

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



September 10, 2015

EA2015-003

David Kolk
Colton Electric Utility Department
150 S 10th Street
Colton, CA 92324

SUBJECT: Electric Audit

Dear Mr. Kolk,

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission, Zelalem Ewnetu of my staff conducted an electric audit of Colton from March 9, 2015 to March 13, 2015. The audit included a review of Colton's records and field inspection of Colton's electric facilities.

During the audit, my staff identified violations of one or more General Orders. A copy of the audit findings itemizing the violations is enclosed. Please advise me no later than October 20, 2015, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by Colton to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions, you can contact Zelalem Ewnetu at (213) 576-7042 or ze1@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fadi Daye".

Fadi Daye, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Electric Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division
California Public Utilities Commission

Enclosure: Audit Findings

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

AUDIT FINDINGS

The following violations were discovered during Colton's records review.

1.	Location:	Not Applicable
	Previous Colton Visit Details:	Not Applicable
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	03/09/15
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Non-routine Inspection Program</u>		
<p>General Order 128, Rule 12.2-A, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>An auditable and consistent maintenance program shall be in place to minimize deterioration of underground equipment.</i></p> <p>General Order 165, Section III-B, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>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 exceed the time specified in Table 1.</i></p> <p>Colton does not have an auditable inspection program for its underground electric facilities that meets the required intervals of General Order 165. Personnel inspect underground electric facilities whenever customers report service issues.</p>		

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

2.	Location:	Poles numbered 4237F, 4236F, 68F, 3866F, 3865F, F16378 and 2875F
	Previous Colton Visit Details:	09/27/14, 09/27/14, 09/27/14, 10/11/14, 10/11/14, 08/31/14 and 10/11/14
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	03/10/15
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Damaged Ground Wire and Molding</u>		
<p><i>General Order 95, Rule 31.1, states in part:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Electrical supply and communication systems shall be designed, constructed, and maintained for their intended use ... to enable the furnishing of safe, proper, and adequate service.</i></p> <p>The ground wires and moldings on the poles were damaged.</p>		

3.	Location:	Poles numbered 4175612E, 4458F and 2875F
	Previous Colton Visit Details:	08/31/13, 08/31/13 and 10/11/14
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	03/10/15 and 03/11/15
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Third Party Notification</u>		
<p>GO 95, Rule 18-B, 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/ facility owner of such safety hazard(s) no later than 10 business days after discovery. The notification shall be documented.</i></p> <p>Pole number 4175612E had an abandoned communication down guy anchor that was protruding from the ground. Pole number 4458F had a communication guy wire that was cut and hanging from the pole. Pole number 2875F had a broken ground wire. Colton did not document the conditions and notify the third party companies when it last inspected the poles.</p>		

4.	Location:	Poles numbered 3865F and 2875F
	Previous Colton Visit Details:	09/27/14 and 11/10/14
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	03/11/15
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Illegible High Voltage Sign</u>		
<p>General Order 95, Rule 51.6-A, states in part:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Poles which support line conductors of more than 750 Volts shall be marked with high voltage signs...with letters cut out therefrom and clearly legible.</i></p> <p>The high voltage signs on the poles were damaged and illegible.</p>		

5.	Location:	Poles numbered 163F, 4571F and 4458F
	Previous Colton Visit Details:	09/27/14, 11/10/14 and 08/31/14
	Date of CPUC Inspection:	03/10/15 and 03/11/15
Explanation of Violation(s):		
<u>Guy Wire Clearance</u>		
<p><i>General Order 95, Rule 38, Table 2, Case 18-C, requires utilities to maintain three inch separation between supply guy wires and communication wires.</i></p> <p>Communication cables and Colton down guy wires on the poles had less than three inches of separation.</p>		