



SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION  
**MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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February 2021



California Public  
Utilities Commission

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This Report reflects Safety and Enforcement Branch’s monthly work product. It has not been approved by the Commission rather it is information provided by the Division.

## INTRODUCTION

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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 for 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.

### **Notes from SED Director Lee Palmer**

SED highlights in February included SED's participation in the CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan workshop, held virtually, open to the public, and attended by over 600 individuals. In addition, the Commission issued a scoping memo to consider updating or rewriting the current PSPS guidelines, to address issues during the utilities' execution of PSPS events during the 2020 wildfires.

On February 3 and 4, the CPUC held a virtual workshop on its Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) Action Plan. The goal of the workshop was to hear public feedback on updating definitions and criteria used in the ESJ Plan, how to incorporate ESJ issues into CPUC's work, and how to measure and thoroughly analyze impacts in ESJ communities. The workshop drew lively public engagement on wildfire safety and PSPS events on both days at several sessions.

SED facilitated a Safety and Enforcement breakout session on how the CPUC could integrate ESJ considerations into its safety and enforcement work. During the session, participants asked how SED prioritizes response time to customer complaints and if SED holds Public Participation (PPH) hearings. Another participant suggested documenting where violations happen using the CalEnviroScreen, collecting that data, and analyzing it to deduce a possible pattern.

SED doesn't currently hold PPHs but is considering incorporating more public participation into its safety and enforcement proceedings.

During the session, Commissioner Cliff Rechtschaffen described a strategy to mitigate harmful environmental and social justice impacts when an IOU is penalized for a violation. In lieu of paying the full penalty which goes to the General Fund, the IOU would pay a lesser penalty and in addition, pay for filters that lessen the air pollution of a plant that impacts an ESJ community, or conduct health screenings, for example.

SED continues to evaluate its current and proposed actions to determine if any have a disproportionate safety impact and/or burden on ESJ communities.

On February 19, 2021 the assigned Commissioner issued a scoping memo to consider an update or rewrite of new PSPS guidelines in R. 18-12-005. The Commission would adopt the new Phase 3 guidelines in advance of the 2021 wildfire season.

Staff developed a Phase 3 Proposal after reviewing ESRB-8, both Phase 1 and 2 guidelines, the IOUs' Post-Event reports and responses, as well as the SED staff report on the Late 2019 Wildfires which evaluated the IOUs' adherence to ESRB 8 and Phase 1 PSPS guidelines.

The Staff Proposal lists additional rules to address issues that arose during the utilities' execution of their 2020 PSPS events. Those proposals include ensuring that utilities provide precise and accurate information to customers, reach their non-English speaking customers and the most vulnerable, utilize the expertise of community partners, ensure proper emergency management training for employees, and learn from and report on each PSPS event.

Comments to the proposed Phase 3 guidelines are due in March.

SED intends to participate fully in both these activities while maintaining its full audit and investigation schedule to ensure Californians' safety.

## 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. February activities are below and include:

- Meeting with Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR) regarding state programs
- Meeting with PG&E Leadership regarding open safety items
- Meeting with PG&E regarding Transmission Integrity Management Program (TIMP) inspection finding
- Presented a Gas Safety Overview to California Energy Commission (CEC) and various stakeholders regarding transmission line definition
- Meeting with Dig Safe Board regarding financial penalty recommendations

### Natural Gas Citations

SED has the authority to issue citations with penalties for operator violations of public utility safety codes and requirements<sup>1</sup>. 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. The table below shows the status of pending citations issued by SED. The citations can be found on the CPUC’s website [here](#).

Citation Number	Utility	Amount	Violations per GO 112-F	Date Cited	Description	Status
G-20-08-001	Glenview Mobile Lodge	\$50,000	192.605(a), 192.605(b)(3), 192.616(j), 192.723(b)(2), 192.747(a), 192.805, 192.1015(a), 192.357(a), 192.479(a), & 192.353(a)	8/24/20	The MHP failed to remediate violations discovered during an inspection	Pending

<sup>1</sup> In December 2011, the CPUC created a citation process authorizing staff to impose fines for natural gas violations.

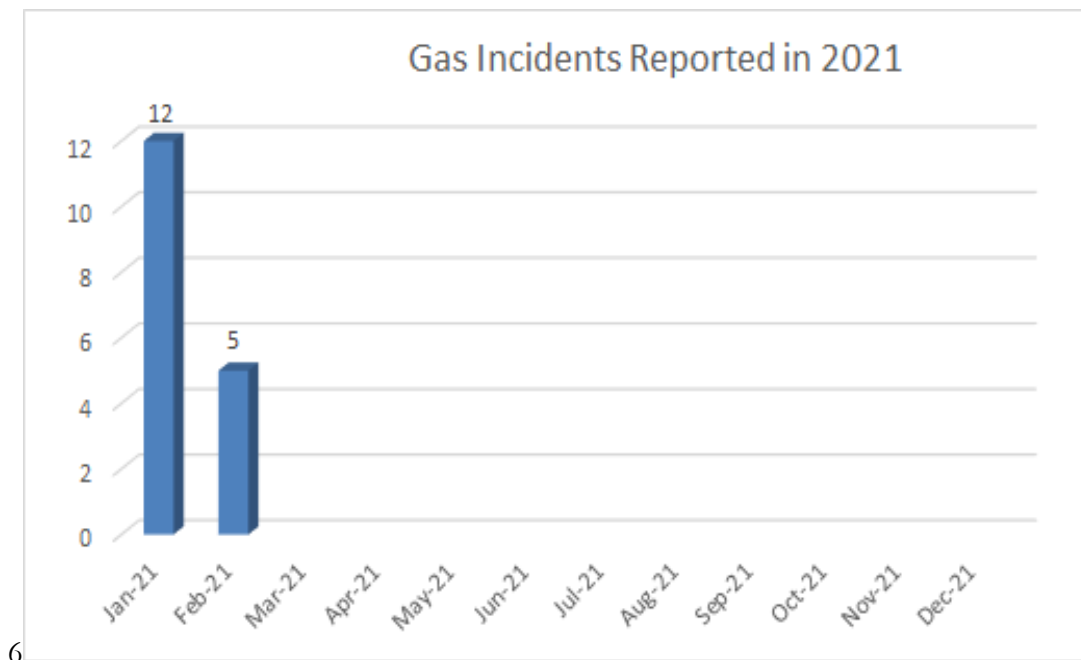
## Natural Gas Inspections (Year to Date)

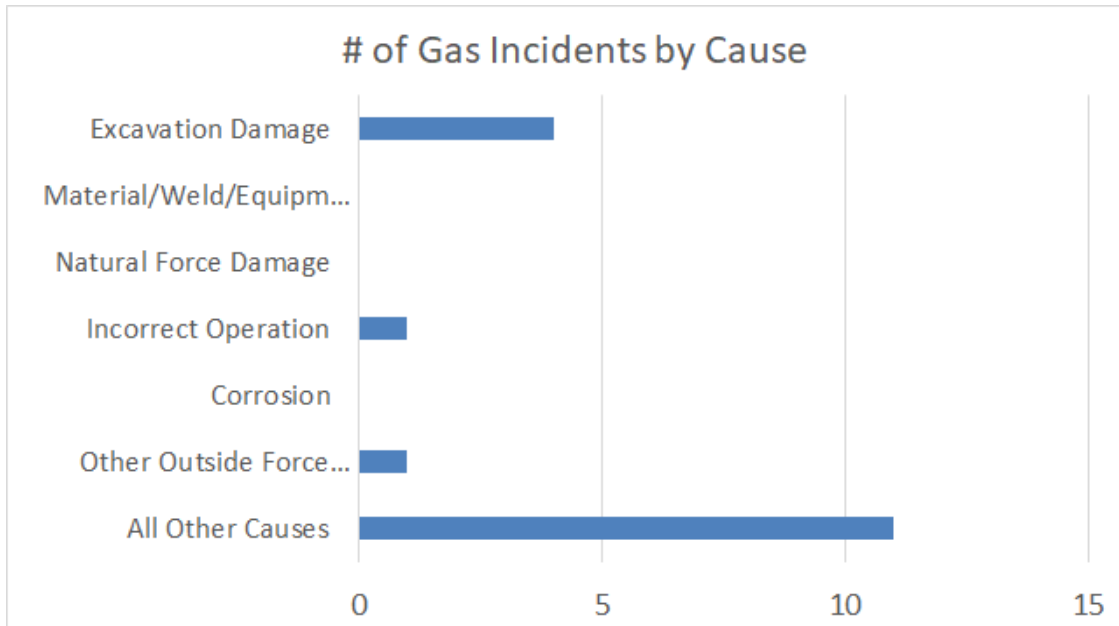
2021 Year-to-Date	
Conducted	9
Final Report Completed	4

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, while providing adequate and reliable service. In addition to routine inspections, GSRB also conducts construction/site inspections as resources permit. Typically, each inspection consists of records review of an operator’s past compliance activities and field verifications. Results are documented in a final report and sent to the operators after the inspections. The expectation is to have a final report sent to the operator within 60 days of the inspection. All issues should be properly closed out and an Inspection Closure Letter is issued to the operator within 120 days from the day the inspection is completed. Although there are deviations expected from time-to-time for business reasons, late inspections should be the exception and not the norm.

## Natural Gas Incident Reports and Investigations in February 2021

As of February 28, 2021, GSRB Staff has received reports of 17 incidents. All reported incidents are then assigned to GSRB engineers to investigate and prepare a final report. The report indicates if there was any violation of GO 112F committed by the operators. Operators report incidents based on PHMSA guidelines.





This bar chart above shows the 17 incidents by cause as of February 28, 2021. The table below shows the 17 incidents by level and status.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	TOTAL
Open	4	11	2	0	17
Closed	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	11	2	0	17

The table below provides a summary description of the 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 February.

## Customer Safety Complaints

GSRB received and investigated ten (10) new customer complaints in February.

Four (4) complaints were closed without further action while three (3) complaints were resolved. Of these, one (1) was unsubstantiated, one (1) was non-jurisdictional, two (2) were data requests, and three (3) involved operator accommodations. The remaining three (3) complaints are being investigated and listed as: a California Department of Education (CDE) Pipeline Risk Assessment inquiry, a contractor complaint in Mobile Home Park (MHP) conversion projects, and a billing-related complaint.

## 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 February, GSRB issued 1 inspection notice and 1 NOPV (with 1 probable violation).

- February 2 – PG&E’s Operations and Maintenance Plans, Design and Construction Standards inspection letter – 0 probable violations found.
- February 24 – Southern California Gas DOT incident violation letter – 1 probable violation found.

## Natural Gas Safety and Reliability: Proceedings

**Aliso Canyon (I.19-06-016) (Commissioner Rechtschaffen /ALJs Hecht / Poirier) (SED Advocacy):** On February 1, the ALJs issued a ruling confirming virtual hearings starting on March 16. The ALJs also ruled to separate the SED allegations of SoCalGas’ non-cooperation with SED from SED allegations related to operational practices, record keeping issues, and SoCalGas non-cooperation with Blade. It also provided instructions for the Joint Case Management Statement due on February 19. Hearings on the remaining allegations of non-cooperation by SoCalGas with the SED investigation will be deferred until briefing on alleged violations 1-92 and 327-331 (together referred to as the operational, recordkeeping, and Blade non-cooperation allegations) is complete. Motions include:

- On February 4, 2021, SED received SoCalGas’ Motion to Dismiss violations 1-79, and 327-330. SED responded on February 5, 2021; SED requested that SoCalGas’ Motion to Dismiss should be stricken in its entirety. On February 12, 2021, the ALJs dismissed SoCalGas’ Motion to Dismiss these violations.
- On February 4, 2021, SED successfully filed a late Response to SoCalGas’ Motion to Compel. SoCalGas filed a reply to SED’s response February 16, 2021.
- On February 12, 2021, SoCalGas responded to ALJ Poirier’s Ruling dated February 2, 2021 for protective order of discovery related to Randy Holter. On February 12, 2021, SED replied to SoCalGas’ response.



**Mobile Home Parks (MHP) Utility Conversion Program (D.20-04-004) (Commissioner Rechtschaffen /ALJ Hecht) (SED Advocacy):** On April 24, 2020, the Commission issued Decision D.20-04-004 which established the Mobile Home Park Utility Conversion Program which authorizes IOUs to install new gas and electric utility systems in mobile home parks 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. GSRB is currently accepting applications (also known as Forms of Intent) and capturing data from those forms which will be transferred to the final risk-rank prioritization model. SED is developing and testing the new risk-rank model currently and will have it finalized before the end of May 2021.

**PG&E Locate and Mark Practices OII (I.18-12-007) (Commissioner Rechtschaffen/ALJ Allen) (SED Advocacy):** On February 20, 2020, the Commission issued Decision (D.20-02-036) which ordered several shareholder-funded gas and electric System Enhancement Initiatives. On August 21, SED selected a consultant for the Compliance and Ethics Corrective Action Program Audit. On October 15, 2020, SED selected a consultant for the Locate and Mark Compliance Audit and Locate and Mark Field Audit. On November 17, PG&E submitted its proposed methodologies for SED’s review and approval. On January 12, 2021, SED responded to PG&E’s proposed methodologies review request. On February 4, 2021, PG&E informed SED about a request from their 3rd Party consultant for item III.B.2 of the L&M OII to solicit input from another external party (Exponent) to further develop their sampling methodology. SED responded on February 4.

## **ELECTRIC SAFETY AND RELIABILITY BRANCH (ESRB)**

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The mission of ESRB is to enforce state statutes and regulations regarding the safety and reliability of electric facilities, communication facilities, and power plants 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. February activities are below and include:

- Conducted 1 Electric Distribution audit, 1 Communication Infrastructure Provider (CIP) audit, and 1 Power Plant audit.
- Issued 2 Electric Distribution audit reports and 5 CIP audit reports.
- Monitored 15 planned outages and 3 forced outages reported by natural gas and renewable energy power plants.

## Electric Facilities Citations

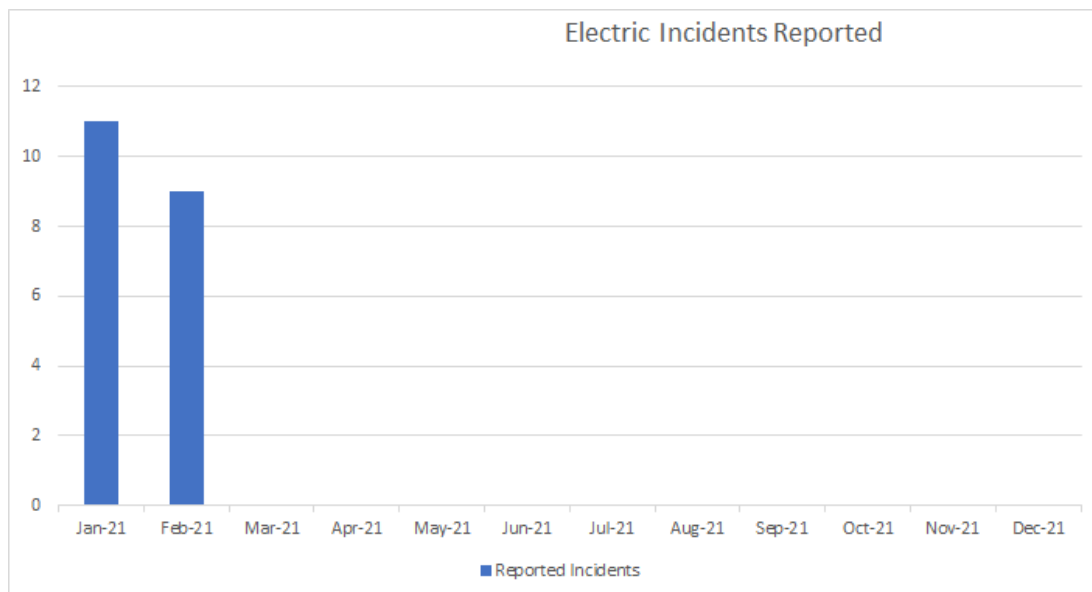
SED has the authority to issue citations with penalties for electric utilities and Communication Infrastructure Providers (CIPs) for violating Commission GOs and PU Code rules. Citations may arise from violations discovered during incident investigations, audits, customer complaint investigations, whistleblower investigations, or other safety matters that are brought to the attention of SED. The table below shows the status of citations issued by SED in 2020. SED did not issue citations as of February 28, 2021. All SED citations related to electric and communication facilities can be found on the Commission’s website at:

<https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=1965>

Citation Number	Utility	Amount	Violations	Date Cited	Description	Status
D.16-09-055E.20-12-001	SCE	\$1,000,000	GO 128, Rules 17.1 and 17.7.  PU Code, Section 451	12/4/2020	Failure to properly mark the location of SCE’s underground facilities which resulted in one injury	Paid in January 2021

## Electric Incidents Reported through February 28, 2021

ESRB received 8 electric incident reports and 1 power plant incident in February and closed 24 previously reported electric incidents.



## Electric Facilities and Power Plant/Generation Incident Investigations

ESRB		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total <sup>2</sup>
Total open incidents	Electric Facilities	7	10	64	53	134
	Generation	0	1	6	1	8
Total incidents reported in 2021	Electric Facilities	0	1	14	5	20
	Generation	0	0	2	0	2
Total incidents closed in 2021	Electric Facilities	2	4	14	23	43
	Generation	0	0	0	0	0
Total open 2021 incidents	Electric Facilities	0	1	14	5	20
	Generation	0	0	2	0	2
Incidents reported in February 2021	Electric Facilities	0	0	8	1	9
	Generation	0	0	1	0	1
Incidents closed in February 2021	Electric Facilities	2	1	8	13	24
	Generation	0	0	0	0	0

The above table shows information about ESRB incident investigations as of February 28, 2021, and incidents reported and closed in February 2021. The level designation indicates increasing severity, with Level 4 as the most severe. See footnote 2 for definitions of each level. The guidelines to close incident reports are similar to those GSRB follows (see Guidelines table on p. 5).

### Customer Safety Complaints

Investigated 19 electric and communication safety and reliability customer complaints.

### Notice of Violation Letters

ESRB issued 2 Notice of Violation (NOV) letters in February. ESRB may issue an NOV in response to an investigation or customer complaint for a violation of an applicable law or regulation.

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<sup>2</sup> Level 1: A safety incident that does not meet Level 2, 3, or 4 criteria. Level 2: Incident involved a power interruption not due solely to outside forces (Level 2 for Generation: Incident that occurred during an Electric Alert, Warning or Emergency. Level 3: Incident involved damage estimated to exceed \$50,000 and caused, at least in part, by the utility or its facilities (Level 3 for Generation: Incident resulted in a significant outage that was due, at least in part, to plant equipment and/or operations). Level 4: Incident resulted in a fatality or injury requiring hospitalization and that was caused, at least in part, by the utility or its facilities or by equipment and/or operations (for Power Plants).

## Electric Safety and Reliability: Proceedings

**PSPS Order Instituting Investigation (I.19-11-013) (Commissioner Batjer/ALJ DeAngelis) (SED Advisory).** This OII was initiated by the Commission on November 13, 2019 to determine whether California's investor-owned electric utilities prioritized safety and complied with the Commission's regulations and requirements with respect to their Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events in late 2019. This OII is a companion to R.18-12-005, the Commission's rulemaking to examine the practice of utility de-energization of powerlines during dangerous conditions. On November 16, 2020, parties filed reply comments regarding the Phase 2 Scoping Memo and Ruling. SED reviewed the reply comments and continues to provide advisory support. PG&E continues to file bi-weekly progress reports on PSPS corrective actions.

On February 19, the Assigned Commissioner issued a Phase 3 Scoping Memo and Ruling to consider whether existing de-energization guidelines should be further updated or whether new guidelines should be adopted in advance of the 2021 wildfire season.

**PG&E Locate and Mark Practices OII (I.18-12-007) (Commissioner Rechtschaffen/ALJ Allen) (SED Advocacy):** D.20-02-036 approved several shareholder-funded gas and electric System Enhancement Initiatives but with a longer compliance audit period of four years and a \$110 million total penalty. In November 2020, ESRB staff reviewed PG&E's One Call Concepts Timely Ticket Review Methodology and PG&E's Field Review Methodology and provided comments to GSRB for consideration. Pending.

**Rulemaking to Evaluate the Mobilehome Park Pilot Program and to Adopt Programmatic Modifications (R.18-04-018) (Commissioner Rechtschaffen /ALJ Hecht) (SED Advisory):** ESRB's role in this proceeding is to address the conversion of electric master metered MHPs to direct service by an electric utility. The Commission issued D. 20-04-004 on April 24, 2020, adopting most of the language in the proposed decision. SED, Energy Division, and Housing and Community Development will convene workshops within six months from the effective date to discuss mobile home electrification topics. On September 15, 2020, the Commission held a workshop on the Building Decarbonization Proceeding Phase II Staff Proposal and the Mobilehome Electrification Topics and Tenant Protections. Also, in September 2020, all the parties responded to PG&E's August 2020 submittal of a supplemental advice letter (AL) regarding tariff revisions. The AL reflects changes to the program from a pilot to a full-scale, ten-year program per D. 20-04-004. ESRB continues to provide advisory support. Pending.

**SCE Appeal of Twentynine Palms Citation (K.18-03-008) (ALJ Kim) (SED Advocacy):** ESRB investigated an incident that occurred on August 1, 2015 in Twentynine Palms. On February 12, 2018, SED issued a \$300,000 citation to SCE for violations related to the incident. SCE appealed the citation on March 14, 2018. On October 3, 2018, SED issued an \$8,000,000 amended citation that replaced the \$300,000 citation. The amended citation was the result of new violations. Hearings were held in December 2018, February 2019, and March 2019. Briefs and reply briefs were filed in April 2019. Awaiting a draft Resolution on the Twentynine Palms incident. Pending.

**Creation of a Shared Database or Statewide Census of Utility Poles and Conduit (I.17-06-027); Communications Provider Access to Poles (R.17-06-028) (Commissioner Batjer/ALJ Mason) (SED Advocacy):** In 2017, the Commission opened a proceeding to address the feasibility of establishing a data management platform for pole owners and tenants to access pole data, attachment and conduit data. This investigation is being conducted in three tracks. In the current phase of the proceeding, parties addressed requirements for pole attachments via comments and are awaiting a proposed decision. On December 15, 2020, the Assigned Commissioner's office issued a second amended scoping memo and ruling that outlined next steps in the consolidated Pole OII/OIR proceeding. Pending.

**Physical Security of the Electric System and Disaster and Emergency Preparedness (R.15-06-009) (Commissioner Rechtschaffen/ALJ Kelly) (SED Advocacy):** On May 22, 2015, the Commission issued an OIR regarding policies and regulation of physical security for electric supply facilities and to establish standards for disaster and emergency preparedness plans. This rulemaking was conducted in two phases. Phase I addressed physical security for electric supply systems and was resolved by D.19-01-018. Phase II addresses disaster and emergency preparedness plans for electrical corporations and regulated water companies. On July 1, 2020, the Safety Policy Division (SPD) submitted a letter dated June 26, 2020 from the Deputy Executive Director of SED and SPD enacting the Interim Trial Procedures (ITP) to allow Commission staff to receive major utility compliance deliverables. On July 10, 2020, the six IOUs submitted their Preliminary Assessments under the ITP process to SPD and subsequently presented their briefings regarding their Preliminary Assessment submissions to SPD and SED staff. Three IOUs submitted supplemental filings and met with SED and SPD to discuss their filings. On November 19, 2020, the Commission issued D.20-11-048 which extends the statutory deadline for Phase II to May 30, 2021. Pending.

## Other ESRB Activities

**2019 Wildfires:** In October 2019, California experienced devastating wildfires. In Northern California, the Kincade Fire burned more than 76,800 acres. The fire destroyed and damaged about 260 structures and caused injuries to two firefighters. In Southern California, the Saddleridge Fire, the Easy Fire, and the Maria Fire, burned more than 17,000 acres. The fires destroyed and damaged many structures and caused one fatality and 8 injuries to firefighters. SED is currently working closely with CAL FIRE and other agencies to investigate PG&E, SCE, and the communications companies' compliance with the Commission's safety rules.

**2020 Wildfires:** In 2020, California again experienced devastating wildfires. In Southern California, the Bobcat Fire, which started in September 2020 burned approximately 116,000 acres, damaged 47 structures, destroyed 170 structures, and resulted in 6 injuries. The Silverado Fire which started in October 2020 near Santiago Canyon Road and Silverado Canyon Road in the unincorporated area of Orange County, burned approximately 14,000 acres and injured two firefighters. ESRB and WSEB are working closely with CAL FIRE, the United States Forest Service (USFS) and other agencies to investigate SCE, and communications companies' compliance with the Commission's safety rules.

In Northern California, the Slater Fire started on September 9, 2020 in Butte County near the town of Happy Camp. The fire killed two people and injured three. It burned approximately 156,000 acres and damaged 197 residences and 243 structures. The Zogg Fire, which began on September 27, 2020 in Igo, Shasta County, resulted in four fatalities, one injury, 27 damaged structures and 204 destroyed structures.

**Compliance with D.20-12-019 regarding PG&E’s 2017 and 2018 Wildfires (I.19-06-015):** On May 8, 2020, Decision 20-05-019 was issued approving a settlement agreement, with modifications, between SED, PG&E, Coalition of California Utility Employees (CUE), and the Office of Safety Advocates (OSA). On December 4, 2020, a Final Decision (D.20-12-015) was issued modifying D.20-05-019 and denying rehearing of D.20-10-019. In summary, the decision imposes penalties totaling \$2.137 billion consisting of \$1.823 billion in disallowances for wildfire-related expenditures, \$114 million in shareholder-funded System Enhancement Initiatives, and a \$200 million fine payable to the General Fund (the fine to be suspended). ESRB is monitoring PG&E’s work to ensure compliance with the settlement agreement and D.20-12-015. On February 12, 2021 and consistent with D.20-05-019, PG&E filed its first semi-annual report which provided updates and an overview of PG&E’s progress on each of the 20 corrective actions in the settlement agreement.

**Compliance with D.17-09-024 regarding Long Beach Incident:** D.17-09-024 adopted a Settlement Agreement between SCE and SED. Under the settlement, SCE paid a \$4 million penalty and will spend \$11 million on various system enhancement projects in Long Beach intended to reduce the chance of public injury, reduce the risk of future system failures, and improve the utility’s operational awareness and network maintenance. ESRB is monitoring SCE’s work to ensure compliance with the settlement agreement.

**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. On January 21, 2021, ESRB staff attended a teleconference for the CAISO Transmission Maintenance Coordination Committee meeting, RC West Outage Coordination, construction and commercial operation of the Henry Allen—Eldorado 500 kV transmission line.

## **WILDFIRE SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT BRANCH (WSEB)**

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SED’s WSEB is dedicated to the enforcement of public utility wildfire safety and Public Safety Power Shutoffs (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 audits, incident investigations, and provides input into policy development. February 2021 activities for WSEB include:

- In conjunction with ESRB, WSEB continued nine (9) investigations into utility-related wildfires.
- Continued monitoring and coordinating of the SCE PSPS Corrective Action Plan implementation

There were no PSPS events in February 2021.

## PSPS Activations, De-energizations & Post Event Reports - February 2021

WSEB	PG&E	SCE	SDG&E	Bear Valley	Pacific Corp	Liberty
Total PSPPS Activations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total PSPPS w/ De-energization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total PSPPS Post Event Reports Reviewed		0	0	0	0	0

### PSPPS Related Proceedings

**Rulemaking to Examine Electric Utility De-Energization of Power Lines in Dangerous Conditions (R.18-12-005) (President Batjer/ALJ Poirier /ALJ Stevens) (SED Advisory):** This OIR was opened to further examine policies and guidelines adopted in ESRB-8 regarding communication, notification, mitigation and other logistic and implementation issues of a PSPPS event. Currently, there are two tracks in this OIR:

1. Continued examination of utility de-energization/PSPPS practices and guidelines.
2. An Order to Show Cause (OSC) on why PG&E should not be sanctioned for violations of P.U. Code 451, D.19-05-042 (Phase I) and ESRB-8 concerning three PSPPS events in October 2019. Opening Briefs were due October 30, 2020 and Reply Briefs were filed on November 17, 2020.

On February 19, the Assigned Commissioner issued a Phase 3 Scoping Memo and Ruling to consider whether existing de-energization guidelines should be further updated or whether new guidelines should be adopted in advance of the 2021 wildfire season.

**PSPPS Order Instituting Investigation (I.19-11-013) (Commissioner Batjer/ALJ DeAngelis) (SED Advisory).** This Investigation was initiated to determine whether the IOUs that experienced PSPPS events in late 2019 prioritized safety and complied with the Commission’s regulations and requirements in ESRB-8 and D.19-05-042 (Phase 1 PSPPS Guidelines).

## Monitoring the Whistleblower Website

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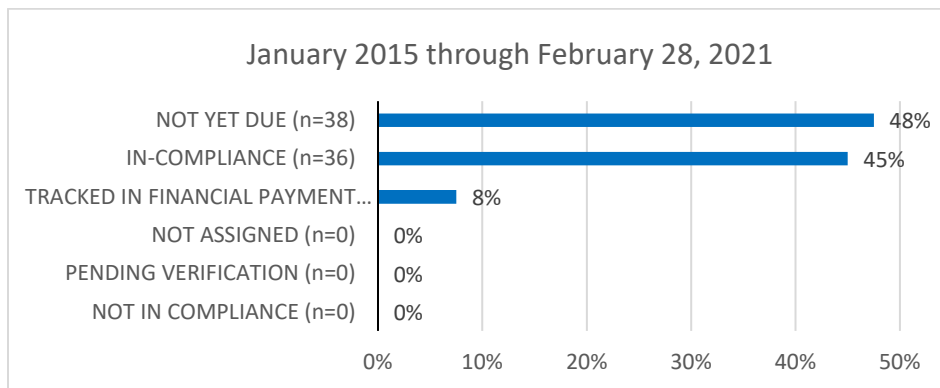
The Commission regulates privately owned utilities. It serves the public interest by protecting consumers and ensuring that utility services and infrastructure are safe, reliable, and available at reasonable rates. It is charged with ensuring that these regulated service providers comply with the regulations. Whistleblower complaints can result in investigations that may involve safety and other issues. In February 2021, two whistleblower complaints were submitted online to SED.

## COMPLIANCE WITH ORDERING PARAGRAPHS (COPS)

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The Compliance with Ordering Paragraphs (COPs) database is designed to assist CPUC staff in tracking compliance with Ordering Paragraphs (OPs) of regulated entities with Commission decisions. Each month various agency staff use COPs to identify and enter into the database relevant OPs, verify and document compliance, and produce reports summarizing compliance with OPs.

Between January 1, 2015 and February 28, 2021, SED had 80 total entries in the COPS system with 36 (46%) reaching compliance, 38 (48%) not yet due for compliance, and 0 (0%) out of compliance. All 80 (100%) SED OPs are assigned to staff. The chart below shows statistics from January 2015 through February 28, 2021<sup>3</sup>.



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<sup>3</sup> The category of “tracked in financial payment tracker” (FPT) is used to monitor compliance with financial payments. to the Commission. The FPT category is verified and deemed “in compliance” and is listed as “in compliance” on this chart.