PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

April 16, 2026 EA2026-1365

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

SUBJECT: Audit of Southern California Edison's Palm Springs District

Mr. Stark:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Norvik Ohanian of my staff conducted an electric distribution audit of Southern California Edison's (SCE) Palm Springs District from March 2, 2026, to March 6, 2026. The audit included a review of SCE's 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 itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than May 18, 2026, 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,

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, 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:

- Overhead and Underground Detail Inspection Records
- Patrol Inspection Records
- SCE's Documented Inspection Program
- Repair Notifications
- Transformers, Switches and Intrusive Testing Records
- Third Party Notifications
- Pole Loading Calculation Records

II. Records Review – Violations List

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

GO 165, Section III-B - Distribution Facilities, Standards for Inspection, states:

> *Each utility subject to this General Order shall conduct inspections of its distribution facilities, as necessary, to ensure reliable, high-quality, and safe operation, but in no case may the period between inspections (measured in years) exceed the time specified in Table 1.*

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 records indicated that from February 2021 through January 2026, SCE completed 84 patrol inspections past SCE's scheduled due date. Additionally, as of the date of the audit, SCE had 23 pending patrol inspections that were past SCE's scheduled due date.

SCE's records indicated that from February 2021 through January 2026, SCE completed 3,594 detailed inspections past SCE's scheduled due date. Additionally, as of the date of the audit, SCE had 24 pending detail inspections that were past SCE's scheduled due date.

GO 165, Section III-B - Distribution Facilities, Standards for Inspection, states:

> *Each utility subject to this General Order shall conduct inspections of its distribution facilities, as necessary, to ensure reliable, high-quality, and safe operation, but in no case may the period between inspections (measured in years) exceed the time specified in Table 1.*

GO 128, Rule 17.2 - Inspection, states:

> *Systems shall be inspected by the operator frequently and thoroughly for the purpose of insuring that they are in good condition and in conformance with all applicable requirements of these rules.*

SCE's records indicated that from February 2021 through January 2026, SCE completed 884 underground inspections past SCE's scheduled due date. Additionally, as of the date of the audit, SCE had 37 pending underground inspections that were past SCE's scheduled due date.

GO 95, Rule 18-B1 - Maintenance Programs, states in part:

> *Companies shall undertake corrective actions within the time periods stated for each of the priority levels set forth below. Scheduling of corrective actions within the time periods below may be based on additional factors, including the following factors, as appropriate …*

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 February 2024 through January 2026, SCE completed 983 overhead work orders past SCE's due date for corrective action. Additionally, as of the date of the audit, SCE had 308 open overhead work orders that were past SCE's scheduled due date for corrective action.

GO 128, Rule 17.1 - 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.*

SCE's records indicated that from February 2021 through January 2026, SCE completed 212 underground work orders past SCE's due date for corrective action. Additionally, as of the date of the audit, SCE had 177 open underground work orders that were past SCE's scheduled due date for corrective action.

III. Field Inspection

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

No.	Structure ID.	Type of Structure	Location
1	4221767E	Pole	Cathedral City
2	4221768E	Pole	Cathedral City
3	4221769E	Pole	Cathedral City
4	4221770E	Pole	Cathedral City
5	4221771E	Pole	Cathedral City
6	4221772E	Pole	Cathedral City
7	4221773E	Pole	Cathedral City
8	4207387E	Pole	Cathedral City
9	4221766E	Pole	Cathedral City
10	4221765E	Pole	Cathedral City
11	4221764E	Pole	Cathedral City
12	4221763E	Pole	Cathedral City
13	4221762E	Pole	Cathedral City
14	4221761E	Pole	Cathedral City
15	4221760E	Pole	Cathedral City
16	4221759E	Pole	Cathedral City
17	4627759E	Pole	Cathedral City
18	4221757E	Pole	Cathedral City
19	4221755E	Pole	Cathedral City
20	4221754E	Pole	Cathedral City
21	4221752E	Pole	Cathedral City
22	4221753E	Pole	Cathedral City
23	335139-S	Pole	Palm Desert
24	4952684E	Pole	Palm Desert
25	335140-S	Pole	Palm Desert
26	335141-S	Pole	Palm Desert
27	335142-S	Pole	Palm Desert
28	335143-S	Pole	Palm Desert
29	335144-S	Pole	Palm Desert
30	335145-S	Pole	Palm Desert
31	335146-S	Pole	Palm Desert
32	335147-S	Pole	Palm Desert
33	4182950E	Pole	Palm Desert
34	4627053E	Pole	Palm Desert
35	335445-S	Pole	Palm Desert
36	335164-S	Pole	Palm Desert
37	335163-S	Pole	Palm Desert
38	335456S	Pole	Palm Desert
39	335455-S	Pole	Palm Desert
40	335454-S	Pole	Palm Desert
41	335453-S	Pole	Palm Desert
42	335452-S	Pole	Palm Desert

43	335451-S	Pole	Palm Desert
44	335450-S	Pole	Palm Desert
45	335449-S	Pole	Palm Desert
46	335448-S	Pole	Palm Desert
47	335149-S	Pole	Palm Desert
48	28835CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
49	4131451E	Pole	Palm Desert
50	4114946E	Pole	Palm Desert
51	2097034E	Pole	Palm Desert
52	4824228E	Pole	Palm Desert
53	4805958E	Pole	Palm Desert
54	4115042E	Pole	Palm Desert
55	4625816E	Pole	Palm Desert
56	4131214E	Pole	Palm Desert
57	4232971E	Pole	Palm Desert
58	4232970E	Pole	Palm Desert
59	4680730E	Pole	Palm Desert
60	2207945E	Pole	Palm Desert
61	2071776E	Pole	Palm Desert
62	4303193E	Pole	Palm Desert
63	33413CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
64	1905250E	Pole	Palm Desert
65	28574CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
66	31025CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
67	31026CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
68	31027CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
69	31028CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
70	4809986E	Pole	Palm Desert
71	31030CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
72	4894551E	Pole	Palm Desert
73	31032CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
74	31033CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
75	28818CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
76	28819CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
77	28820CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
78	28821CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
79	28822CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
80	28823CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
81	28824CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
82	28825CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
83	28826CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
84	28827CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
85	28828CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
86	28833CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
87	28834CWT	Pole	Palm Desert
88	4627834E	Pole	Cabazon
89	4942481E	Pole	Cabazon

90	2325188E	Pole	Cabazon
91	4500476E	Pole	Cabazon
92	4639922E	Pole	Cabazon
93	2022039E	Pole	Cabazon
94	2325185E	Pole	Cabazon
95	2325186E	Pole	Cabazon
96	4627182E	Pole	Cabazon
97	4942482E	Pole	Cabazon
98	2130492E	Pole	Cabazon
99	4806402E	Pole	Cabazon
100	4878986E	Pole	Cabazon
101	4806401E	Pole	Cabazon
102	4805781E	Pole	Cabazon
103	4960964E	Pole	Cabazon
104	4891483E	Pole	Cabazon
105	GT100341	Pole	Cabazon
106	4960965E	Pole	Cabazon
107	4960966E	Pole	Cabazon
108	9595CWT	Pole	Cabazon
109	257688S	Pole	Cathedral City
110	4914024E	Pole	Cathedral City
111	257689S	Pole	Cathedral City
112	4914011E	Pole	Cathedral City
113	235351	Pole	Palm Springs
114	1934380E	Pole	Palm Springs
115	2228164E	Pole	Palm Springs
116	4805327E	Pole	Palm Springs
117	4504496E	Pole	Palm Springs
118	4805328E	Pole	Palm Springs
119	2267141E	Pole	Palm Springs
120	4500323E	Pole	Palm Springs
121	1821780E	Pole	Palm Springs
122	32262	Pole	Palm Springs
123	4805329E	Pole	Palm Springs
124	234246S	Pole	Palm Springs
125	4981436E	Pole	Palm Springs
126	4500985E	Pole	Palm Springs
127	P5322591	Pad-mounted Transformer	Palm Desert
128	P5323586	Pad-mounted Transformer	Palm Desert
129	P5482327	Pad-mounted Transformer	Palm Desert
130	V5322915	Vault	Palm Desert
131	P5423529	Pad-mounted Transformer	Palm Desert
132	P5324360	Pad-mounted Transformer	Cathedral City
133	P5599266	Pad-mounted Transformer	Cathedral City
134	P5518809	Pad-mounted Transformer	Cathedral City
135	BS3295	Vault	Cathedral City
136	P5396925	Pad-mounted Transformer	Palm Springs

137	P5396928	Pad-mounted Transformer	Palm Springs
138	P5483946	Pad-mounted Transformer	Palm Springs
139	P5749680	Pad-mounted Transformer	Desert Hot Springs

IV. Field Inspection – Violations List

We observed the following violations during the field inspection 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.*

SCE's facilities on each of the following poles required maintenance:

- Pole No. 1821780E – An old SCE pole (buddy pole) was not yet removed and left approximately a foot away from the pole.

The secondary riser handhole cover next to each of the following poles was damaged:

- Pole No. 4221768E
- Pole No. 4221760E

The secondary riser handhole cover next to each of the following poles was not securely closed:

- Pole No. 4221761E
- Pole No. 4221755E

The down guy anchor for each of the following poles was buried:

- Pole No. 28835CWT
- Pole No. 31026CWT

GO 95, Rule 38 - Minimum Clearances of Wires from Other Wires, Table 2, Column D, Case 8, requires the minimum vertical separation between "0 – 750 Volts Conductors (Including Service Drops)" from "Communication Conductors and Service Drops" supported on the same pole to be 48 inches.

The SCE secondary conductor was not properly attached to Pole No. 4131451E, causing only 1 foot vertical separation from a third-party communications conductor supported on the same pole.

GO 95, Rule 51.6A - Marking and Guarding, High Voltage Marking of Poles, states in part:

> *Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs. This marking shall consist of a single sign showing the words "HIGH VOLTAGE", or pair of signs showing the words "HIGH" and "VOLTAGE", not more than six (6) inches in height with letters not less than 3 inches in height. Such signs shall be of weather and corrosion–resisting material, solid or with letters cut out therefrom and clearly legible.*

The high voltage sign on each of the following poles was either missing or damaged:

- Pole No. 335141-S
- Pole No. 4182950E
- Pole No. 335164-S
- Pole No. 335454-S
- Pole No. 335453-S
- Pole No. 335452-S
- Pole No. 335450-S
- Pole No. 335449-S
- Pole No. 335448-S
- Pole No. 4131214E
- Pole No. 4232971E
- Pole No. 4232970E
- Pole No. 33413CWT
- Pole No. 1905250E
- Pole No. 28574CWT
- Pole No. 31026CWT
- Pole No. 31028CWT
- Pole No. 31030CWT
- Pole No. 31032CWT
- Pole No. 28820CWT
- Pole No. 28825CWT
- Pole No. 28834CWT
- Pole No. 2267141E

GO 95, Rule 54.7 - Climbing and Working Space, states in part:

> *Climbing space shall be maintained from the ground level. Climbing space, measured from center line of pole, shall be provided on one side or in one quadrant of all poles or structures with dimensions as specified in the following ...*

The climbing space on Pole No. 2267141E was obstructed by third party light fixture.

GO 95, Rule 56.2 - Overhead Guys, Anchor Guys and Span Wire Use, states in part:

> *Guys shall be attached to structures, as nearly as practicable, at the center of load. They shall be maintained taut and of such strength as to meet the safety factors of Rule 44.*

The SCE down guy wire supporting each of the following poles was loose and not taut:

- Pole No. 4221754E
- Pole No. 28820CWT
- Pole No. 257688S

GO 95, Rule 56.9, Guy Marker (Guy Guard), states in part:

> *A substantial marker of suitable material, including but not limited to metal or plastic, not less than 8 feet in length, shall be securely attached to all anchor guys. Where more than one guy is attached to an anchor rod, only the outermost guy is required to have a marker*.

The outermost down guy wire attached to Pole No. 4221773E did not have a guy marker.

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 SCE facilities required maintenance:

- Structure No. P5423529 – The pad-mounted transformer sub-structure was filled with dirt.
- Structure No. P5324360 – The required working space in front of the pad-mounted transformer doors was obstructed by third party assets.
- Structure No. P5518809 – The pad-mounted transformer door was obstructed by protective barrier (bollard) and could not be fully opened.