STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDMUND G. BROWN JR., *Governor*

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

June 3, 2013 TA2013-002

John Hagen, P.E.
Pacific Gas and Electric
Manager, Transmission Compliance
77 Beale Street, #2383
San Francisco, CA 94105

SUBJECT: Audit of PG&E's Pismo Beach Area Electric Transmission Facilities

Dear Mr. Hagen:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission, Ben Brinkman, Raymond Cho, Derek Fong, and Richard Kyo conducted an audit of PG&E's electric transmission facilities in the Pismo Beach areas from April 8-11, 2013. The audit included a review of PG&E's maintenance records and inspections of PG&E's facilities.

During the audit, we identified violations of one or more General Orders. A copy of the audit summary itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than July 12, 2013, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by PG&E to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions concerning this audit you can contact Ben Brinkman of my staff at (213) 576-7093 or Benjamin.Brinkman@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Raymond Fugere, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Electric Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division

Enclosure: Audit Summary

CC: Ben Brinkman, Senior Utilities Engineer, CPUC

Audit Summary

Company: PG&E Pismo Beach Area System
Electric Transmission Infrastructure Provider
Date: April 8 – 11, 2013

Programmatic Violations

GO 165, Section IV, Transmission Facilities, states:

> *"Each utility shall prepare and follow procedures for conducting inspections and maintenance activities for transmission lines.*
>
> *Each utility shall maintain records of inspection and maintenance activities. Commission staff shall be permitted to inspect records and procedures consistent with Public Utilities Code Section 314 (a)."*

PG&E's 2009 *"Transmission Owner Maintenance Practices," section 4.2.1 "Circuit Inspections"*, states, in part:

> *The QCR's primary responsibility in a circuit inspection is to examine and record the specific abnormal condition(s) of the overhead facilities inspected. This inspection requires a detailed evaluation (e.g., visual observation; use of measuring devices, tools, or routine diagnostic tests) to determine if there are any abnormal conditions and to evaluate when each identified abnormal condition warrants maintenance. A circuit inspection requires the ability to view all sides of the facilities and may require, if triggered, a follow-up inspection.*

Table 4-1 of PG&E's inspection practices document requires that 70 KV overhead structures undergo a detailed inspection every 5 years.

During the September 27, 2012 detailed inspection of the Atascaderos-Cayucas circuit, PG&E failed to inspect Structure 6/57 due to excessive vegetation. ESRB notes that during the audit PG&E created a notification (#106864881), cleared the vegetation and inspected the facility.

Field Violations

1.	**Structure ID / Location:**	Templeton-Atascadero, Structure 7/125
	Previous PG&E Visit (Air Patrol):	August 23, 2012
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	April 10, 2013
	Explanation of Violation(s):	

Damaged Visibilty Strip

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

> *Electrical supply and communication systems shall be of suitable design and construction for their intended use, regard being given to the conditions under which they are to be supported, and shall be maintained in a condition which will enable the furnishing of safe, proper and adequate service.*

A damaged visibility strip was attached to Structure 7/125.

2.	**Structure ID / Location:**	Divide-Cabrillo #1, Structure 0/9
	Previous PG&E Visit (Air Patrol):	February 27, 2012
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	May 16, 2012
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	<u>Damaged Guy Guard</u> GO 95, Rule 31.1, Design, Construction and Maintenance, states in part: *Electrical supply and communication systems shall be of suitable design and construction for their intended use, regard being given to the conditions under which they are to be supported, and shall be maintained in a condition which will enable the furnishing of safe, proper and adequate service.* 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."* A damaged guy guard was attached to Structure 0/9	