

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



March 19, 2025

SA2025-1203

Jennifer Kaminsky
Manager – Electric Assets & Compliance
San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E)
8315 Century Park Court, Suite CP22B
San Diego, CA 92123

SUBJECT: Substation Audit of SDG&E Orange County District

Ms. Kaminsky:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Calvin Choi of my staff conducted a substation audit of San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) Orange County District from March 3, 2025 to March 4, 2025. The audit included a review of SDG&E's records and field inspections of SDG&E's substation facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders (GOs). A copy of the audit findings itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than April 21, 2025, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SDG&E 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 Calvin Choi at (213) 266-4730 or Calvin.Choi@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

Enclosures: Audit Findings

Cc: Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
Calvin Choi, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- SDG&E Substation Inspection Procedures
- SDG&E Substation Procedures
- Summary of SDG&E Orange County Substation Operators Training Records
- Summary of SDG&E Orange County Substation Inspections
- Pending and Completed Work Orders
- Summary of results of Infrared Testing
- Summary of results from Substation Oil Sample Tests

II. Records Review – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the records review portion of the audit:

GO 174, Rule 12, General, states in part:

Design, construction, and maintenance should be performed in accordance with accepted good practices for the given local conditions known at the time by those responsible.

Between December 2023 and December 2024, SDG&E failed to complete 4 work orders by SDG&E's assigned due date.

III. Field Inspections

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

No.	Substation Name
1	San Mateo
2	South San Clemente
3	San Clemente
4	Shorecliffs
5	Pico
6	Talega
7	Laguna Niguel
8	San Juan Capistrano
9	Capistrano
10	Rancho Mission Viejo
11	Margarita
12	Trabuco

IV. Field Inspection - Violations List

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

GO 174, Rule 12, General, states in part:

Substations shall be designed, constructed, and maintained for their intended use, regard being given to the conditions under which they are to be operated, to promote the safety of workers and the public and enable adequacy of service.

Design, construction, and maintenance should be performed in accordance with accepted good practices for the given local conditions known at the time by those responsible.

Facilities at the following substations were not maintained for their intended use:

South San Clemente

- One cooling fan on the Bank SSC1 transformer did not start.

Shorecliffs

- A panel on Bank SHC1 transformer was severely rusted and had broken bolts.

Pico

- One cooling fan on the Bank 41 transformer did not start. Additionally, a bolt on a bracket holding the ground conductor next to the Bank 41 transformer monitor had an unusually high temperature when compared to the surrounding area.
- Two cooling fans on the Bank 42 transformer did not start.

Rancho Mission Viejo

- One cooling fan on the Bank 41 transformer did not start.
- One cooling fan on the Bank 42 transformer did not start.

Trabuco

- The Bank 40 transformer was leaking oil from the cooling radiator.