

SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

2026 September

California Public Utilities Commission

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Introduction

The CPUC's Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) oversees the safety of electric and communication facilities, natural gas infrastructure and propane facilities. SED is comprised of three branches of utility engineers, analysts and investigators that focus on ensuring the safety of utility infrastructure and reducing utility caused wildfires. SED advocates public safety through performing safety audits, conducting incident investigations, and appearing in CPUC safety proceedings. SED has the authority to issue citations with penalties against utility operators who violate public utility safety codes and requirements.

Gas Safety and Reliability Branch (GSRB)

The Gas Safety and Reliability Branch (GSRB) ensures that intra-state natural gas and liquid petroleum gas (LPG) pipeline systems are designed, constructed, operated, and maintained according to safety standards set by the CPUC and the federal government. CPUC gas safety engineers are trained and qualified by the federal government. The CPUC enforces natural gas and LPG safety regulations; inspects construction, operation, and maintenance activities; and makes necessary amendments to regulations. Its mission is to protect and promote the safety of the public and utility employees that work on the gas pipeline systems.

SED has the authority to issue citations with penalties for operator violations of public utility safety codes and requirements. The citation process allows the CPUC to act expediently in matters where violations of state and federal rules are clear and unambiguous. Citations may arise out of an ongoing investigation into related matters when a violation is brought to the CPUC's attention directly.

SED (GSRB) did not issue any citations in September. More information about previous gas citations can be found on the CPUC's website https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/regulatory-services/enforcement-and-citations/pipeline-citations.

More information about GSRB can be found here.

Natural Gas Inspections (Year to Date)

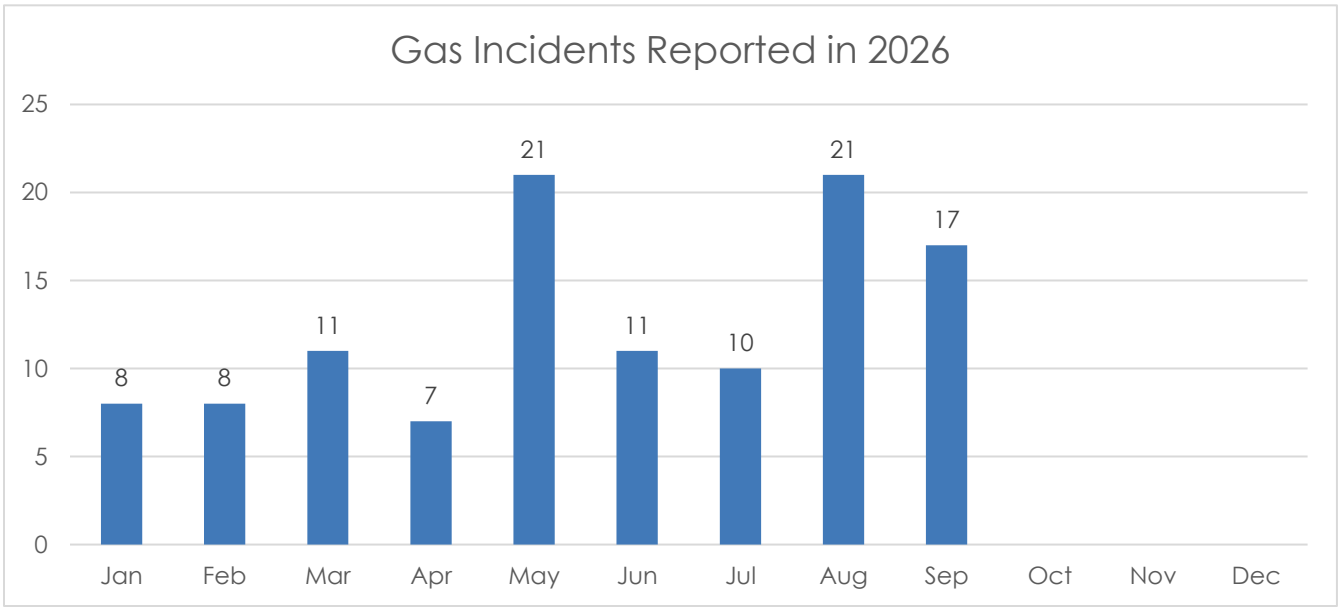
The purpose of GSRB's inspections is to confirm that operators continue to construct, operate, and maintain their pipeline facilities in a manner that ensures the safety of workers and the public. In addition to routine inspections, GSRB also conducts on-site construction inspections. Typically, each inspection consists of a records review of an operator's past compliance activities, and field verifications. Results are documented in a final report and sent to the operator after the inspection. The expectation is to have a final report sent to the operator within 60 days of the inspection. GSRB will submit an Inspection Closure Letter to the operator within 120 days from the day the inspection is completed. The table below shows GSRB's inspection activity year-to-date in 2026.

Inspections	Year to date, through September 2026
Conducted	39
Final Report Completed	27

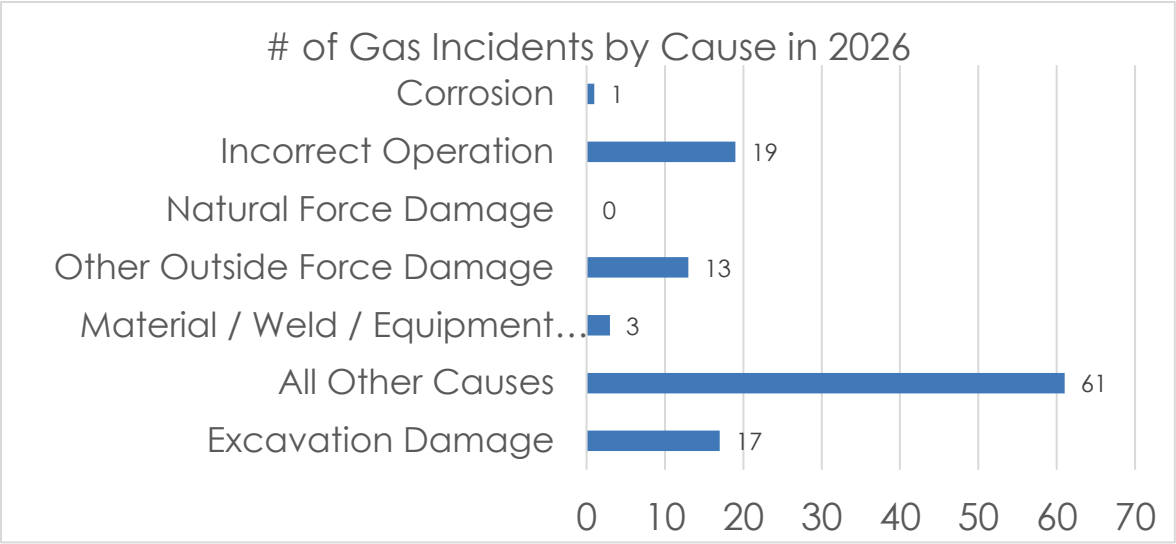
Natural Gas Incident Reports and Investigations through September 2026

Operators report incidents based on the criteria outlined in GO 112-F. All reported incidents are assigned to GSRB engineers to investigate and prepare a final investigation report. The final investigation report indicates whether there were any violations of General Order (GO) 112-F committed by the operators. As of September 2026, GSRB Staff received 114 incident reports from gas operators.

The table below illustrates the number of reported gas incidents per month, ending September 2026.



The bar chart below shows the 114 incidents by cause as of September 2026.



The table below shows 114 incidents by incident level and status.

Status	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	TOTAL
Open	1	17	11	3	32
Closed	49	20	13	0	82
TOTAL	50	37	24	3	114

The table below describes the four incident levels and provides the timeframes/guidelines for incident reports to be completed and closed from the date of assignment of an investigation.

Levels	Definition of Incident Levels	Guidelines
1	Did not result in injury, fatality, fire, or explosion; may be due to an unrelated event outside of the Operator's control.	60 days
2	Did not result in injury, fatality, fire, or explosion; may or may not have caused a release of gas, have been reported due to Operator judgment.	120 days
3	Resulted in a release of gas but did not result in injury, fatality, fire, or explosion.	150 days
4	Resulted in injury, fatality, fire, or explosion caused by release of natural gas from the Operator's facilities.	≥ 180 days

Natural Gas Utility Self-Identified Violation (SIV) Investigations

There were no Self-Identified Violations reported to GSRB in September 2026.

Customer Safety Complaints

GSRB received and investigated six (6) new customer complaints in September 2026.

- Of the cases, three (3) complaints were closed after GSRB investigated the issue and the safety concern was addressed and fixed. One (1) complaint was closed after GSRB deemed the issue non-jurisdictional.
- The remaining two (2) complaints are still being investigated and listed as: a customer complaint regarding their gas asset, and a customer complaint regarding gas service.

Inspection Notices / Notice of Probable Violation Letters (NOPV)

SED may issue an NOPV based on an investigation, customer complaint, or inspection for a violation of an applicable law or regulation. In September, GSRB issued no inspection notices and no NOPV letters.

Natural Gas Safety and Reliability Proceedings

Mobile Home Parks (MHP) Utility Conversion Program (D.20-04-004) (Commissioner Douglas /ALJ Cai) (SED Advocacy): On April 24, 2020, the Commission issued Decision (D.)20-04-004 which established the Mobile Home Park Utility Conversion Program (MHP-UCP) which authorizes investor-owned utilities (IOUs) to install new gas and electric utility systems in mobile home parks (MHP) to replace master-metered utility systems. The program goal is to convert 50% of all mobile home spaces by the end of 2030 according to a risk-based priority ranking system developed by GSRB.

During the first application period (January 1 – March 31, 2021), GSRB received forms of intent from 986 mobile home communities. GSRB created a risk-prioritization list which included new applicants and parks still on the Pilot list from 2015 and ranked them according to their utility system's risk of failure. GSRB delivered the 2021 priority list to the participating IOUs with 1,557 parks, which have a total of approximately 171,000 home spaces.

D.20-04-004 required a second application period between January 1 and March 31, 2025. GSRB posted the formal application, called a Form of Intent, on its webpage. In December 2024, GSRB sent applications to 640 potential applicants to educate them on the process and alert them to the new application periods. By

the end of the application period, GSRB had received 390 applications to the program, 332 of which indicated their willingness to participate in the program. Some of the applicants were already in the program but provided new information for GSRB's risk analysis model.

GSRB integrated the new applicants into the risk analysis model and updated certain risk data. GSRB delivered the 2025 priority list to the participating investor-owned utilities at the end of June 2025. The newest list includes 1,525 parks, which have a total of approximately 168,400 home spaces.

In February 2026, the utility companies filed their required MHP-UCP Annual Reports, which track, among other things, the number of MHP spaces converted from master-meter service to direct gas and electricity service, where a space is directly served and billed by IOUs, both to the meter (TTM) and beyond the meter (BTM). The cost of those construction projects in 2025 is described in the table below:

Summary of 2025 MHP-UCP Annual Reports by Utility

Utility	Gas Spaces Installed (TTM)	Gas Spaces Installed (BTM)	Electric Spaces Installed (TTM)	Electric Spaces Installed (BTM)	Total Cost
Bear Valley Electric	n/a	n/a	0	0	$0
Liberty Electric	n/a	n/a	18	18	$831,473
PacifiCorp	n/a	n/a	0	0	$6,698
PG&E	1,882	1,882	1,457	1,457	$69,448,677.70
SCE	n/a	n/a	3,897	3,829	$63,749,752.00
SDG&E	436	414	437	428	$32,553,051
SoCalGas	5,565	5,508	n/a	n/a	$61,983,421.00
Southwest Gas	17	17	n/a	n/a	$443,763.00

Since the beginning of the MHP Utility Conversion Pilot Program in 2015, the utilities have reported installing new electric services to 50,405 spaces and installing new gas services to 59,464 spaces. As of January 1, 2025, the utilities reported spending $1.8 billion on construction projects and this program.

In accordance with Ordering Paragraph #4 of D.20-04-004, SED is required to post a list of the MHPs that were re-prioritized in the prior year due to extenuating circumstances by April 1 of each year. Extenuating circumstances that allow for adjustment on prioritization lists include wildfire (or other large-scale fire incident), earthquake, destructive flooding, other natural disasters, public unrest or riot, and catastrophic damage from foreign objects (such as aircraft crash or train derailment). In 2025, SED authorized the re-

prioritization of one park due to damage caused by floods and heatwaves that affected Inyo County. The full reports, as well as a list of all reprioritized parks throughout the years of the program, can be found on the MHP-UCP webpage.

Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB)

The mission of ESRB is to enforce state statutes and regulations regarding the safety and reliability of electric facilities, communication facilities, power plants, and energy storage facilities that are within the jurisdiction of this Commission in California, to ensure that the facilities are operated and maintained in a safe and reliable manner, to protect and promote the public health and safety, and to facilitate an environment inside and outside of the Commission that increases the safety and reliability of these facilities. September 2026 activities are below and include:

- Conducted 4 Electric Distribution audits, 5 Communication Infrastructure Provider (CIP) audits, 1 Electric Transmission audit, and 1 Power Plant and Energy Storage Facility audit.
- Issued 1 CIP audit report, 3 Substation audit reports, 1 Transmission audit report, and 1 Power Plant and Energy Storage Facility audit report.

ESRB reviews daily outage reports from power plants. An outage could be forced or planned. ESRB reviews the status and cause of each outage, may issue data requests related to the status and cause of each outage, and will follow up with power plants regarding the outage as necessary.

In September 2026, ESRB monitored the status of 25 planned outages and 216 forced outages reported by natural gas and renewable energy power plants.

Electric Facilities Citations

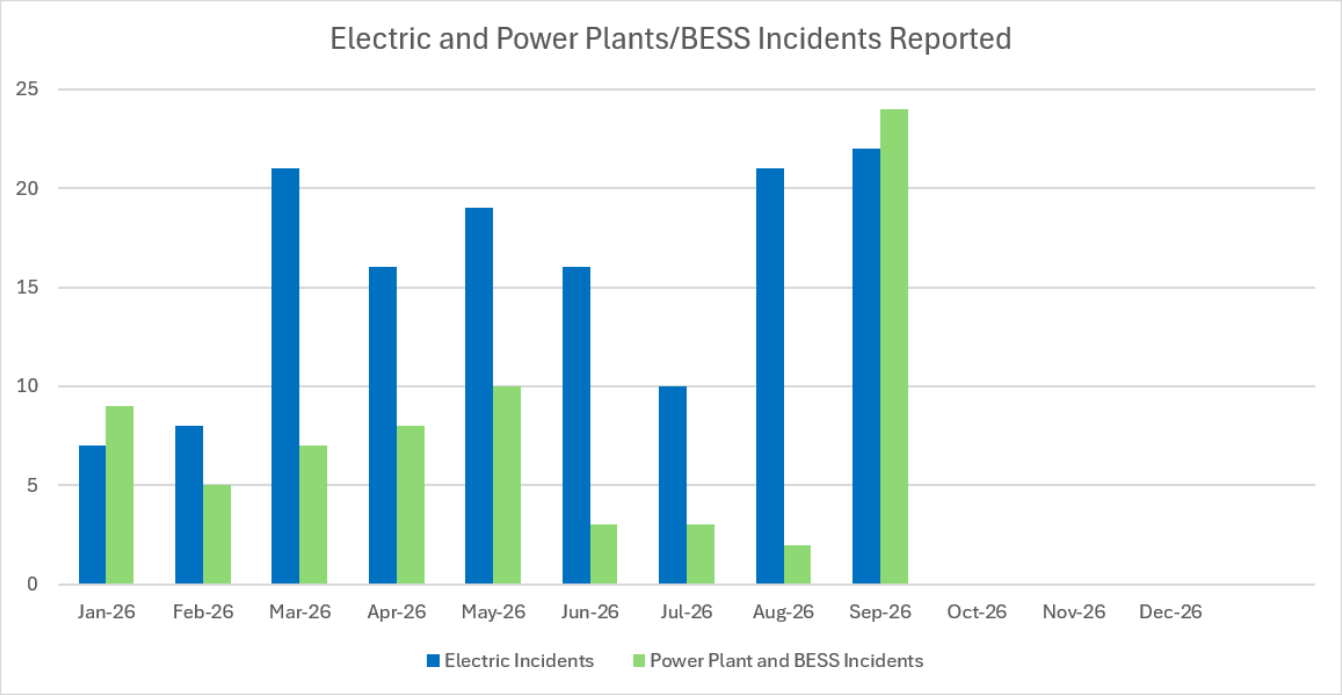
SED has the authority to issue citations with penalties for electric utilities and Communication Infrastructure Providers (CIPs) for violating Commission General Orders (GO) and Public Utility Code (PU Code) rules. Citations may arise from violations discovered during incident investigations, audits, customer complaint investigations, whistleblower investigations, or other safety matters that are brought to the attention of SED.

The table below shows the status of citations issued by ESRB in 2024 and 2025. All SED/ESRB citations related to electric and communication facilities can be found on the Commission's website here.

Citation Number	Utility	Amount	Violations	Date Cited	Description	Status
D.16-09-055 E.24-02-001	SCE	$2,404,000	Two violations of GO 95, Rule 31.1, Design, Construction and Maintenance, and two violations of GO 95, Rule 38, Minimum Clearances of Wires from Other Wires	2/5/2024	Failing to install overhead facilities properly to allow them to maintain the required GO 95 clearance during normal conditions.	Paid on February 16, 2024.

Electric and Power Plant Incidents Reported

ESRB received 22 electric incident reports and 24 Power Plant/Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) incident reports in September 2026.



Electric Facilities Incident Investigations

Incident status		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Total open incidents	Electric & Communication Facilities	27	44	108	179
Total incidents reported in 2026	Electric & Communication Facilities	9	33	100	142
Total incidents closed in 2026	Electric & Communication Facilities	11	9	95	115
Total open 2026 incidents	Electric & Communication Facilities	8	32	62	102
Incidents reported in September 2026	Electric & Communication Facilities	0	6	16	22
Incidents closed in September 2026	Electric & Communication Facilities	2	1	9	12

The table above shows information about ESRB Facility incident investigations as of September 30, 2026, and incidents reported and closed in September 2026.

In August 2024, ESRB revised the definitions of incident levels as follows:

- Level 3 incident (highest level): Incidents that result in a fatality or personal injury/injuries as defined in the electric incident reporting requirement.
- Level 2 incident (medium level): Incidents that are the subject of significant public attention or media coverage and are attributable or allegedly attributable to the utility's electrical facilities.
- Level 1 incident (lowest level): Incidents that involve damage to property with the amount consistent with the reporting requirement.

All reports of ESRB's scheduled electric facility and CIP audits can be found on the ESRB webpage here. All scheduled generation and battery energy storage system (BESS) audit reports can be found here.

ESRB's generation and BESS incident investigation status as of September 30, 2026, is displayed in the table below.

Power Plant/BESS Incident Investigations

Incident Status	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total
Total open incidents	76	11	8	7	102
Total incidents reported in 2026	57	11	0	7	75
Total incidents closed in 2026	14	1	1	4	20
Total open 2026 incidents	52	10	0	4	66
Incidents reported in September 2026	21	2	0	1	24
Incidents closed in September 2026	4	0	0	0	4

The definitions of incident levels for power plants and energy storage systems are the following:

- Level 4 Incident (Critical): An incident that results in a fatality or an injury or illness to a person requiring overnight hospitalization or catastrophic failure of the facility equipment.
- Level 3 Incident (Major): An incident that impacts facility equipment or operations with significant, serious system-wide issues for safety and reliability.
- Level 2 Incident (Moderate): An incident that causes limited operational impact and disruption.
- Level 1 Incident (Minor): An incident that causes low-impact operational issues.

Customer Safety Complaints

ESRB investigated 22 electric and communication safety and reliability customer complaints in September 2026.

Notice of Violation Letters

ESRB issued 2 and the Generation and Energy Storage Section (GESS) issued 1 Notice of Violation (NOV) letter in September 2026. Additionally, ESRB issued 1 Administrative Enforcement Order (AEO) in September 2026. ESRB and GESS may issue an NOV in response to non-compliance with a GO, an investigation or customer complaint investigation uncovering a violation of an applicable law or regulation. For incidents that ESRB investigated that do not result in an NOV or other enforcement action, ESRB will issue a Closure Letter to the utility. All ESRB Closure Letters can be found on the Commission's website here, Closure Letters .

Electric Safety and Reliability: Proceedings

Rulemaking to Update Rules for Safety, Reliability, and Resiliency of Electrical Distribution Systems (R.24-05-023) (Commissioner Baker/ALJ Rizzo) (SED Advocacy): On June 6, 2024, the Commission issued a Rulemaking to consider changes to existing policies, procedures, and rules regarding the safety, reliability, and resiliency of electrical distribution systems. The Commission identified four points as the preliminary scope of issues for this proceeding: 1) Reliability of Electrical Distribution Service, 2) Outage Transparency for Customers, 3) Supporting Short-term Reliability, Safety, and System Resilience, and 4) Reasonableness of Costs and Cost Allocation. The Commission included a set of questions to be addressed and answered by participating parties.

A workshop to discuss data definition, data reporting, and reliability thresholds took place on February 21, 2025. Key topics were the existing utility reports and general shortcomings of those reports (i.e., data format, data completeness, inability to integrate available data, frequency of reports, and availability of the data to the public). Also discussed were the negative effects of the Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) program on customers and lack of communication to customers. In response, the CPUC's Safety Policy Division (SPD) would develop a staff proposal to integrate data for more accurate analysis, increase transparency for customers, and provide the CPUC with a clear view of the status quo and trends that may impact California's electrical distribution system.

A Ruling was issued on August 22, 2025, to modify the Track 1 Scoping Memo schedule. The Ruling replaced the previous schedule that focused on the Commission staff proposal of a database of reliability data with a new schedule that directs the utilities to develop and solicit feedback on a Joint Reliability Report. The new guidance provides the utilities with guiding principles, parameters, and other requirements

to create the new report. It also requires that the data used to populate the report be made available to Commission staff by secure file transfer.
Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (Joint IOUs) prepared a draft Customer Reliability Report Template by October 31, 2025. The most recent ruling issued within the proceeding provided guiding principles/instructions for the Joint IOUs to implement within their draft report.

On December 15, 2025, the Joint IOUs submitted a proposed customer reliability report template. This was in accordance with the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) Ruling Modifying Track 1 Schedule of Activities which was issued on October 27, 2025. In the ruling, the ALJ directed the Joint IOUs to develop and proposed a report template which would contain all pertinent metrics related to grid reliability.

On July 10, 2026, a proposed decision was issued to adopt the unified investor-owned utility customer reliability report. If approved by the Commission, beginning in 2027, and no later than 30 days after July 15 of each year, the Joint IOUs shall each submit to SPD a completed customer reliability report that complies with the requirements of the Template and Customer Reliability Schema adopted by the proposed decision.

On August 14, 2026, the Commission issued a Final Decision, D.26-08-007, and closed R.24-05-023.

Rulemaking to Consider Proposed Changes to General Order 95 to Modernize the Rules and Regulations Governing the Design and Construction of Overhead Electric and Communications Facilities in California (R.24-10-005) (Commissioner Baker/ALJ Perez-Green) (SED Advocacy)

On March 11, 2024, SCE filed a Petition on behalf of the General Order 95/128 Rules Committee to amend General Order (GO) 95 to incorporate the Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) methodology into the current Safety Factor methodology. The Petition requests that the Commission adopt a package of 21 proposed rule changes (PRCs) designed to incorporate LRFD into GO 95, as well as five related Ancillary Rule Changes. ESRB reviewed the Petition and filed a Response on April 17, 2024.

On September 11, 2024, SCE filed supplemental comments which solicited the Commission to consider including/discussing modifications to GO 95 Rule 18 within the scope of the proceeding. On September 13, 2024, SED filed a Response to SCE's supplemental comments to request that the Commission not consider SCE's filing because the timeframe for comments had elapsed in mid-July. Alternatively, SED asked the Commission to provide an opportunity for all parties to respond if the Commission intends to allow SCE's supplemental comments.

On October 22, 2024, the Commission issued a Rulemaking, R.24-10-005, granting SCE's petition. The Rulemaking included a set of questions for response by all participating parties.

An IOU-led Party Workshop was conducted on January 8, 2025, and the Workshop report was filed on January 17, 2025. In February 2025, all parties, including SED, filed comments and reply comments on the IOU-led Party Workshop.

On April 14, 2025, Commissioner Baker issued a scoping memo and ruling setting forth the issues, need for hearing, schedule, category, and other matters necessary to scope this proceeding.

The first workshop was held on May 28-29, 2025. The primary goal of this workshop was to allow the General Order 95/128 Rules Committee to present their proposal for the structure of future workshops. The petitioner explained the reason for the proposed rule changes and the Committee discussed how future workshops will be conducted.

A final workshop was held on September 30-October 2, 2025. Parties were able to reach an agreement on all the proposed Rule Changes. The Working Group has prepared and served the workshop report to the commission staff on November 17, 2025. The ALJ had questions before issuing a ruling on the workshop report and those questions are being addressed by the parties.

Comments were made by all parties and reviewed by SED. Responses to comments were made and all compiled comments and respective responses are scheduled to be submitted by February 16, 2026.

On March 30, 2026, the ALJ extended the deadline for the conclusion of the proceeding from April 17 to October 17, 2026.

Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee (TMCC): TMCC is an advisory committee to help the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) develop, review, and revise Transmission Maintenance Standards. TMCC holds quarterly meetings to discuss recent improvements in construction and maintenance processes and techniques, and industry best practices. ESRB is a member of TMCC and attends meetings. ESRB attended the last quarterly meeting held on April 16, 2026.

The Tracking Energy Development (TED) Task Force: The TED Task Force is an inter-agency working group designed to assist high-priority clean energy projects including new generation and battery storage projects to reach completion. Agencies including California Energy Commission (CEC), CPUC and the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) are directed to work together to track energy and storage projects under development, engage with stakeholders and mitigate the risks of capacity shortage. TED Task Force meets weekly. More information on TED Task Force can be found here: The Tracking Energy Development (TED) Task Force | California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.

Wildfire Safety and Enforcement Branch (WSEB)

WSEB is dedicated to the enforcement of public utility wildfire safety and Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) violations. WSEB is the lead investigator for utility incidents relating to wildfire, PSPS events, and other aspects related to wildfire events. The staff conducts incident investigations and provides input into policy development.

September 2026 activities for WSEB:

- Currently investigating 24 utility-related wildfires
- Monitored three PSPS events in September 2026
- Participated in PG&E's PSPS Regional Working Group Meetings from September 2 – 4, 2026
- Participated in SDG&E's PSPS Regional Working Group Meeting on September 16, 2026

PSPS Activities in September 2026

PSPS Activities	PG&E	SCE	SDG&E	Bear Valley Electric	PacifiCorp	Liberty Utilities
Total PSPS Activations	1	1	0	0	0	1
Total PSPS w/De-energizations	1	1	0	0	0	0
Total PSPS Post Event Reports Reviewed	0	2	0	0	0	0

WSEB Wildfire and PSPS Enforcement Actions to Date

On June 3, 2025, SED issued a proposed Administrative Enforcement Order (AEO), CPUC-21-AEO, regarding PacifiCorp's 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) with a penalty of $27,284,000. On July 3, 2025, PacifiCorp filed a Request for Hearing on the proposed AEO, H.25-07-005. H.25-07-005 has been assigned to ALJ Gerald Kelly.

On July 24, 2025, the Commission approved the Administrative Enforcement Orders (AEO) issued by SED as Resolution M-4876 (SCE) and Resolution M-4877 (PG&E). These two Resolutions resolve all issues

involving SED's investigation into SCE and PG&E's noncompliance with Resolution ESRB-8, and Decisions 19-05-042, 20-05-051, 21-06-014 and 21-06-034, arising from SCE and PG&E's PSPS Events in 2022 and 2023.

On October 20, 2025, PG&E paid an SED Staff Citation penalty of $928,600 for six violations relating to non-compliance with Resolution ESRB-8 and Decision 19-05-042, arising from PG&E's PSPS during a wind event on October 28-29, 2023.

On January 16, 2026, SCE paid an SED Staff Citation penalty of $7,865,360 for 29 categories of violations relating to non-compliance with Resolution ESRB-8 and Decisions 19-05-042, 20-05-051, 21-06-014, 21-06-034, and the Ruling on Post Event Report Template, arising from SCE's two PSPS Events in January 2025.

On January 20, 2026, SDG&E paid an SED Staff Citation penalty of $113,460 for 12 categories of violations relating to non-compliance with Resolution ESRB-8 and Decisions 19-05-042, 21-06-034, and the Ruling on Post Event Report Template, arising from SDG&E's two PSPS events in January 2025.

WSEB Wildfire/PSPS Enforcement	Enforcement Action	Citation/ Resolution Number	Utility	Penalty Amount	Date Approved/ Paid
SCE 2020 PSPS Events	Administrative Enforcement Order	Resolution ALJ-440	SCE	$7,000,000	06/08/2023
SDG&E 2020 PSPS Events	Administrative Enforcement Order	Resolution M-4863	SDG&E	$24,000	10/06/2022
PacifiCorp 2020 PSPS Events	Administrative Enforcement Order	Resolution M-4862	PacifiCorp	$0	10/06/2022
PG&E 2020 PSPS Events	Administrative Enforcement Order	Resolution ALJ-445	PG&E	$8,000,000	10/12/2023
Brewer Fire	Staff Citation	D.16-09-055 W.23-05.001	PG&E	$132,500	05/05/2023
Mule Fire	Staff Citation	D.16-09-055 W.23-08.001	PG&E	$1,074,000	08/29/2023
Dixie Fire	Administrative Consent Order	Resolution SED-8	PG&E	$45,000,000	01/25/2024
Old Fire	Staff Citation	D.16-09-055 W.24-04.001	PG&E	$800,500	04/22/2024

WSEB Wildfire/PSPS Enforcement	Enforcement Action	Citation/ Resolution Number	Utility	Penalty Amount	Date Approved/ Paid
SDG&E 2021 PSPS Events	Administrative Consent Order	Resolution SED-9	SDG&E	$70,830	08/01/2024
PacifiCorp 2021 PSPS Events	Administrative Consent Order	Resolution SED-10	PacifiCorp	$18,030	08/01/2024
SCE 2021 PSPS Events	Administrative Consent Order	Resolution SED-11	SCE	$2,339,690	11/07/2024
PG&E 2021 PSPS Events	Administrative Consent Order	Resolution SED-12	PG&E	$1,753,100	11/07/2024
Fairview Fire	Staff Citation	D.16-09-055 W.25-03-001	SCE	$2,200,000	3/21/2025
Edgewood Fire	Staff Citation	D.16-09-055 W.25-04-001	PG&E	$7,149,000	6/16/25
SCE 2022/2023 PSPS Events	Administrative Enforcement Order	Resolution M-4876	SCE	$826,260	07/24/2025
PG&E 2022/2023 PSPS Events	Administrative Enforcement Order	Resolution M-4877	PG&E	$57,220	07/24/2025
SDG&E 2023 PSPS Event	Staff Citation	WSEB-1 W.25-06-001	SDG&E	$11,090	07/24/2025
PG&E October 2023 PSPS Event	Staff Citation	WSEB-2 W.25.09-001	PG&E	$928,600	10/20/2025
SCE January 2025 PSPS Events	Staff Citation	WSEB-1 W.25.12-001	SCE	$7,865,360	01/16/2026
SDG&E January 2025 PSPS Events	Staff Citation	WSEB-1 W.25.12-002	SDG&E	$113,460	01/20/2026

PSPS-Related Proceedings and Events

Rulemaking to Examine Electric Utility De-Energization of Power Lines in Dangerous Conditions (R.18-12-005) (President Reynolds /ALJs Kao, DeAngelis) (SED Advisory): The Commission opened this Rulemaking to further examine policies and guidelines adopted in ESRB-8 regarding communication, notification, mitigation and other logistic and implementation issues of a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) event.

On July 12, 2022, Pioneer Community Energy, Sonoma Clean Power Authority, East Bay Community Energy, Marin Clean Energy, and Rural County Representatives of California (collectively, the "Joint Parties") filed a Motion requesting that the Commission open an expedited track of the Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Rulemaking 18-12-005 to address issues associated with the investor-owned utilities' (IOU) "fast trip" settings and to adopt rules to govern these settings. PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E filed responses opposing the Motion. The California Energy Storage Alliance, Joint Local Governments, and Center for Accessible Technology filed comments in support of the Motion.

In July 2022, SED staff met with representatives from the Joint Parties.

On February 23, 2023, President Reynolds issued a Ruling responding to the July 12, 2022, Joint Parties' Motion. The Ruling directed CPUC staff to hold a public workshop outside the instant De-Energization Rulemaking to identify the appropriate range of issues and questions that may help the Commission propose a scope and actions on the emerging challenges associated with reliability, including consideration of rules for governing the electric IOUs' fast trip programs. The workshop was held on March 17, 2023, and included presentations from each of the large electric IOUs. The workshop also included a presentation from the parties who filed the Joint Parties' Motion.

On August 6, 2024, the Center for Accessible Technology (CforAT) filed a Motion requesting the Commission issue an Order to Show Cause (OSC) against SCE for its substantial notification failures during PSPS de-energization events that took place during the 2023 wildfire season. CforAT cited two distinct but related categories: (1) notification failures affecting customers, critical facilities and infrastructure operators, and public safety partners; and (2) issues with public safety partner notification emails. On August 21, 2024, SCE filed a response opposing the Motion. On August 26, 2024, the CPUC's Public Advocates Office (PAO) filed comments in support of the Motion. On September 3, 2024, CforAT filed reply comments.

On October 31, 2024, the Assigned Commissioner's Office issued a PD closing the PSPS Rulemaking R.18-12-005. On November 20, 2024, the Joint Local Governments, Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), CforAT, and Small Business Utility Advocates (SBUA) filed comments. On November 25, 2024, reply comments were filed by SDG&E, CTIA, PG&E, SCE, and PAO.

On December 9, 2024, the Commission issued (D).24-12-005 which closed PSPS Rulemaking 18-12-005.

Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Citation Program: On September 21, 2023, the Commission approved a new citation program for PSPS. This authorization expands the CPUC's already existing PSPS enforcement capabilities, which include Orders Instituting Investigation, Orders to Show Cause, and Administrative Enforcement Orders. This new citation program establishes a tool that CPUC staff may use when appropriate to swiftly cite utilities for lack of compliance with PSPS guidelines. The PSPS citation program covers violations in the areas of reporting, notifications, community resource centers, and the IOUs' PSPS websites. It will help encourage complete and timely compliance with the PSPS guidelines and deter violations. Under the program, each citation, which might constitute multiple offenses, may not exceed $8 million.

Protective Equipment and Device Settings (PEDS)

PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E have adjusted "fast trip" settings, also known as Protective Equipment and Device Settings (PEDS), on their equipment as a wildfire mitigation measure. The utilities have stated that the altered settings reduce wildfire risk, but these settings have resulted in unplanned outages for which advance notification is not possible. Formal guidance has been limited from the Commission regarding "fast trip" settings.

While there is no existing requirement for each of the IOUs to report on PEDS outages specifically and separately, President Marybel Batjer's October 25, 2021, letter to PG&E imposed reporting requirements for PG&E to report its Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) program performance.

PG&E's reports and more information on PG&E's Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings can be found here.

Monitoring the Whistleblower Website and Safety Hotline

The Commission regulates privately-owned utilities. It serves the public interest by protecting consumers and ensuring that utility services and infrastructure are safe, reliable, and available at reasonable rates. It is charged with ensuring that these regulated service providers comply with the regulations. Whistleblower complaints can result in investigations that may involve safety and other issues.

In September 2026, three (3) whistleblower submission and seven (7) safety hotline inquiries were submitted online for the Safety and Enforcement Division.