

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 3, 2025

CA2025-1218

Jane Whang  
Regulatory and State Government Affairs  
Verizon Communications  
360 Spear Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Audit of Verizon's Kern County Area

Ms. Whang:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Mily Vaidya of my staff conducted a Communication Infrastructure Provider (CIP) audit of Verizon's Kern County Area from March 10-14, 2025. The audit included a review of Verizon's inspection and maintenance records and a field inspection of Verizon's facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders (GOs). A copy of the audit findings itemized the violations is enclosed herewith. Please advise me no later than July 3, 2025, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by Verizon to remedy and prevent such violations.

Please note that ESRB will be posting the audit report and your response to our audit on the CPUC website. If there is any information in your response that you would like us to consider as confidential, we request that in addition to your confidential response, you also provide us with a public or redacted version of your response that can be posted publicly on our website.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, you can contact Mily Vaidya at (213) 999-8528 or [Mily.Vaidya@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Mily.Vaidya@cpuc.ca.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fadi Daye".

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

Enclosure: Audit Findings

Cc: Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC  
Eric Wu, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch,, CPUC  
Mily Vaidya, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

## Audit Findings

### I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Overhead and underground detailed inspection records
- Patrol records
- Completed and pending corrective action work orders
- Safety hazard notifications
- Pole-loading calculations
- Verizon's documented inspection program

### II. Field Inspection

My staff inspected the following facilities during the field inspection portion of the audit:

No.	Structure ID.	Type of Structure	Location
1	120410837	Pole	Bakersfield
2	120130806	Pole	Bakersfield
3	120043118	Pole	Bakersfield
4	1 Pole South of 120043118	Pole	Bakersfield
5	121291829	Pole	Bakersfield
6	121214027	Pole	Bakersfield
7	1 Pole South of 121214027	Pole	Bakersfield
8	2 Pole South of 121214027	Pole	Bakersfield
9	3 Pole South of 121214027	Pole	Bakersfield
10	121488574	Pole	Bakersfield
11	1 Pole South of 121488574	Pole	Bakersfield
12	2 Pole South of 121488574	Pole	Bakersfield
13	121163674	Pole	Bakersfield
14	1 Pole South of 121163674	Pole	Bakersfield
15	2 Pole South of 121163674	Pole	Bakersfield
16	121052521	Pole	Bakersfield
17	1 Pole South of 121052521	Pole	Bakersfield
18	121163676	Pole	Bakersfield
19	110480650	Pole	Bakersfield
20	122112587	Pole	Bakersfield
21	ACPTPB501457367	Vault	Bakersfield
22	110364258	Pole	Bakersfield
23	110529510	Pole	Bakersfield
24	110364680	Pole	Bakersfield
25	110364679	Pole	Bakersfield
26	110529506	Pole	Bakersfield
27	110364613	Pole	Bakersfield

28	110529512	Pole	Bakersfield
29	110529514	Pole	Bakersfield
30	110364257	Pole	Bakersfield
31	120223467	Pole	Bakersfield
32	1 Pole West of 120223467	Pole	Bakersfield
33	2 Pole West of 120223467	Pole	Bakersfield
34	In front of 2301 Nelson St	Pole	Bakersfield
35	120223458	Pole	Bakersfield
36	1 Pole North of 120223458	Pole	Bakersfield
37	2 Pole North of 120223458	Pole	Bakersfield
38	3 Pole North of 120223458	Pole	Bakersfield
39	122076667	Pole	Bakersfield
40	120056415	Pole	Bakersfield
41	1 Pole North of 120056415	Pole	Bakersfield
42	Next to 1200 Crawford Ave	Pole	Bakersfield
43	2 Pole North of 120056415	Pole	Bakersfield
44	120223459	Pole	Bakersfield
45	120596894	Pole	Bakersfield
46	120193535	Pole	Bakersfield
47	120223755	Pole	Bakersfield
48	120247156	Pole	Bakersfield
49	Latitude: 35.779128 Deg Longitude:-119.236561 Deg Delano High School	Pole	Delano
50	1-703-694-1451(5000232192)	Padmount	Delano
51	In front of Michoacana	Pole	Bakersfield
52	In front of address cricket / papa John	Pole	Bakersfield
53	In front of 2301white ln	Pole	Bakersfield
54	122081533	Pole	Bakersfield
55	Next to pole 122081533	Pole	Bakersfield
56	110482473	Pole	Bakersfield
57	122081548	Pole	Bakersfield
58	Next to 122081548	Pole	Bakersfield
59	2 Pole east next to 122081548	Pole	Bakersfield
60	3 Pole east next to 122081548	Pole	Bakersfield
61	4 pole east next to 122081548	Pole	Bakersfield
62	121075079	Pole	Bakersfield
63	1 pole East of pole 121075079	Pole	Bakersfield
64	2 pole East of pole 121075079	Pole	Bakersfield
65	121307957	Pole	Bakersfield
66	1 pole east of pole 121307957	Pole	Bakersfield
67	In front of Fasttrip gasoline	Pole	Bakersfield
68	110364682	Pole	Bakersfield
69	110364614	Pole	Bakersfield
70	110529507	Pole	Bakersfield

71	110529513	Pole	Bakersfield
72	121499728	Pole	Bakersfield
73	121742976	Pole	Bakersfield
74	ACPT:HH::142287449	Handhole	Bakersfield
75	ACPT:HH::142287552	Handhole	Bakersfield
76	ACPT:HH::501339735	Handhole	Bakersfield
77	ACPT:VL::502170393	Handhole	Bakersfield
78	ACPT:HH::501339634	Handhole	Bakersfield
79	ACPT:PB::501618240	Handhole	Bakersfield
80	ACPT:PB::501618480	Handhole	Bakersfield

### **III. Field Inspection – Violations List**

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspection portion of the audit:

**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.*

Verizon's facilities on the following poles required maintenance:

- Pole location with Latitude 35.779128, Longitude -119.236561 near Delano High School: the pole had erosion at the foundation of the pole.
- Pole 121291829: a "buddy pole" was left approximately a foot away from the pole.

**GO 95, Rule 31.6, Abandoned Lines**, states in part:

*Lines or portions of lines permanently abandoned shall be removed by their owners so that such lines shall not become a public nuisance or a hazard to life or property.*

A permanently abandoned anchor guard on pole next to Pole 122081533 was not removed.

**GO 95, Rule 84.4-D4a [Clearances] From Nonclimbable Street Lighting or Traffic Signal Poles or Standards (including mastarms, brackets, and lighting fixtures)** states:

*When passing street lighting, traffic signal poles or standards (including mastarms, brackets and lighting fixtures) a clearance of 12 inches, as specified in Table 1, Case 10, Column B, may be reduced when suitable insulation for the highest voltage of open wire involved and mechanical protection from abrasion is provided where necessary. Such mechanical protection shall extend not less than 15 inches in each direction from centerline of pole, standard, attaching mastarm or fixture, whether passing above, below or alongside.*

A communications conductor supported on Pole 122081533 was touching a traffic signal pole.

**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.*

The Verizon down guy wire supporting Pole 121307957 was not taut.

**GO 95, Rule 38 - Minimum Clearances of Wires from Other Wires, Table 2, Case 8, Column C**, requires the minimum vertical separation between communications conductors on separate crossarms or other supports at different levels on the same pole and in adjoining midspans to be 12 inches.

The vertical separation between Verizon communications facilities and a third-party communications conductor on each of the following poles was less than 12 inches:

- 3 Poles East of Pole 122081548
- Pole 110529513
- Pole 110364613
- Pole 120043118

**GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, Ground Wires**, states in part:

*That portion of the ground wires 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).*

Verizon's facilities on the following poles had damaged ground moulding:

- Pole 121488574
- Pole in front of Cricket/Papa Johns, near White Lane, Bakersfield

**GO 128, Rule 17.1, Design, Construction and Maintenance**, states in part:

*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.*

Verizon's facilities on the following handhole were inaccessible due to vegetation or clogged cover:

- ACPT:HH::142287449
- ACPT:HH::142287552
- ACPT:HH::501339735
- ACPT:VL::502170393
- ACPT:HH::501339634
- ACPT:PB::501618240
- ACPT:PB::501618480