

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 9, 2026

SA2026-1396

Jennifer Kaminsky
Manager – Electric Assets & Compliance
San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E)
8315 Century Park Court, Suite CP22B
San Diego, CA 92123

SUBJECT: Substation Audit of the SDG&E Eastern Grid

Ms. Kaminsky:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Eric Ujiiye of my staff conducted a substation audit of SDG&E's Eastern Grid from April 20 – 24, 2026. The audit was comprised of a records review and a substation facilities field inspection for the SDG&E Eastern Grid.

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 enclosed with this letter. Please advise me no later than July 10, 2026, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SDG&E 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 Eric Ujiiye at (213) 620-2598 or Eric.Ujiiye@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: Koko Tomassian, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
Eric Wu, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC
Eric Ujiiye, Utilities Engineer, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records onsite:

- Map of the substations in the SDG&E Eastern Grid territory.
- SDG&E Substation maintenance and inspection procedures
- SDG&E Substation Testing Policies and Procedures
- SDG&E Substation Inspector – GO174 Training Records Documentation
- SDG&E Substation Inspection Records from January 2023 – December 2025
- Inspection Checklists and One-Line Diagrams for three selected substations
- Pending and Completed Workorders for the year 2025.

II. Field Inspections

My staff inspected the following substation facilities during the field inspection:

No.	Sub. ID	Location	Latitude	Longitude
1	Rolando	4641 62 nd Street	32.76207	-117.06419
2	Amherst	4853 73 rd Street	32.76791	-117.04024
3	Chollas West	7001 North Ave	32.74399	-117.04709
4	Drew	S. Hwy 98 and Drew Road	32.67872	-115.67086
5	Imperial Valley	Access Rd. and Hwy 98 at 16.5 Mi	32.71918	-115.71911
6	Ocotillo	1251 E. Dos Cabezas Road	32.74480	-116.04300
7	East County	47317 Old Hwy 80	32.62651	-116.11881
8	Boulevard East	Old Hwy 80 @ 1.2 mi E. of Ribbonwood Rd.	32.66283	-116.27258
9	Crestwood	37420 Old Hwy 80, Pine Valley, CA	32.69922	-116.35422
10	Cameron	Adj. to 1835 Buckman Springs Rd.	32.65356	-116.48831
11	Glenclyff	29822 Olde Hwy 80	32.79837	-116.49828
12	Descanso	Oak Grove Dr. & 500' w/o Boulder Creek Rd	32.86529	-116.63377
13	Suncrest	Bell Bluff Truck Trail 1.5mi w/o Japatul Vall.	32.81179	-116.68131
14	Barrett	Access Rd n/o Manzanita Way	32.66719	-116.70040
15	Loveland	16549 Sycuan Truck Trail	32.79725	-116.79212
16	Alpine	1237 South Grade Rd.	32.82760	-116.78957
17	Los Coches	13733 El Monte Rd.	32.86054	-116.89967
18	El Cajon	N/W CNR of N. Main St. & Johnson Ave.	32.79542	-116.97263
19	Carlton Hills	W. side of Avocado Ave 200'S. Horizon Hills	32.85471	-117.01173
20	Santee	Mast Blvd, btwn Magnolia & Eucalyptus Ct.	32.85484	-116.96876

III. Field Inspection – Violations List

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 not maintained for their intended use:

Roland

- Three of the radiator cooling fans on the Bank 11 transformer were not operating.

Amherst

- A radiator cooling fan on the Bank 10 transformer was missing.

Drew

- On Panel 100 in the control room, a digital display gauge labelled “Battery 2 – North” did not display a legible reading.

Imperial Valley

- The Bank 82 B phase transformer was seeping oil near the center of the attachment location of the radiator.
- A cable trough cover was damaged, exposing the cables.

Ocotillo

- An entrance gate on the substation’s perimeter fencing had a damaged latch and was held open with tiedown straps. The damaged gate led to a large external auxiliary yard that did not support warning signs and was not within the substation.
- The NFPA Diamond signage attached to the battery storage room entrance was weather damaged and illegible.

Eco

- Transformer Bank 83 had oil seepage near the radiator.

Cameron

- Pole SCN02 located within the substation near transformer bank 30 had a 4-inch gap at the base of the pole. The pole was inspected and reinforced by Davey Tree in 2021.

Suncrest

- Battery Room 1 contained two cells – Cell 50 and Cell 52 – that had contamination within the cell.

Barrett

- The nitrogen tank for transformer Bank 31 was set on the transformer foundation pad and exhibited rust at the base.

Alpine

- A section of the perimeter fencing had a gap at the base of the chain-link fence.

El Cajon

- Light fixture 15 mounted on a rack within the substation was close to the 69kV underground terminations of TL6955.

Santa Fe

- A radiator fan on transformer Bank 40 was not functioning.
- Transformer Bank 43 had oil seepage near top connection points of the radiator.