

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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February 12, 2026

CA2026-1342

Stephen Kukta
Director – Regulatory Affairs
T-Mobile
45750 Cielito Drive
Indian Wells, CA 92210

SUBJECT: Audit of T-Mobile Communications Orange County Region

Mr. Kukta:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Norvik Ohanian of my staff conducted a Communication Infrastructure Provider (CIP) audit of T-Mobile Communications' Orange County Region on January 26-30, 2026. The audit included a review of T-Mobile Communications' inspection and maintenance records, and a field inspection of T-Mobile Communications' 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 March 13, 2026, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by T-Mobile Communications 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,

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, 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:

- Inspection Records
- T-Mobile Communications' Policy and Procedures Manual for Overhead and Underground Facilities
- Pole Loading Calculations

GO 95, Rule 44.1 – Installation and Reconstruction, states in part:

Lines and elements of lines, upon installation or reconstruction, shall provide as a minimum the safety factors specified in Table 4. The design shall consider all supply and communication facilities planned to occupy the structure. For purposes of this rule, the term “planned” applies to the facilities intended to occupy the structure that are actually known to the constructing company at the time of design.

The entity responsible for performing the loading calculation(s) for an installation or reconstruction shall maintain records of these calculations for the service life of the pole or other structure for which a loading calculation was made and shall provide such information to authorized joint use occupants and the Commission upon request.

The pole loading calculations provided by T-Mobile communications for pole LA33268B did not include third-party communication conductors at approximately 22 feet high, which were present at the time of the field inspection. Additionally, the pole loading calculations did not include two 2-inch diameter risers, which were present at the time of the field inspection

II. Field Inspection

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

No.	Structure ID.	Type of Structure	Location	Latitude	Longitude
1	LA13166E	Pole	Orange	33.802283	-117.821541
2	LA13166E	Meter Pedestal	Orange	33.802383	-117.822127
3	LA13166E	Vault	Orange	33.802502	-117.821472
4	LA03015F	BTS Cabinet	Orange	33.788527	-117.790222
5	LA03015F	Pull-box	Orange	33.788461	-117.790008
6	LA02995D	Meter Pedestal	Tustin	33.773797	-117.782708
7	LA02995D	Pole	Tustin	33.774188	-117.782350
8	LA02995D	BTS Cabinet	Tustin	33.774005	-117.782149
9	LA33600A	Meter Pedestal	Tustin	33.743919	-117.785338
10	LA33600A	Vault	Tustin	33.743927	-117.785308
11	LA33441E	Meter Pedestal	Dana Point	33.489291	-117.692452
12	LA33441E	Vault	Dana Point	33.489394	-117.692702
13	LA33441E	Pole	Dana Point	33.489486	-117.692191
14	LA02877C	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.515166	-117.681458
15	LA02877C	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.515127	-117.681402
16	LA02877C	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.515105	-117.681472
17	LA33867B	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.505700	-117.702377
18	LA33867B	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.505591	-117.702499
19	LA33867B	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.505855	-117.702508
20	LA33867B	Pull-box	Laguna Niguel	33.505702	-117.702552
21	LA02841C	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.519108	-117.704719
22	LA02841C	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.518749	-117.704788
23	LA02841C	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.519222	-117.704849
24	LA02973D	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.537391	-117.685347
25	LA02973D	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.536911	-117.685166
26	LA02973D	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.537297	-117.685263
27	LA33451B	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.528763	-117.725219
28	LA33451B	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.528780	-117.725266
29	LA33451B	Pull-box	Laguna Niguel	33.528499	-117.725066
30	LA33451B	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.528436	-117.724816
31	LA33445A	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.512355	-117.730116
32	LA33445A	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.512322	-117.730163
33	LA33445A	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.512149	-117.730125
34	LA33445A	Pull-box	Laguna Niguel	33.512269	-117.730033
35	LA33444A	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.504141	-117.730400
36	LA33444A	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.504141	-117.730369
37	LA33444A	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.504180	-117.730400
38	LA23192C	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.500400	-117.727766
39	LA23192C	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.500388	-117.727616
40	LA23192C	Pull-box	Laguna Niguel	33.500405	-117.727691
41	LA23192C	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.500466	-117.727722

42	LA02847C	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.542263	-117.715149
43	LA02847C	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.542533	-117.714874
44	LA02847C	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.541550	-117.714736
45	LA02971F	Vault	Laguna Niguel	33.547802	-117.716447
46	LA02971F	Pole	Laguna Niguel	33.548069	-117.716316
47	LA02971F	Meter Pedestal	Laguna Niguel	33.547019	-117.716347
48	LA02538A	BTS Cabinet	Aliso Viejo	33.566983	-117.736855
49	LA02538A	Pole	Aliso Viejo	33.567027	-117.736855
50	IE82508A	Meter Pedestal	Rancho Santa Margarita	33.658111	-117.582694
51	IE82508A	Vault	Rancho Santa Margarita	33.657761	-117.583763
52	IE82508A	Pole	Rancho Santa Margarita	33.658358	-117.583061
53	LA23198B	BTS Cabinet	Trabuco Canyon	33.659266	-117.588447
54	LA23198B	Pole	Trabuco Canyon	33.653080	-117.598738
55	LA23198B	Meter Pedestal	Trabuco Canyon	33.653080	-117.598672
56	LA33504A	Meter Pedestal	Mission Viejo	33.671325	-117.625183
57	LA33504A	Pole	Mission Viejo	33.671219	-117.625288
58	LA33504A	Vault	Mission Viejo	33.671274	-117.625663
59	LA02805A	Pole	Trabuco Canyon	33.684413	-117.620636
60	LA02803A	Pole	Lake Forest	33.698397	-117.635727
61	LA02808A	Pole	Silverado	33.703663	-117.642211
62	LA02807A	Pole	Silverado	33.715144	-117.646224
63	LA02802A	Pole	Silverado	33.730244	-117.650916
64	LA02806A	Pole	Silverado	33.752813	-117.683174
65	LA02801A	Pole	Silverado	33.767722	-117.724052
66	LA02809A	Pole	Orange	33.771538	-117.739508
67	LA02709A	BTS Cabinet	Orange	33.783566	-117.749961
68	LA02709A	Pole	Orange	33.783500	-117.749930
69	LA33493C	Pole	Costa Mesa	33.639286	-117.903694
70	LA33493C	Pull-box	Costa Mesa	33.639308	-117.903647
71	LA33493C	Vault	Costa Mesa	33.639008	-117.903419
72	LA33493C	Meter Pedestal	Costa Mesa	33.639099	-117.903580
73	LA33845C	Meter Pedestal	Santa Ana	33.700066	-117.897430
74	LA33845C	Pole	Santa Ana	33.700072	-117.897513
75	LA33845C	Vault	Santa Ana	33.699994	-117.897522
76	LA33514C	Meter Pedestal	Santa Ana	33.710741	-117.904236
77	LA33514C	Pole	Santa Ana	33.710808	-117.904258
78	LA33514C	Vault	Santa Ana	33.710658	-117.904311
79	LA33268B	Meter Pedestal	Santa Ana	33.737238	-117.881500
80	LA33268B	Pole	Santa Ana	33.737280	-117.881272
81	LA33268B	Vault	Santa Ana	33.737147	-117.881377
82	LA33825A	Meter Pedestal	Santa Ana	33.738347	-117.874122
83	LA33825A	Pole	Santa Ana	33.738227	-117.874199
84	LA33825A	Vault	Santa Ana	33.738327	-117.874344
85	LA33827A	Vault	Santa Ana	33.741916	-117.913574
86	LA33827A	Pole	Santa Ana	33.741980	-117.913505
87	LA33827A	Meter Pedestal	Santa Ana	33.742005	-117.913558
88	LA33319B	Pole	Westminster	33.752224	-117.962311

89	LA33319B	Vault	Westminster	33.752199	-117.962136
90	LA02947A	BTS Cabinet	Westminster	33.758349	-118.030066
91	LA02947A	Pull-box	Westminster	33.758372	-118.030036
92	LA02947A	Pole	Westminster	33.758725	-118.030136
93	LA02947A	Pull-box	Westminster	33.758686	-118.029694

III. Field Inspection – Violations List

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

GO 95, Rule 18.A3 - Resolution of Potential Violation of General Order 95 and Safety Hazards, states in part:

If a company, while performing inspections of its facilities, discovers a Safety Hazard(s) on or near a communications facility or electric facility involving another company, the inspecting company shall notify the other entity of such Safety Hazard(s) no later than ten (10) business days after the discovery.

T-Mobile did not notify the third-party entity of a safety hazard of facilities on the pole LA33268B, where third-party communication cables were not securely attached to the pole and were instead hanging from risers by chains.

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 cover of access hatch at each of the following poles was missing:

- Pole No. LA33441E
- Pole No. LA33867B
- Pole No. LA23192C

The T-Mobile communications cables were not transferred to the new pole in place at each of the following poles:

- Pole No. LA23198B
- Pole No. LA02803A

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.

The following facilities required maintenance:

- IE82508A – The old meter pedestal was abandoned in place and not removed.
- LA33825A – The meter pedestal base was not securely fixed to its concrete foundation and was leaning.

GO 128, Rule 42.7 – Covers, states in part:

Manholes and handholes, while not being worked in shall be securely closed by covers of sufficient strength to sustain such loads as may reasonably be imposed upon them, and arrangement shall be such that a tool or appliance shall be required for their opening and cover removal.

The cover of the handhole located at each of the following locations was not securely closed, allowing unauthorized access to the structures:

- LA03015F
- LA33867B
- LA33451B
- LA33445A
- LA23192C
- LA33493C
- LA02947A (2 handholes)