

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 27, 2016

EA2016-006

Vaughn Minter
Merced Irrigation District, Water and Power
Regulatory Compliance Specialist
744 W. 20th St.
Merced, CA 95340

Subject: Electric Audit of Merced Irrigation District Power

Dear Mr. Minter:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Ivan Garcia of my staff conducted an Electric Audit of Merced Irrigation District (MID), from March 22, 2016, to March 25, 2016. The audit included a review of MID's maintenance records and field inspection of its 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 May 27, 2016, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by MID to remedy and prevent such violations.

If you have any questions concerning this audit please contact Ivan Garcia at (916) 928-5875 or ivan.garcia@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "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
Alok Kumar, Supervisor, Senior Utilities Engineer, CPUC

Audit Findings

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- MID Electric T&D Inspection and Maintenance Manual from 2012
- Completed overhead and underground work orders from January 1, 2012 through March 21, 2016.
- Pole Test and Treat Records from January 1, 2007 through March 21, 2016
- GO 165 Patrol and Inspection Records from January 1, 2006 to March 21, 2016
- New construction records for the following projects: Anberry Rehab Center Project, 1000 W. Yosemite Ave; Dave Long Cold Storage Project; Highway 59 and Cooper Avenue; Mohan Johan Agwell, Thornton Rd. and Lopes Ave.

II. Records Review – Violations

GO 95, Rule 18-B, Notification of Safety Hazards states:

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. To the extent the inspecting company cannot determine the facility owner/operator, it shall contact the pole owner(s), who shall be responsible for promptly notifying the company owning/operating the facility with the safety hazard(s), normally not to exceed five business days after being notified of the safety hazard. The notification shall be documented and such documentation must be preserved by all parties for at least ten years.

MID is not notifying other companies of safety hazards. There is also no program in MID's Inspection and Maintenance Manual to notify other utility or communication companies of safety hazards.

III. Field Inspection

My staff inspected the following facilities in Merced:

Structure Number	Type of Structure	Location
T-2554	Pad Mount Transformer	1000 W. Yosemite Ave., Merced
T-2516	Pad Mount Transformer	Highway 59 and Cooper Ave., Merced
T-866	Pad Mount Transformer	Highway 59 and Cooper Ave., Merced
N/A	Pole	Thornton Rd. and Lopes Ave., Merced
T-2543	Overhead Transformer	Thornton Rd. and Lopes Ave., Merced
T-2549	Overhead Transformer	Thornton Rd. and Lopes Ave., Merced
T-2550	Overhead Transformer	Thornton Rd. and Lopes Ave., Merced
T-2546	Pad Mount Transformer	1734 W Olive Ave., Merced
T-540	Pad Mount Transformer	2207 Birchwood Ct., Merced
J422	Underground Junction Box	340 S Parsons Ave., Merced
T-788	Pad Mount Transformer	340 S Parsons Ave., Merced
T-837	Pad Mount Transformer	340 S Parsons Ave., Merced
T-833	Pad Mount Transformer	340 S Parsons Ave., Merced
J-421	Underground Junction Box	340 S Parsons Ave., Merced
T-832	Pad Mount Transformer	340 S Parsons Ave., Merced
V-1159	Underground Junction Box	340 S Parsons Ave., Merced
T-798	Pad Mount Transformer	340 S Parsons Ave., Merced
T-795	Pad Mound Transformer	2257 Arezzo Ave., Merced
P-1093	Pole	Stretch Road and Hartley Lateral Canal, Merced
P-1097	Pole	Stretch Road and Hartley Lateral Canal, Merced
P-1098	Pole	Stretch Road and Hartley Lateral Canal, Merced
P-1099	Pole	Stretch Road and Hartley Lateral Canal, Merced
P-1100	Pole	Stretch Road and Hartley Lateral Canal, Merced
P-1096	Pole	Stretch Road and Hartley Lateral Canal, Merced
P-1095	Pole	Stretch Road and Hartley Lateral Canal, Merced

P-1094	Pole	Stretch Road and Hartley Lateral Canal, Merced
P-1053	Pole	3515 East Yosemite, Merced
C-112	Capacitor Bank	3515 East Yosemite, Merced
P-1052	Pole	3515 East Yosemite, Merced
R-101	Recloser	3515 East Yosemite, Merced
P-1051	Pole	3515 East Yosemite, Merced
P-1049	Pole	3515 East Yosemite, Merced
P-1021	Pole	4315 East Childs Ave., Merced
P-1022	Pole	3515 East Yosemite, Merced
P-1270	Pole	Heron Rd. and Thornton Rd., Merced
P-1278	Pole	Heron Rd. and Thornton Rd., Merced
P-1277	Pole	Heron Rd. and Thornton Rd., Merced
P-1276	Pole	Heron Rd. and Thornton Rd., Merced
P-1275	Pole	Heron Rd. and Thornton Rd., Merced
P-1279	Pole	Heron Rd. and Thornton Rd., Merced
R-104	Recloser	Heron Rd. and Thornton Rd., Merced

IV. Field Inspection – Undocumented Violations List

We observed the following violations during the field inspection. None of the violations were documented and/or addressed by MID during its last inspections:

GO 128, Rule 34.3A, Self-contained Surface-mounted Equipment, Strength, states:

The equipment case or enclosure shall be secured in place and be of sufficient strength to resist entrance or damage to the equipment by unauthorized persons.

MID padmount transformer number T-866, located at Highway 59 and Cooper Ave, was not bolted down.

GO 128, Rule 17.8, Identification of Manholes, Handholes, Subsurface and Self-contained Surface-mounted Equipment Enclosures, states:

Manholes, handholes, subsurface and self-contained surface-mount equipment enclosures shall be marked as to ownership to facilitate identification by persons authorized to work therein and by other persons performing work in their vicinity.

The following handholes and equipment enclosures were missing MID's ownership marker:

- J-421, Underground Junction Box, 340 S Parsons Ave.
- V-1159. Underground Junction Box, 340 S Parsons Ave.
- T-798, Pad Mount Transformer, 340 S Parsons Ave.