

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 15, 2023

SA2023-1049

Jennifer Kaminsky
Manager – Electric Assets & Compliance
San Diego Gas & Electric
8326 Century Park Court
San Diego, CA 92123

SUBJECT: Substation Audit of San Diego Gas & Electric's Eastern District

Ms. Kaminsky:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), James Miller of my staff conducted a substation audit of San Diego Gas & Electric's (SDG&E) Eastern District from March 13, 2023 to March 17, 2023. The audit included a review of SDG&E's records and field inspections of SDG&E'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 July 17, 2023, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SDG&E to remedy and prevent the recurrence of such violations in the future.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, please contact James Miller at (213) 660-8898 or James.Miller@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

Enclosures: CPUC Audit Findings

Cc: Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC
Nika Kjensli, Program Manager, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC
Majed Ibrahim, Senior Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC
James Miller, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records and documents:

- Current Substation Inspection Procedures
- Current Substation Equipment Testing Procedures
- Substation Inspection Records
- Oil Sample Testing Results
- Infrared Inspection Records
- Recent Open and Completed Work Orders Generated from Inspections

II. Field Inspections

My staff inspected the following substations during the field inspections:

Substation Name	Address	City
Alpine	1237 South Grade Road	Unincorporated San Diego County
Amherst	4853 73rd Street	La Mesa
Barrett	Manzanita Way and Deerhorn Valley	Unincorporated San Diego County
Bostonia	Shady Lane and East Madison Ave.	El Cajon
Boulevard East	Old Hwy 80 and Ribbonwood Road	Unincorporated San Diego County
Calavo Gardens	Avocado Ave. and Horizon Hills Dr.	El Cajon
Cameron	1835 Buckman Springs Road	Unincorporated San Diego County
Carlton Hills	Weston Road and Mast Boulevard	Santee
Chollas West	7001 North Avenue	Lemon Grove
Crestwood	37420 Old Hwy 80	Unincorporated San Diego County
Descanso	Oak Grove Dr. and Boulder Creek Rd.	Unincorporated San Diego County
El Cajon	North Main Street and Johnson Avenue	El Cajon
Garfield	125 Garfield Avenue	El Cajon
Glencliff	29822 Old Highway 80	Unincorporated San Diego County
Granite	1660 Jade Avenue	El Cajon
Jamacha	Campo Road and Via Mercado	La Mesa
Los Coches	13733 El Monte Road	Unincorporated San Diego County
Loveland	16549 Sycuan Truck Trail	Unincorporated San Diego County
Murray	8120 El Paso	La Mesa
Rolando	4641 62nd Street	San Diego
Santee	Mast Boulevard and Eucalyptus Court	Santee
Spring Valley	9100 Block of Lamar Street	San Diego

III. Field Inspections – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspection:

GO 174, Rule 12, General, states in part:

Substations shall be designed, constructed, and maintained for their intended use, regard being given to the conditions under which they are to be operated, to promote the safety of workers and the public and enable adequacy of service.

Design, construction, and maintenance should be performed in accordance with accepted good practices for the given local conditions known at the time by those responsible.

Facilities at the following substations were not maintained for their intended use:

Amherst Substation

1. The security fence around Amherst Substation had a large hole cut in it.

Chollas West Substation

2. The vent covers on the control room were not properly secured and had partially fallen off their respective vents.

Spring Valley Substation

3. The radiator on the Bank 30 69/12 kV Transformer was leaking oil.

Bostonia Substation

4. The viewing window on the 12 kV Circuit 416 Circuit Breaker was cracked.

Santee Substation

5. The Bank 40 138/2 kV Transformer was leaking oil.

Alpine Substation

6. Viewing windows on the 12 kV Capacitor Banks A and C had lost their transparency.
7. The nitrogen tank for the Bank 30 Transformer was empty.

Descanso Substation

8. The ground wire on a support column of the 69 kV TL 625 line disconnect was excessively long and represented a tripping hazard.

Barrett Substation

9. Rainwater was leaking into the control and battery rooms.

Cameron Substation

10. Barb wire was hanging outside the security fence to a height of approximately three feet from the ground.
11. The ground wire on Pole No. SCN02 (located inside the substation) was not properly secured to the pole near its base and represented a tripping hazard.

12. The tap changer position indicator hatch on the 12 kV Bank 30 Regulator had been left open, allowing rainwater to enter.