

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



January 15, 2026

SA2025-1358

Alexis Ravnik
Utility Engineer and Wildfire Mitigation Supervisor
Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc.
42020 Garstin Drive
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

SUBJECT: Substation Audit of Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc.

Ms. Ravnik:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), James Miller of my staff conducted a substation audit of Bear Valley Electric Service's (BVES) operational territory from November 17, 2025, to November 21, 2025. The audit included a review of BVES's records and field inspections of BVES's 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 February 18, 2026, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by BVES 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 James Miller at (213) 660-8898 or James.Miller@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Majed Ibrahim".

Majed Ibrahim, P.E.
Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor)
Electric Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission

Enclosures: Audit Findings

Cc: Leslie Palmer, Deputy Executive Director for Safety Enforcement, Safety Policy and Water, CPUC
Eric Wu, Program Manager, ESRB, SED, CPUC
James Miller, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records and documents:

- Substation Inspection Program and Procedures
- Substation Inspection Records
- Substation Equipment Testing Records
- Equipment and One-Line Diagrams
- Oil Test Results

II. Field Inspections

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

No.	Substation Name
1	Moonridge
2	Ridge
3	Fawnskin
4	Division
5	Bear City
6	Maltby
7	Palomino
8	Maple
9	Bear Mountain
10	Snow Summit
11	Village
12	Pine Knot
13	Lake
14	Meadow

III. Field Inspections – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspection:

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 in need of maintenance:

FawnSkin Substation

1. The nitrogen blanket pressure indicators on the North and Middle 34/4 kV Transformers displayed readings of less than 0 PSIG.
2. The South 34/4 kV Transformer was leaking oil from around its oil level gauge.

Division Substation

3. The nitrogen blanket pressure indicator of the 34/4 kV Transformer displayed a reading of less than 0 PSIG.

Village Substation

4. The nitrogen blanket pressure indicators on the East and West Bank Transformers displayed readings of less than 0 PSIG.

Meadow Substation

5. The North 34 kV Power Transformer for the Baldwin Line was leaking oil from a valve.