CPUCID: EA2014-026

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



January 12, 2015

Fred Mason
Electric Utility Director
City of Banning
176 E Lincoln Street
Banning, CA 92220

SUBJECT: Electric Audit of City of Banning

Dear Mr. Mason:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission, Derek Fong of my staff conducted an audit of City of Banning from September 29, 2014 to October 3, 2014. The audit included a review of City of Banning's records and field inspections of City of Banning'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 February 16, 2015, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by City of Banning to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions, you can contact Derek Fong at (213) 576-6850 or <a href="mailto:derek.fong@cpuc.ca.gov">derek.fong@cpuc.ca.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Fadi Daye, P.E.

Program and Project Supervisor Electric Safety and Reliability Branch Safety and Enforcement Division

Enclosure: Audit Findings

Cc: Elizaveta Malashenko, Deputy Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC Charlotte TerKeurst, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC

#### **AUDIT FINDINGS**

Location:	City of Banning
Date of CPUC Inspection:	09/29/2014

# Explanation of Violation(s):

### **Late Detailed Inspections**

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.

GO 165, Section III-B: Standards for Inspection, States in part:

Each utility subject to this General Order shall conduct inspections of its distribution facilities, as necessary, to ensure reliable, high-quality, and safe operation, but in no case may the period between inspections (measured in years) exceed the time specified in Table 1.

City of Banning's records show that it detail-inspected the following number of poles: 1) 129 poles in the year 2014, 2) 150 poles in the year 2013, 3) 67 poles in the year 2012. Given that City of Banning has 4000 poles, the records reflect that the poles are not being detail-inspected on a five year cycle per GO 165, Section III-B.

## **Missing Patrol Records**

GO 165, Section III-C: Record Keeping, States in part:

For all inspections records shall specify the circuit, area, facility or equipment inspected, the inspector, the date of the inspection, and any problems (or items requiring corrective action) identified during each inspection, as well as the scheduled date of corrective action.

City of Banning did not have any patrol records. City of Banning did not have any wood pole intrusive test records.

# Lines not Inspected Frequently and Thoroughly

GO 95, Rule 31.2: Inspection of Lines, States in part:

Lines shall be inspected frequently and thoroughly for the purpose of insuring that they are in good condition so as to conform with these rules. Lines temporarily out of service shall be inspected and maintained in such condition as not to create a hazard.

During its detailed-inspections, City of Banning inspectors did not note any GO 95 nonconformances on the Inspection Log. City of Banning inspectors took an inventory of the facilities on the pole, but did not note the condition of the facilities on the pole.

The following violations were identified during the field inspection of the audit and were not documented and/or addressed by City of Banning during its last detailed inspection as required by General Order 165:

1.	Location:	Pole No. 3471
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	2/10/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

## Explanation of Violation(s):

# Communication Cable in the Climbing Space

GO 95, Rule 18-A1c: Resolution of Safety Hazards and GO 95 Nonconformances, States:

Where a communications company's or an electric utility' actions result in GO nonconformances for another entity, that entity's remedial action will be to transmit a single documented notice of identified nonconformances to the communications company or electric utility for compliance.

A communications cable was installed in the climbing space. City of Banning did not notify the communications company of this GO nonconformance when it last inspected the pole.

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

2.	Location:	Pole No. 3473
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	2/10/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

## Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, states in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The high voltage sign on the crossarm was damaged.

3.	Location:	Pole No. 3469
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/9/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# **Explanation of Violation(s):**

# Communication Cable in the Climbing Space

GO 95, Rule 18-A1c: Resolution of Safety Hazards and GO 95 Nonconformances, States:

Where a communications company's or an electric utility' actions result in GO nonconformances for another entity, that entity's remedial action will be to transmit a single documented notice of identified nonconformances to the communications company or electric utility for compliance.

A communications cable was installed in the climbing space. City of Banning did not notify the communications company of this GO nonconformance when it last inspected the pole.

4.	Location:	Pole No. 2625
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/15/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The high voltage sign on the crossarm was damaged.

# Loose Down Guy Wire

GO 95, Rule 56.2: Overhead Guys, Anchor Guys and Span Wires, States:

Guys shall be attached to structures, as nearly as practicable, at the center of load. They shall be maintained taut and of such strength as to meet the safety factors of Rule 44.

The pole supported a down guy wire that was not taut.

### Missing Guy Marker

GO 95, Rule 56.9: Guy Marker, States:

A substantial marker of suitable material, including but not limited to metal or plastic, not less than 8 feet in length, shall be securely attached to all anchor guys. Where more than one guy is attached to an anchor rod, only the outermost guy is required to have a marker.

A down guy wire was missing a guy marker.

5.	Location:	Pole No. 4127
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	8/4/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Pole Step Too Low to the Ground

GO 95, Rule 51.7: Stepping, States:

The lowest step on any stepped pole, tower or structure shall be not less than 7 feet 6 inches from the ground line and above this point the spacing between steps on the same side of pole, tower or structure shall not exceed 36 inches.

The lowest pole step was approximately 5 feet above the ground line.

6.	Location:	Pole No. 4322	
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None	
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014	

# Explanation of Violation(s):

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The high voltage sign on the crossarm was damaged.

7.	Location:	Pole No. 6183
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Communication Cable in the Climbing Space

GO 95, Rule 18-A1c: Resolution of Safety Hazards and GO 95 Nonconformances, States:

Where a communications company's or an electric utility' actions result in GO nonconformances for another entity, that entity's remedial action will be to transmit a single documented notice of identified nonconformances to the communications company or electric utility for compliance.

A communications cable was installed in the climbing space.

8.	Location:	Pole No. 4326
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

#### Explanation of Violation(s):

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The high voltage sign on the crossarm was damaged.

9.	Location:	Pole No. 4973
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details: Date of CPUC Inspection:	None
		9/29/2014

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The "voltage" sign on the crossarm was missing.

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

10.	Location:	Pole No. 4972
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The "voltage" sign on the crossarm was missing.

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

The pole had damaged ground molding at the public level.

11.	Location:	Pole No. 4970
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Missing Guy Marker

GO 95, Rule 56.9: Guy Marker, States:

A substantial marker of suitable material, including but not limited to metal or plastic, not less than 8 feet in length, shall be securely attached to all anchor guys. Where more than one guy is attached to an anchor rod, only the outermost guy is required to have a marker.

A down guy wire was missing a guy marker.

2. Location	: Pole No. 4976	
Previous City o Banning Visi Details	it None	
Date of CPUC Inspection	9/79/7014	
<b>Explanation of Viol</b>	Explanation of Violation(s):	
Damaged High Volt	Damaged High Voltage Sign	
GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:  Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.		

13.	Location:	Pole No. 6138
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	6/12/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Loose Down Guy Wire

GO 95, Rule 56.2: Overhead Guys, Anchor Guys and Span Wires, States:

Guys shall be attached to structures, as nearly as practicable, at the center of load. They shall be maintained taut and of such strength as to meet the safety factors of Rule 44.

The pole supported a down guy wire that was not taut.

## Missing Guy Marker

GO 95, Rule 56.9: Guy Marker, States:

A substantial marker of suitable material, including but not limited to metal or plastic, not less than 8 feet in length, shall be securely attached to all anchor guys. Where more than one guy is attached to an anchor rod, only the outermost guy is required to have a marker.

A down guy wire was missing a guy marker.

14.	Location:	Pole No. 6302
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	6/12/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

The pole had damaged ground molding at the public level.

15.	Location:	Pole No. 4983
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	6/12/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	Damaged High Voltage Sign	
	GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:  Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.	

16.	Location:	Pole No. 4984
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	5/8/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The High Voltage sign on the crossarm was missing.

# **Abandoned Ground Wire**

GO 95, Rule 31.6: Abandoned Lines, States in part:

Lines or portions of lines permanently abandoned shall be removed by their owners so that such lines shall not become a public nuisance or a hazard to life or property. For the purposes of this rule, lines that are permanently abandoned shall be defined as those lines that are determined by their owner to have no foreseeable future use.

The pole had an abandoned ground wire and ground molding.

7.	Location:	Pole No. 4985
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014
E	Explanation of Violation(s):	

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The High Voltage sign on the crossarm was missing.

18.	Location:	Pole No. 4988
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	5/8/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014
	<b>Explanation of Violat</b>	ion(s):
	Damaged Ground Molding	

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

5/8/2014 9/29/2014	
9/29/2014	
A .	
Explanation of Violation(s):	
Missing High Voltage Sign	
GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:  Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.	

0.	Location:	Pole No. 4354	
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	2/26/2014	9
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014	
F	Explanation of Violat	on(s):	

## Damageu Ground Molding

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

The pole had damaged ground molding (there were two exposed ground wires at the public level).

21.	Location:	Pole No. 6006
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

The pole had damaged ground molding.

22.	Location:	Pole No. 4149
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	2/26/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

## **Explanation of Violation(s):**

# Broken Transformer Secondary Neutral Ground

GO 95, Rule 58.2-A1: Grounding of Windings, States in part:

Transformer windings, providing service not exceeding 300 volts (except those used exclusively for energizing street lighting systems or used exclusively for energizing signal and traffic circuits) shall be effectively grounded.

The pole had a broken secondary ground wire for the transformer neutral (floating neutral).

22.	Location:	Pole No. 3051
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	Damaged High Voltage Sign	
	GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:  Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.	

23.	Location:	Pole No. 3052
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	Damaged Ground Molding	
	GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:  That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).	

24.	Location:	Pole No. 1614
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/18/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Missing High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The High Voltage sign on the crossarm was missing.

# Loose Down Guy Wire

GO 95, Rule 56.2: Overhead Guys, Anchor Guys and Span Wires, States:

Guys shall be attached to structures, as nearly as practicable, at the center of load. They shall be maintained taut and of such strength as to meet the safety factors of Rule 44.

The pole supported a down guy wire that was not taut.

25.	Location:	Pole No. 2332
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/18/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The High Voltage sign on the crossarm was damaged.

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

26.	Location:	Pole No. 2333
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/18/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Missing High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The High Voltage sign on the crossarm was missing.

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

27.	Location:	Pole No. 3662	
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/18/2014	
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014	
	Explanation of Violation(s):		
	Damaged Ground Wire		
	GO 95, Rule 33.3-A: Effective Grounds, States in part:  Supply equipment of the following types, when grounded to conform to requirements of this Order or for any other reasons, shall be effectively grounded.		
	The pole had a damaged ground wire (the wire was cut).		

28.	Location:	Pole No. 3663
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/18/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014
	Explanation of Violation(s):	
	Damaged Ground Wire	
	GO 95, Rule 33.3-A: Effective Grounds, States in part:  Supply equipment of the following types, when grounded to conform to requirements of this Order or for any other reasons, shall be effectively grounded.	

29.	Location:	Pole No. 3664	
-	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/18/2014	
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014	

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

The pole had damaged ground molding.

30.	Location:	Pole No. 6378	
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/18/2014	
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014	
	Explanation of Violat	ion(s):	
	Damaged Ground Molding		
	GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:		
	1	of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms face of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable	

protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

The pole had damaged ground molding at the public level.

31.	Location:	Pole No. 3667
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/15/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The High Voltage sign on the crossarm was damaged.

32.	Location:	Pole No. 6379
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	9/18/2014
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# **Damaged Ground Molding**

GO 95, Rule 54.6-B: Ground Wires, states in part:

That portion of the ground wire attached on the face or back of wood crossarms or on the surface of wood poles and structures shall be covered by a suitable protective covering (see Rule 22.8).

The pole had damaged ground molding at the public level.

33.	Location:	Pole No. 3672
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Damaged High Voltage Sign

GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:

Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.

The High Voltage sign on the crossarm was damaged.

# Loose Conduit Strap

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 pole had a loose conduit strap.

34.	Location:	Pole No. 3673	
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:		
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014	
	Explanation of Violation(s):		
	Damaged Ground Wire		
	GO 95, Rule 33.3-A: Effective Grounds, States in part:  Supply equipment of the following types, when grounded to conform to requirements of this Order or for any other reasons, shall be effectively grounded.		
	The pole had a damaged ground wire (the wire was cut).		

35.	Location:	Pole No. 3675	
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	Construction and the second se	
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014	
	Explanation of Violation(s):		
	Damaged High Voltage Wire		
	GO 95, Rule 51.6-A: High Voltage Marking, States in part:		
	Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 volts shall be marked with high voltage signs.		
	The "High" sign on the crossarm was damaged.		

36.	Location:	Pole No. 3674
	Previous City of Banning Visit Details:	None
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	9/29/2014

# Insufficient Clearance between City of Banning Service Drop and a Communications Cable

GO 95, Rule 38: Minimum Clearances of Wires from Other Wires, States in part:

The minimum vertical, horizontal or radial clearances of wires from other wires shall not be less than the values given in Table 2 ...

A City of Banning triplex service drop and a communications cable had a clearance of approximately 4 inches.