

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
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April 27, 2026

TA2025-1280

Melvin Stark
Principal Manager, T&D Compliance Integration
Southern California Edison (SCE)
1 Innovation Way
Pomona, CA 91786

Subject: Transmission Audit of Southern California Edison's Highland Grid

Mr. Stark:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Mily Vaidya and Jose Lastra of my staff conducted an electric transmission audit of SCE's Highland Grid from January 6 – 10, 2025. The audit included a review of SCE's inspection and maintenance records and field inspections of SCE's facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders (GOs). A copy of the audit findings that itemize the violations is included with this letter. Please advise me no later than May 27, 2026, electronically or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SCE to remediate and prevent such violations.

Please note that ESRB will be posting the audit report and the utility response to our audit on the CPUC website. If any information within the response is to be considered confidential, we are requesting two response versions be submitted, a confidential non-redacted response version and a public viewable or redacted response version.

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

Sincerely,

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

Majed Ibrahim, 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, Deputy Executive Director for Safety Enforcement, Safety Policy and Water, CPUC
Eric Wu, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, SED, CPUC
Mily Vaidya, Utilities Engineer, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, SED, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Circuit facility inspection records.
- Completed and pending corrective action work orders.
- Pole loading calculations.
- Tower Structure Analysis Records
- Safety hazard notifications.
- Intrusive test records
- SCE's documented inspection program.

II. Records Review – Violations List

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

GO 165, Section IV, Transmission Facilities, states in part:

Each utility shall prepare and follow procedures for conducting inspections and maintenance activities for transmission lines.

GO 95, Rule 31.2, Inspection of Lines, states in part:

Lines shall be inspected frequently and thoroughly for the purpose of insuring that they are in good condition so as to conform with these rules.

SCE's inspection records indicated that from 2022 to 2024, SCE performed 308 patrol inspections and 56 detailed inspections past SCE's assigned inspection due dates.

GO 95, Rule 18-A: Resolution of Safety Hazards and General Order 95 Nonconformances, states in part:

Each company (including electric utilities and communications companies) is responsible for taking appropriate corrective action to remedy potential violations of GO 95 and Safety Hazards posed by its facilities.

GO 95, Rule 31.1, 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 communication or supply lines and equipment.

SCE's records indicated that from 2022 to 2024, SCE had 89 repair notifications that were completed past SCE's scheduled due date for corrective action and 94 pending work orders past SCE's scheduled due date for corrective action.

III. Field Inspections

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

No.	Structure ID	Circuit	Structure	Location
1	MO-T4 A	Teddy-Whirlwind 220 kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
2	MO-T4	A Kingbird-Whirlwind 220 kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
3	MO-T4	B Teddy-Whirlwind 220 kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
4	MO-T4	B Kingbird-Whirlwind 220 kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
5	MO-T4	A Avenue-Whirlwind 220 kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
6	MO-T4	B Avenue-Whirlwind 220 kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
7	MO-T4	A Roy Solar-Whirlwind 220kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
8	MO-T4	B Roy Solar-Whirlwind 220kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
9	MO-T3	A Rattlesnake-Whirlwind 220kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
10	MO-T3	B Rattlesnake-Whirlwind 220kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
11	MO-T3	A DesertStar-Whirlwind 220kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
12	MO-T3	B DesertStar-Whirlwind 220kV	Steel Tower	Rosamond
13	787256E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
14	4053109E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
15	4837293E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
16	178800E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
17	4410479E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
18	4793679E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
19	4793678E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
20	4793677E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
21	4793676E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
22	4793675E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
23	4793674E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
24	4793673E		Wood Pole	Tehachapi
25	4620582E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
26	4620581E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
27	4620580E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
28	4620579E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
29	4620578E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
30	4620577E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
31	4620576E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
32	4605678E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
33	2370730E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
34	642749E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
35	313748E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
36	4053110E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
37	4493449E		Steel Pole	Tehachapi
38	4756420E	Quartz Hill #2/ 66kV	Tubular Steel Pole (TSP)	Lancaster
39	4756420E	Quartz Hill #1/ 66kV	Tubular Steel Pole (TSP)	Lancaster
40	4756413E	Quartz Hill Shuttle 66 kV	Tubular Steel Pole (TSP)	Lancaster

41	4756413E	Anaverde Helijet 66 kV	Tubular Steel Pole (TSP)	Lancaster
42	4756406E	Ritter Ranch #1/ 66 kV	Tubular Steel Pole (TSP)	Lancaster
43	4756406E	Ritter Ranch #2/66 kV	Tubular Steel Pole (TSP)	Lancaster
44	V4714	Quartz Hill #2/ 66kV	Vault	Lancaster
45	V4714	Quartz Hill #1	Vault	Lancaster
46	V4711	Quartz Hill Shuttle 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
47	V4711	Anaverde Helijet 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
48	V4707	Ritter Ranch #1/ 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
49	V4707	Ritter Ranch #2/66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
50	V4715	Quartz Hill #1/ 66kV	Vault	Lancaster
51	V4715	Quartz Hill #2/ 66kV	Vault	Lancaster
52	V4712	Quartz Hill Shuttle 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
53	V4712	Anaverde Helijet 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
54	V4708	Ritter Ranch #1/ 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
55	V4708	Ritter Ranch #2/ 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
56	V4709	Ritter Ranch #1/ 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
57	V4709	Ritter Ranch #2/ 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
58	V4716	Quartz Hill #1/ 66kV	Vault	Lancaster
59	V4716	Quartz Hill #2/ 66kV	Vault	Lancaster
60	V4713	Quartz Hill Shuttle 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster
61	V4713	Anaverde Helijet 66 kV	Vault	Lancaster

IV. Field Inspection Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspections 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.

The connection eyelet of the down guy anchor near to Pole 4793679E was abandoned.