

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 24, 2024

TA2024-1130

Sandra Aguilar  
Team Lead, Substation & Transmission Compliance  
San Diego Gas and Electric Company  
8326 Century Park Court  
San Diego, CA 92123

Subject: Audit of San Diego Gas and Electric's Eastern Region

Ms. Aguilar:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), James Miller and Norvik Ohanian of my staff conducted an electric transmission audit of San Diego Gas and Electric's (SDG&E) Eastern Region from April 15, 2024 to April 19, 2024. The audit included a review of SDG&E's records and field inspections of SDG&E'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 24, 2024, 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 James Miller at (213) 660-8898 or [James.Miller@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:James.Miller@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fadi Daye".

Fadi Daye, 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, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC  
Nika Kjensli, Program Manager, ESRB, SED, CPUC  
Majed Ibrahim, Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor), ESRB, SED, CPUC  
James Miller, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC  
Norvik Ohanian, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

## **AUDIT FINDINGS**

### **I. Records Review**

My staff reviewed the following records during the audit:

- Annual Visual (Patrol) Inspection Records
- Detailed Inspection Records
- Transmission Line Maintenance Practices
- Utility Statistics (Miles of Line, Number of Structures by Type, Etc.)
- Infrared Inspection Records
- Work Order Records
- Intrusive Testing Records
- Pole Loading Records
- Outgoing Third-Party Hazard Notifications
- Insulator Wash Records

## II. Field Inspections

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

No.	Structure ID	Circuit	Structure Type	Location
1	U108876	TL23054	Vault	Alpine
2	Z123687	TL23054	Cable Pole	Alpine
3	Z123686	TL23055	Cable Pole	Alpine
4	Z123724	TL23054 & TL23055	Cable Pole	Alpine
5	U108857	TL23054	Vault	Alpine
6	Z875066	TL6904	Steel Combination Pole	Alpine
7	Z875063	TL678	Steel Combination Pole	Alpine
8	Z776634	TL678	Steel Combination Pole	Alpine
9	Z272847	TL625 & TL6957	Steel Combination Pole	Alpine
10	Z119934	TL625	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
11	Z135623	TL6914 & TL6957	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
12	Z293866	TL6914	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
13	Z272839	TL625 & TL6957	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
14	Z293865	TL6904	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
15	Z771294	TL6904	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
16	Z770043	TL6904	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
17	Z776259	TL6904	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
18	Z776260	TL6904	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
19	Z776261	TL6904	Steel H-Frame	Loveland Reservoir
20	Z272837	TL6914	Steel Combination Pole	Loveland Reservoir
21	Z100118	TL13844	Cable Pole	Jacumba
22	Z100134A	TL50001	Steel Pole	Jacumba
23	Z100134B	TL50001	Steel Pole	Jacumba
24	Z100134C	TL50001	Steel Pole	Jacumba
25	Z100130	TL50004	Steel H-Frame	Jacumba
26	Z100131A	TL50004	Steel Pole	Jacumba
27	Z100131B	TL50004	Steel Pole	Jacumba
28	Z100131C	TL50004	Steel Pole	Jacumba
29	Z50183	TL50004	Lattice Tower	Jacumba
30	Z126329	TL50003	Lattice Tower	Jacumba
31	Z100137A	TL50001	Steel Pole	Jacumba
32	Z100137B	TL50001	Steel Pole	Jacumba
33	Z100137C	TL50001	Steel Pole	Jacumba
34	Z50182	TL50001	Lattice Tower	Jacumba
35	Z123326	TL50003	Lattice Tower	Jacumba
36	Z126327	TL50003	Lattice Tower	Jacumba
37	Z71402	TL630	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
38	Z71400	TL630	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon

39	Z71399	TL630	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
40	Z71398	TL630	Steel Combination Pole	El Cajon
41	Z71397	TL630	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
42	Z71396	TL630	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
43	Z101776	TL630	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
44	Z371393	TL624	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
45	Z371394	TL624	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
46	Z371395	TL624	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
47	Z371396	TL624	Steel Pole	El Cajon
48	Z371389	TL624	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
49	Z371390	TL624	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
50	Z371391	TL624	Wood Combination Pole	El Cajon
51	Z971730	TL627	Wood Combination Pole	Rancho San Diego
52	Z971731	TL627	Wood Combination Pole	Rancho San Diego
53	Z971732	TL627	Wood Combination Pole	Rancho San Diego
54	Z971733	TL627	Wood Combination Pole	Rancho San Diego
55	Z971734	TL627	Wood Combination Pole	Rancho San Diego
56	Z170800	TL627	Wood Combination Pole	Rancho San Diego
57	Z971857	TL23041	Lattice Tower	Jamacha/Spring Valley
58	Z200610	TL13824	Steel Pole	Jamacha/Spring Valley
59	Z200609	TL13824	Steel Pole	Jamacha/Spring Valley
60	Z200697	TL23023	Steel Pole	Jamacha/Spring Valley
61	Z200611	TL13824	Steel Pole	Jamacha/Spring Valley
62	Z30331	TL643	Steel Combination Pole	Jamacha/Spring Valley
63	Z30332	TL643	Steel Combination Pole	Jamacha/Spring Valley
64	Z30333	TL643	Steel Combination Pole	Jamacha/Spring Valley
65	Z971893	TL23021	Lattice Tower	Lakeside
66	Z200651	TL13824	Steel Pole	Lakeside
67	P875010S	TL678	Stub Pole	Lakeside
68	Z675941	TL23022 & TL23023	Lattice Tower	Lakeside
69	Z478740	TL6914	Steel Combination Pole	Lakeside
70	Z478741	TL6914	Steel Combination Pole	Lakeside
71	Z875010	TL678	Steel Combination Pole	Lakeside
72	Z875008	TL6914	Steel Combination Pole	Lakeside
73	Z478742	TL6914	Steel Combination Pole	Lakeside
74	Z201909	TL23022 & TL23023	Steel Pole	Lakeside
75	Z200652	TL632 & TL13824	Steel Pole	Lakeside
76	Z971894	TL23041 & TL23021	Lattice Tower	Lakeside
77	Z875009	TL678	Steel Combination Pole	Lakeside
78	Z971023	TL678	Steel Combination Pole	Lakeside

### III. Field Inspection Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field 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.*

**GO 95, Rule 51.6, 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.*

The high-voltage warning band on Pole No. Z30333 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 signs were attached to the following poles:

- Pole No. Z71402 supported an unauthorized sign advertising local "handyman services".
- Pole No. Z371391 supported an unauthorized sign for an automobile dealer.