

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 28, 2026,

EA2026-1373

Jordi Burbano, P.E.
Electrical Engineering Associate
Regulatory Standards and Compliance Section
City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
111 North Hope Street, Room 1246
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SUBJECT: Audit of LADWP's Northridge District

Mr. Burbano:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Sultan Tipu of my staff conducted an electric distribution audit of LADWP's Northridge District from March 16-20, 2026. The audit included a review of LADWP's inspection and maintenance records and a field inspection of LADWP'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 June 29, 2026, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by LADWP to remediate 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 Sultan Tipu at (213) 660-5524 or sultan.tipu@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

Enclosure: 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
Saimon Islam, Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor), ESRB, SED, CPUC
Sultan Tipu, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

Audit Findings

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Overhead and underground detailed inspection records.
- Completed and pending corrective action work orders.
- Pole loading calculations.
- Intrusive test records.
- LADWP's visual inspection program.
- ESRB's interview of LADWP inspectors.

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.

LADWP's inspection records indicated that from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2025, a total of 15,851 overhead patrol inspections and 34,923 detailed inspections were completed or pending completion past LADWP's assigned 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.

LADWP inspection records indicated that from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2025, a total of 9,545 underground patrol inspections and 25,396 underground detailed inspections were completed or pending completion past LADWP's assigned due date.

GO 95, Rule 18, 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.

LADWP records indicated that from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2025, a total of 34,923 overhead work orders were completed, pending completion, or cancelled after LADWP's assigned 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.

LADWP records indicated that from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2025, a total of 28,983 underground work orders were completed, pending completion, or cancelled after LADWP's assigned due date for corrective action.

III. Field Inspection

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

No.	Structure ID.	Type of Structure	Location
1	348247M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
2	359288M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
3	141027M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
4	599463M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
5	541303M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
6	541304M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
7	541305M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
8	541306M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
9	541307M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
10	541308M	Pole	Sherwood Forest
11	199416M	Pole	Lake Balboa
12	396145M	Pole	Lake Balboa
13	199418M	Pole	Lake Balboa
14	199419M	Pole	Lake Balboa
15	199421M	Pole	Lake Balboa
16	199426M	Pole	Lake Balboa
17	199425M	Pole	Lake Balboa
18	199424M	Pole	Lake Balboa
19	199423M	Pole	Lake Balboa
20	199422M	Pole	Lake Balboa
21	416246M	Pole	Encino Village
22	322444M	Pole	Encino Village
23	322443M	Pole	Encino Village
24	539662M	Pole	Encino Village
25	297343M	Pole	Encino Village
26	299917M	Pole	Encino Village
27	299916M	Pole	Encino Village
28	88468M	Pole	Encino Village
29	316710M	Pole	Encino Village
30	345321M	Pole	Encino Village
31	398321M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
32	633105H	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
33	185802M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
34	185803M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
35	633104H	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
36	633103H	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
37	185804M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
38	185805M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
39	370074M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin

40	533656M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
41	370075M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
42	409944M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
43	409945M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
44	409946M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
45	177945M	Pole	Sepulveda Basin
46	160254M	Pole	Northridge
47	160253M	Pole	Northridge
48	375402M	Pole	Northridge
49	160252M	Pole	Northridge
50	160251M	Pole	Northridge
51	160250M	Pole	Northridge
52	160249M	Pole	Northridge
53	333019M	Pole	Northridge
54	394311M	Pole	Northridge
55	394309M	Pole	Northridge
56	211179M	Pole	Northridge
57	211178M	Pole	Northridge
58	211177M	Pole	Northridge
59	199558M	Pole	Northridge
60	432102M	Pole	Northridge
61	395543M	Pole	Tarzana
62	395544M	Pole	Tarzana
63	354426M	Pole	Tarzana
64	233140M	Pole	Tarzana
65	233141M	Pole	Tarzana
66	233139M	Pole	Tarzana
67	137483M	Pole	Tarzana
68	424848M	Pole	Tarzana
69	388483M	Pole	Tarzana
70	317105M	Pole	Tarzana
71	285025M	Pole	Tarzana
72	285026M	Pole	Tarzana
73	306787M	Pole	Tarzana
74	110951M	Pole	Tarzana
75	343245M	Pole	Tarzana
76	306792M	Pole	Tarzana
77	285024M	Pole	Tarzana
78	229337M	Pole	Tarzana
79	418992M	Pole	Tarzana
80	110948M	Pole	Tarzana
81	417322M	Pole	Canoga Park
82	359099M	Pole	Canoga Park
83	108960M	Pole	Canoga Park
84	402018M	Pole	Canoga Park

85	108964M	Pole	Canoga Park
86	526949M	Pole	Canoga Park
87	319223M	Pole	West Hills
88	319222M	Pole	West Hills
89	427436M	Pole	West Hills
90	427437M	Pole	West Hills
91	427438M	Pole	West Hills
92	436800M	Pole	West Hills
93	436801M	Pole	West Hills
94	355021M	Pole	West Hills
95	427439M	Pole	West Hills
96	400482M	Pole	West Hills
97	115483M	Pole	West Hills
98	327491M	Pole	West Hills
99	115484M	Pole	West Hills
100	357780M	Pole	West Hills
101	391256M	Pole	Woodland Hills
102	391257M	Pole	Woodland Hills
103	433013M	Pole	Woodland Hills
104	391061M	Pole	Woodland Hills
105	391258M	Pole	Woodland Hills
106	354387M	Pole	Woodland Hills
107	336865M	Pole	Woodland Hills
108	161752M	Pole	Woodland Hills
109	346825M	Pole	Woodland Hills
110	391325M	Pole	Woodland Hills
111	1151828	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
112	1152321	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
113	1152362	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
114	1152347	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
115	1151836	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
116	1152289	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
117	1152313	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
118	1152271	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
119	1152339	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
120	1152354	Pad-mounted Transformer	Reseda
121	1142934	Vault	Sherman Oaks
122	1142926	Vault	Sherman Oaks
123	1142918	Vault	Sherman Oaks
124	1142892	Vault	Sherman Oaks

IV. Field Inspection – Violations List

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.

LADWP facilities located on the following poles required maintenance:

- Pole No.199422M – A section of ground wire was damaged.
- Pole No. 322443M – A section of ground wire was damaged.
- Pole No. 299916M – A section of ground wire was damaged.
- Pole No. 88468M – A section of ground wire was damaged.
- Pole No. 391325M - the visibility strips on the pole were damaged.
- Pole No. 199425M - the pole tag was damaged.
- Pole No. 199423M - the pole tag was damaged.
- Pole No. 299916M - the pole tag was damaged.
- Pole No. 88468M - the pole tag was damaged.
- Pole No. 18580S - the pole tag was damaged.
- Pole No. 177945M - the pole tag was damaged.
- Pole No. 317105M - the pole tag was damaged.
- Pole No. 285024M - the pole tag was damaged.
- Pole No. 110948M - the pole tag was damaged.

GO 95, Rule 34 - Foreign Attachments, states in part:

Nothing in these rules shall be construed as permitting the unauthorized attachment, to supply, street light or communication poles or structures, of antennas, signs, posters, banners, decorations, wires, lighting fixtures, guys, ropes and any other such equipment foreign to the purposes of overhead electric line construction.

Unauthorized foreign attachments were attached to the following LADWP poles:

- Pole No. 370074M – Missing animal pet sign written “Missing Dog”
- Pole No. 391256M - Business advertisement sign written “Barber Shop”

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A, 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. A pair of signs may be stacked to a height of no more than 12 inches. Such signs shall be of weather and corrosion-resisting material, solid or with letters cut out therefrom and clearly legible.

Each of the following LADWP poles supported “HIGH VOLTAGE” signs that were damaged or missing:

- Pole No. 199426M
- Pole No. 199424M
- Pole No. 316710M
- Pole No. 160252M
- Pole No. 333019M
- Pole No. 211177M
- Pole No. 211178M
- Pole No. 199558M
- Pole No. 346825M

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B, Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wires attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

The ground moulding on each of the following LADWP poles was damaged:

- Pole No. 199422M
- Pole No. 322443M
- Pole No. 299916M
- Pole No. 88468M
- Pole No. 394309M

GO 95, Rule 84.7-A, Climbing Space, states in part:

Climbing space shall be maintained on one side or quadrant of all poles or structures supporting communications conductors excepting at the level of the one pair of conductors attached to the pole below the lowest crossarm (Rules 84.4–C1c, 84.4–D1 and 87.4–C3) and the top 3 feet of poles carrying communication conductors only which are attached directly to pole in accordance with the provisions of Rule 84.4–C1c.

The climbing space on the following poles was obstructed by vegetation:

- Pole No. 199416M
- Pole No. 88468M
- Pole No. 233141M