

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
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July 19, 2024

TA2024-1139

Rockeish Mckenzie, P.E.
Manager of Regulatory Compliance Office
Regulatory Standards and Compliance Section
City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power (LADWP)
111 North Hope Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SUBJECT: Transmission Audit of LADWP's Northridge Metro District

Mr. Mckenzie:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Eric Ujiiye and Sultan Tipu of my staff conducted an electric transmission audit of LADWP Northridge Metro District from June 17-21, 2024. 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 August 19, 2024, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by LADWP 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 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

Enclosure: Audit Findings

Cc: Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
Nika Kjensli, Program Manager, ESRB, CPUC
Eric Ujiiye, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, CPUC

Audit Findings

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Inspection and maintenance practices.
- Routine inspections records.
- Completed and pending corrective action work orders.
- Pole loading records.
- Safety hazard notifications.

II. Field Inspection

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

No.	Structure ID.	Circuit	Structure Type	Location
1	107	Valley / Rinaldi L1 & L2	Tower	Granada Hills
2	206A	Haskell / Rinaldi L1, Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
3	119	Sylmar / Northridge L1, Sylmar / Rinaldi L1, L3	Tower	Granada Hills
4	452A	Rinaldi / Air Way L1, L2	Tower	Granada Hills
5	M86-T3	Victorville / Rinaldi L1	Tower	Granada Hills
6	M86-T2	Victorville / Rinaldi L1	Tower	Granada Hills
7	M26-T4	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Rinaldi L4	Tower	Granada Hills
8	M77-T3	Adelanto / Rinaldi L1	Tower	Granada Hills
9	M85-T4	Victorville / Rinaldi L1	Tower	Granada Hills
10	M28-T6	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Northridge L1,	Tower	Granada Hills
11	214	Rinaldi Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
12	Unmarked	Rinaldi Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
13	460	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
14	459	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
15	M28-T5	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
16	213	Rinaldi Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
17	218	Rinaldi Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
18	M29-T4	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
19	464	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
20	463	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
21	M29-T3	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
22	217	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
23	462	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
24	465	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
25	M29-T5	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
26	219	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
27	466	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
28	M29-T6	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
29	220	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
30	227	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
31	M30-T7	Castaic / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills

		Sylmar / Northridge L1		
32	473	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
33	266	Rinaldi Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
34	M30-T6	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
35	472	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
36	225	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Granada Hills
37	M30-T5	Castaic / Northridge L1 Sylmar / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
38	471	Olive / Northridge L1	Tower	Granada Hills
39	303	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1	Tower	Northridge
40	319	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1 Northridge / Tarzana L1	Tower	Reseda
41	320	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1 Northridge / Tarzana L1	Tower	Reseda
42	321	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1 Northridge / Tarzana L1	Tower	Reseda
43	322	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1 Northridge / Tarzana L1	Tower	Reseda
44	324	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1 Northridge / Tarzana L1	Tower	Reseda
45	325	Rinaldi / Tarzana L2, L1 Northridge / Tarzana L1	Tower	Reseda
46	Station U	Tarzana /Canoga A, B and C	Pump House	Reseda
47	1406958	Tarzana /Canoga A and C	Maint. Hole	Reseda
48	1016989	Tarzana /Canoga A and C	Maint. Hole	Tarzana
49	1010677	Tarzana /Canoga A and C	Maint. Hole	Tarzana
50	1044999	Tarzana /Canoga A and C	Maint. Hole	Tarzana

III. Field Inspection – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspection:

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 following LADWP transmission facilities required maintenance:

- Tower 77/3 (Circuit: Adelanto / Rinaldi L1) – the top edge of a concrete support footing was damaged.
- Tower 219 – there was a bent structural member near one of the tower footings.
- Tower M29/T6 (circuit: Castaic / Northridge L1, Sylmar / Northridge L1) – there was a bent structural member near one of the tower footings.
- Tower 320 – there was a bent structural member near one of the tower footings.

GO 95, Rule 61.6-A, Marking, states in part:

All towers shall be equipped with signs designed to warn the public of the danger of climbing same. Additionally, such signs shall include a graphic depiction of the dangers of falling or electrocution associated with climbing the towers. Such signs shall be placed and arranged so that they may be read from the four corners of the tower.

Warning signs attached to each of the following LADWP transmission towers could not be read from all four corners of the tower:

- Tower 214
- Tower 459
- Tower 213
- Tower 218
- Tower 464
- Tower 463
- Tower 217
- Tower 465
- Tower 466
- Tower 220
- Tower 227

GO 95, Rule 61.6-B, Guarding, states in part:

Where a tower of a design which can be easily climbed supports supply conductors and is located in urban districts, or in rural areas adjacent to schools, dwellings, permanent or seasonal camps, or in orchards, or near roads or trails which are frequently traveled, a suitable barrier shall be installed on or around such towers, or other provisions shall be made to prevent easy climbing.

Tower 321, located in a plant nursery, did not have a barrier to prevent climbing.