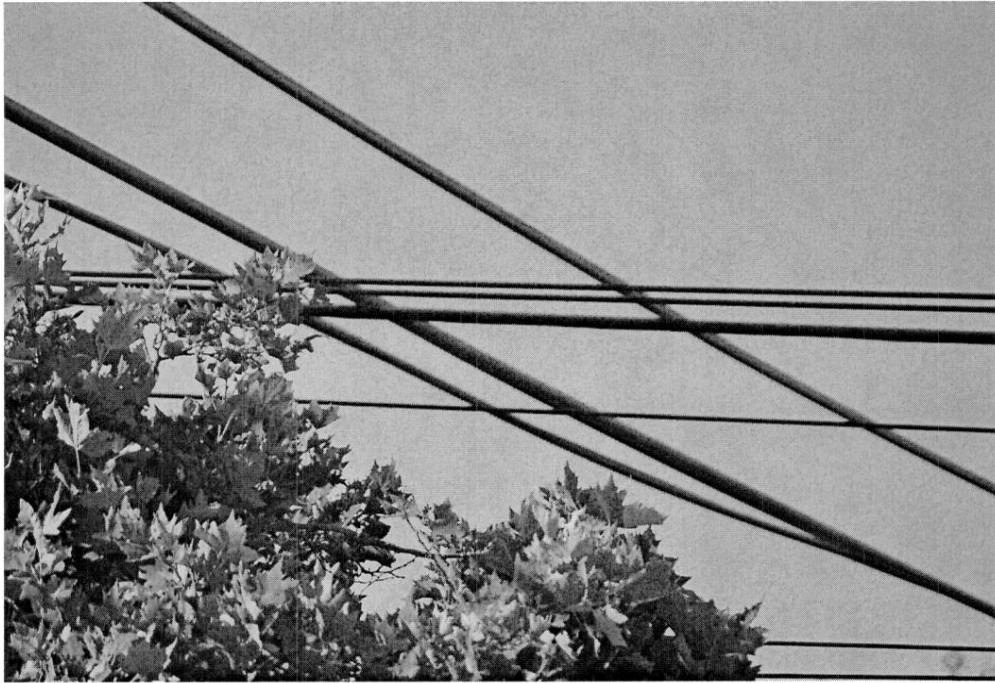


Figure 3: Surewest and light rail line