

Electric Safety and Reliability Branch

Nika Kjensli

Program Manager

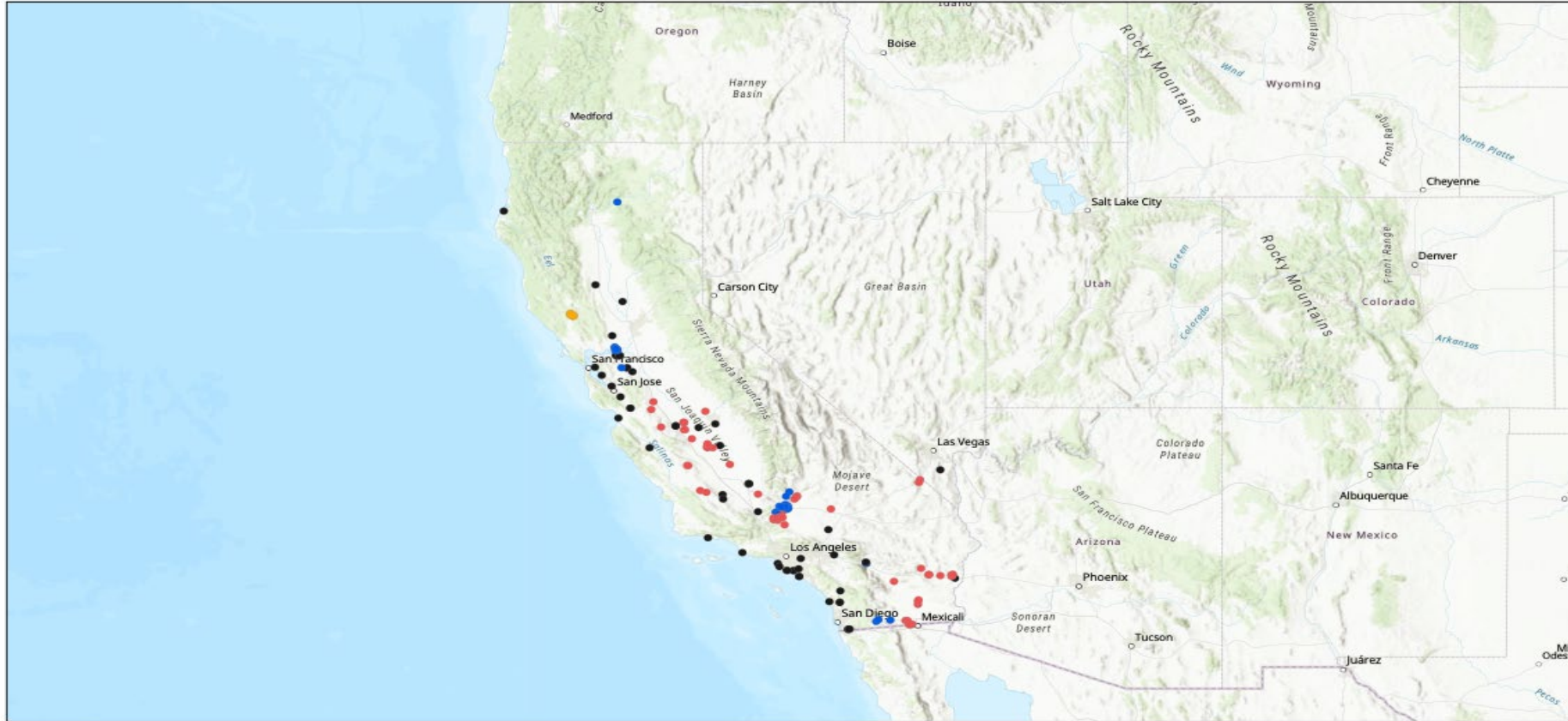
Presented at Climate Adaptation Webinar, UC Davis, May 3, 2023

Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB)

- ESRB enforces the CPUC's rules and regulations to ensure that power plants and utility companies operate a safe and reliable electric and communication infrastructure system in California.
- ESRB conducts regular audits and investigates safety-related incidents and/or system problems and advises the CPUC on these matters.
- ESRB oversees the operation and safety of the six major investor-owned utilities who provide electric power to the bulk of California consumers:
 - Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)
 - San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E)
 - Southern California Edison Company (SCE)
 - Pacific Power (PacifiCorp)
 - Bear Valley Electric Service (BVES)
 - Liberty Utilities

CPUC Jurisdictional Generation Facilities

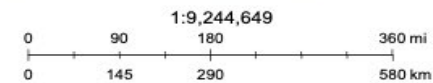
ArcGIS Web Map



5/1/2023, 1:31:09 PM

CPUC Jurisdictional Power Plants

- Solar
- Natural Gas (Fossil Fuel)
- Wind
- Geothermal



Mono County, California State Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, Esri, USGS

ArcGIS Web AppBuilder

CPUC Jurisdictional Generation Facilities

Interactive Map

- <https://capuc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0f5c0e5e95254b5bbd767f10f3c193fc>

ESRB Enforced General Orders

GENERAL ORDER NO.	SAFETY RULES
GO 95:	Above-ground electric and communications facilities
GO 128:	Underground electric and communications facilities
GO 165:	Inspection of electric transmission and distribution
GO 166:	Emergency preparedness for electric utilities
GO 167-B:	Electric generating facilities
GO 174:	Electric substations
GO 176:	High speed rail electrification

Electric Safety and Reliability Branch Actions

Plan for FY 2023 – 2024

- **26** planned Electric Generation audits, **36** planned Communication Infrastructure Provider audits, and **64** planned Electric Facility audits (including transmission, distribution and substations)
- Investigations of electric safety incidents
- Investigations of Customer Complaints and Whistleblower Complaints
- Enforcement actions for violations of General Orders and other requirements:
 - Notices of Violation
 - Citations
 - CPUC Investigations



Notable ESRB Enforcement Actions Since 2018

Entity	Enforcement Penalties (M = million)
SCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$8 M citation for the Twentynine Palms incident (issued in 2018) ▪ \$1 M citation for the 2017 Oxnard injury incident (issued in 2020) ▪ \$550 M for the 2017 – 2018 Southern California Wildfires (2021) ▪ \$1.02 M citation for SCE's involvement in the ignition of the Easy Fire in Simi Valley (issued in 2022) ▪ \$4.5 M citation for the Kramer Junction incident which resulted in a fatality (issued in 2022)
PG&E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$2.137 Billion for the 2017 and 2018 Northern California Fires (2020) ▪ \$5 M citation for violations of General Order 95 and Public Utilities Code 451 for inadequate inspections from 2008 – 2019 along the Ignacio-Alto-Sausalito transmission line (issued in 2021) ▪ \$2.5 M citation for violations of General Order 165 for incomplete inspections of distribution poles in 2019 (issued in 2021) ▪ \$125 M for the Kincade Fire (issued in 2021) ▪ \$100,000 citation for a violation of General Order 95 in the Drum Fire incident (issued in 2022)

ESRB Enforcement Actions – Notable Outcomes

Entity	Enforcement Action	Outcomes
SCE	2017 – 2018 Wildfires Administrative Consent Order (ACO) (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$110 M fine payable to the General Fund • \$375 M in permanent disallowances for cost recovery • \$65 M in shareholder-funded Safety Measures including system enhancements, community engagements and protection initiatives to protect against future harm to the environment, ecosystem, and natural resources; funding for CPUC regulatory safety program enhancements; and financial contributions to fire safety-focused non-profit organizations.
PG&E	2017 – 2018 Wildfires Settlement (2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.823 billion in disallowances for wildfire related expenditures. • \$200 M fine payable to the General Fund • \$114 M in shareholder-funded System Enhancement Initiatives and corrective actions including funds for training, root causes analyses reports, audits, community organizations and engagements, safety evaluators/independent consultants to perform audits and reviews of PG&E's financial data and wildfire safety plans.
PG&E	Kincade Fire ACO (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$40 M penalty to the General Fund • \$85 M in permanent disallowances for cost recovery for removal of abandoned and potentially hazardous transmission lines.
PG&E	Cellon-treated Wood Poles Directive Letter (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required PG&E to revise and update its inspection procedures for drilling new holes to test for internal dry rot. • Develop a pole risk model to assign risk scores for Cellon-treated wood poles and to prioritize inspection of poles with highest risk score. • Review, assess and revise its training methods and procedures for pole inspectors.