

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
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May 20, 2025

SA2025-1214

Melvin Stark
Principal Manager, T&D Compliance Integration
Southern California Edison
1 Innovation Way
Pomona, CA 91768

SUBJECT: Substation Audit of SCE Devers AOR

Mr. Stark:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Norvik Ohanian of my staff conducted a substation audit of Southern California Edison (SCE) Devers AOR from April 28, 2025 to May 2, 2025. The audit included a review of SCE's records and field inspections of SCE'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 June 20, 2025, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SCE 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, please contact Norvik Ohanian at (213) 660-5528 or Norvik.Ohanian@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
Eric Wu, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC
Norvik Ohanian, Utilities Engineer, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- SCE GO 174 Substation Inspection Practices
- SCE Substation Policies and Procedures
- Summary of SCE Devers AOR Substation Inspector Training Records
- Summary of SCE Devers AOR Substation Inspections
- Summary of Pending and Completed Work Orders
- Summary of Results from the Most Recent Electrical Testing
- Summary of Results from Infrared Testing
- Summary of Results from Substation Oil Sample Testing

II. Field Inspections

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

No.	Substation Name	City
1	Devers	North Palm Springs
2	Buckwind	North Palm Springs
3	Tiffanywind	North Palm Springs
4	Twentynine Palms	Twentynine Palms
5	Carodean	Twentynine Palms
6	Hi Desert	Twentynine Palms
7	Hi Desert (AKA Co-Op)	Twentynine Palms
8	Joshua Tree	Joshua Tree
9	Nugget	Yucca Valley
10	Yucca	Yucca Valley
11	Concho	Palm Desert
12	Indian Wells	Palm Desert
13	Palm Village	Palm Desert
14	Silver Spur	Palm Desert
15	Santa Rosa	Rancho Mirage
16	Mirage	Thousand Palms
17	Tamarisk	Cathedral City
18	Desert Outpost	Cathedral City
19	Eisenhower	Palm Springs
20	Farrell	Palm Springs
21	Belding	Palm Springs
22	Thornhill	Palm Springs
23	Sunny Dunes	Palm Springs
24	Palm Canyon	Palm Springs

III. 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:

Carodean

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.

Hi Desert

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.

Hi Desert (AKA Co-Op)

- The No. 3 BANK EAST 33/25kV transformer was leaking oil from the North side radiator top flange.

Nugget

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.

Indian Wells

- The No. 1 BANK EAST 115/12kV transformer was leaking oil from the LTC compartment oil gauge.

Santa Rosa

- One of the cooling fans on the No. 5 BANK WEST 115/12kV transformer was not running.

Eisenhower

- The No. 2 BANK 115/12kV transformer was leaking oil from the oil sample valve.
- The No. 3 BANK 115/33kV transformer was leaking oil from the LTC & fans control cabinet.

Thornhill

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.
- Four of the cooling fans on the No. 1 BANK WEST 115/12/kV transformer were not running.