

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



Melvin Stark  
Manager, Maintenance & Inspection  
Southern California Edison (SCE)  
3 Innovation Way  
Pomona, CA 91768

CPUC ID: EA2014-001

**SUBJECT:** Audit of SCE's Palm Springs District

Dear Mr. Stark:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission, Richard Kyo of my staff conducted an audit of SCE's Palm Springs District from February 3, 2014 to February 7, 2014. The audit included a review of SCE's records and field inspections of SCE's facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders (GOs). A copy of the audit summary itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than March 21, 2014 by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SCE to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions, you can contact Richard Kyo at (213) 576-7081 or [richard.kyo@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:richard.kyo@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Raymond G. Fugere".

Raymond G. Fugere, P.E.  
Program & Project Supervisor  
Electric and Communication Facility Safety Section  
Safety and Enforcement Division

Enclosure: Audit Summary

Cc: Elizaveta Malashenko, Deputy Director, Safety and Enforcement Division  
Fadi Daye, P.E., Senior Utilities Engineer Supervisor, CPUC – LA

## AUDIT SUMMARY

	<b>Location:</b>	SCE Palm Springs
	<b>Date of CPUC Inspection:</b>	02/03/2014
	<b>Explanation of Violation(s):</b>	
	<b><u>Late Work Orders</u></b>	
	<p>GO 165, Section III, Standards for Inspection, Record-Keeping, and Reporting, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For all inspections, within a reasonable period, company records shall specify the circuit, area, or equipment inspected, the name of the inspector, the date of the inspection, and any problems identified during each inspection, as well as the scheduled date of corrective action.</i></p> <p>SCE's records indicated that from 2011 to 2013, 6 work orders were completed late. Additionally, in 2013, there was one open/past due work order.</p>	

The following violations were not documented and/or addressed by SCE during its last detailed inspection as required by General Order 165:

<b>1.</b>	<b>Location:</b>	Pole No. 4625141E
	<b>Previous SCE Visit Details:</b>	12/09/2013
	<b>Date of CPUC Inspection:</b>	02/04/2014
<b>Explanation of Violation(s):</b>		
<b><u>Third Party GO 95 Safety Hazard Not Reported</u></b>		
<p>GO 95, Rule 18-B, Notification of Safety Hazards, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If a company, while performing inspections of its facilities, discovers a safety hazard(s) on or near a communications facility or electric facility involving another company, the inspecting company shall notify the other company and/or facility owner of such safety hazard(s) no later than 10 business days after the discovery.</i></p> <p>A communication cable had a broken lashing wire. SCE did not notify the communication company.</p>		

<b>2.</b>	<b>Location:</b>	Pole No. 1597862E
	<b>Previous SCE Visit Details:</b>	06/24/2013
	<b>Date of CPUC Inspection:</b>	02/04/2014
<b>Explanation of Violation(s):</b>		
<b><u>Inadequate Clearance From Vegetation</u></b>		
<p>GO 95, Rule 35, Vegetation Management, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Where overhead conductors traverse trees and vegetation, safety and reliability of service demand that certain vegetation management activities be performed in order to establish necessary and reasonable clearances, the minimum clearances set forth in Table 1, Cases 13 and 14, measured between line conductors and vegetation under normal conditions shall be maintained.</i></p> <p>The clearance between a 12 kV pothead on the pole and a palm frond was less than 18 inches, which is the minimum clearance requirement specified in the above rule. .</p>		

3.	<b>Location:</b>	Pole No. 4466524E
	<b>Previous SCE Visit Details:</b>	12/10/2013
	<b>Date of CPUC Inspection:</b>	02/04/2014
<b>Explanation of Violation(s):</b>		
<p><b><u>Third Party GO 95 Safety Hazard Not Reported</u></b></p> <p>GO 95, Rule 18-B, Notification of Safety Hazards, states in part:</p> <p><i>If a company, while performing inspections of its facilities, discovers a safety hazard(s) on or near a communications facility or electric facility involving another company, the inspecting company shall notify the other company and/or facility owner of such safety hazard(s) no later than 10 business days after the discovery.</i></p> <p>A communication cable had a broken lashing wire. SCE did not notify the communication company.</p>		

4.	<b>Location:</b>	Pole No. 4625142E
	<b>Previous SCE Visit Details:</b>	12/06/2013
	<b>Date of CPUC Inspection:</b>	02/04/2014
<b>Explanation of Violation(s):</b>		
<p><b><u>Handhole Not Secured</u></b></p> <p>GO 128, Rule 32.7, Covers, states in part:</p> <p><i>Manholes, handholes, and subsurface equipment enclosures while not being worked in, shall be securely closed by covers of sufficient strength to sustain such loads as may reasonably be imposed upon them and arrangements shall be such that a tool or appliance shall be required for their opening and cover removal.</i></p> <p>A handhole located at the base of the pole was not securely covered and could be opened without a tool or appliance.</p>		

5.	<b>Location:</b>	Pole No. 2152102E
	<b>Previous SCE Visit Details:</b>	12/10/2013
	<b>Date of CPUC Inspection:</b>	02/04/2014
<b>Explanation of Violation(s):</b>		
<p data-bbox="214 516 558 548"><b><u>Handhole Not Secured</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="214 590 808 621">GO 128, Rule 32.7, Covers, states in part:</p> <p data-bbox="310 663 1365 842"><i>Manholes, handholes, and subsurface equipment enclosures while not being worked in, shall be securely closed by covers of sufficient strength to sustain such loads as may reasonably be imposed upon them and arrangements shall be such that a tool or appliance shall be required for their opening and cover removal.</i></p> <p data-bbox="214 884 1487 949">A handhole located at the base of the pole was not securely covered and could be opened without a tool or appliance.</p>		