

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

September 3, 2024

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

Re: Frontier's Response to Audit of Frontier Communications' Santa Barbara County Area

Dear Fadi Daye,

Frontier California Inc. (U-1002-C) ("Frontier") hereby responds to the August 9, 2024 California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) report regarding the Santa Barbara County Area communications infrastructure provider audit conducted from July 8, 2024 to July 12, 2024.

I. Records Review

- Inspection records.
- Work order/corrective ticket records
- Third Party Notifications
- Pole Loading Calculation Records
- Inspection and maintenance procedures

II. Records Review – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the records review portion of the audit:

General Order (GO) 95, Rule 18-B1: Maintenance Programs, states in part:

Companies shall undertake corrective actions within the time periods stated for each of the priority levels set forth below.

General Order (GO) 95, Rule 31.1, Design, Construction and Maintenance, states in part:

For all particulars not specified in these rules, design, construction, and maintenance should be done in accordance with accepted good practice for the given local conditions known at the time by those responsible for the design, construction, or maintenance of communication or supply lines and equipment.

Frontier's records indicated that for calendar year 2023-24, Frontier completed 11 repair work orders past Frontier's scheduled completion dates. Additionally, at the time of the audit, there were 142 open repair work orders that were past their scheduled completion dates.

Response: Frontier is prioritizing the 142 open repair work orders for completion by 10/31/24.

III. Field Inspections

IV. Field Inspection – Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field inspection:

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.

Frontier's facilities on the following pole required maintenance:

• Pole No. GT218180 - the "eye" of the down guy anchor attached to the pole was buried.

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed on each of the following poles:

- S27858Y
- S9303Y
- GT115284
- GT115282
- GT103381
- GT103616
- S26420Y

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

Frontier's facilities on the following poles required maintenance:

- Pole No. 1015386: Damaged Copper terminal box.
- Pole No. 1324174E: The copper terminal box was open and damaged.
- Pole No. 4551311E: Loose cable dangling from the copper terminal.

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

GO 95, Rule 35, Vegetation Management, states in part:

When a supply or communication company has actual knowledge, obtained either through normal operating practices or notification to the company, that its circuit energized at 750 volts or less shows strain or evidences abrasion from vegetation contact, the condition shall be corrected by reducing conductor tension, rearranging or replacing the conductor, pruning the vegetation, or placing mechanical protection on the conductor(s).

A Frontier communication conductor attached to each of the following poles was strained by vegetation:

- S29140Y
- 205064E
- 1015386E
- 1015391E
- 4733701E
- 1324563E
- 4340103E

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

GO 95, Rule 34, Foreign Attachments, states in part:

Nothing in these rules shall be construed as permitting the unauthorized attachment, to supply, streetlight or communication poles or structures, of antennas, signs, posters, banners, decorations, wires, lighting fixtures, guys, ropes and any other such equipment foreign to the purposes of overhead electric line construction.

- An unauthorized permanent "Resident Address No." sign was attached to Pole No. 1523869E.
- An unauthorized permanent "Private Road" sign was attached to Pole No. 4493954E.

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

GO 95, Rule 87.7-D1, Covered from Ground Level to 8 Feet above the Ground, states in part:

Risers shall be protected from the ground level to a level not less than 8 feet above the ground by:

b) Non-metallic conduit or rigid U-shaped moulding. Such conduit or moulding shall be of material as specified in Rule 22.8.

The conduit protecting the Frontier riser attached to Pole S27858Y was damaged.

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

GO 95, Rule 84.7-A, Climbing Space, states in part:

Climbing space shall be maintained on one side or quadrant of all poles or structures supporting communications conductors excepting at the level of the one pair of conductors attached to the pole below the lowest crossarm (Rules 84.4–C1c, 84.4–D1 and 87.4–C3) and the top 3 feet of poles carrying communication conductors only which are attached directly to pole in accordance with the provisions of Rule 84.4–C1c.

The climbing space on Pole No. 4660254E was obstructed by vegetation.

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

GO 95, Rule 31.6, Abandoned Lines, states:

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.

Permanent abandoned service drops were observed on or near each of the following poles:

- S29322Y
- S27964Y
- 4340104E
- 4551311E

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

GO 128, Rule 17.1, Design, Construction and Maintenance, states in part:

For all particulars not specified in these rules, design, construction, and maintenance should be done in accordance with accepted good practice for the given local conditions known at the time by those responsible for the design, construction, or maintenance of communication or supply lines and equipment.

- The "Vault" lid at 4615 El Carro Ln, Carpinteria was corroded and broken.
- The "Manhole" at 4625 El Carro Ln, Carpinteria was flooded and under water.

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

GO 128, Rule 42.7, Covers, states in part:

Manholes and handholes, 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

arrangement shall be such that a tool or appliance shall be required for their opening and cover removal.

The cover on each of the following manholes and handholes was not securely closed:

- The "Hand-hole" at 5875 Calle Real, Goleta was not securely closed, and the chamber is full of dirt.
- The "Hand-hole" at 1482 Anita St., Carpinteria, not securely closed, and buried under dirt.

Response: Workorders have been issued to correct audit findings. See attached "Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County.xls".

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 214-724-7719, or judy.geise@ftr.com .

Sincerely, /s/ Judy Geise Manager, Compliance Judy.geise@ftr.com

Attachment

Cc: Jenny Smith, Director Regulatory & Governmental Affairs, Frontier Lee Palmer, Director, Safety and Enforcement Division, CPUC Nika Kjensli, Program Manager, ESRB, SED, CPUC Majed Ibrahim, Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor) ESRB, SED, CPUC Sultan Tipu, Utilities Engineer, ESRB, SED, CPUC

Frontier Audit Tickets CAPUC 2024 Santa Barbara County

CPUC No	City	Found Pole	Ticket ID	Status	Pole
2	Carpinteria	S29322Y	TK3535821	NEW	CRPRCAXF S29322Y
4	Carpinteria	4660254E	TK3535831	NEW	CRPRCAXF 4660254E
6	Carpinteria	S27964Y	TK3535833	NEW	CRPRCAXF S27964Y
11	Carpinteria	S29140Y	TK3535834	NEW	CRPRCAXF S29140Y
15	Carpinteria	205064E	TK3535835	NEW	CRPRCAXF 205064E
115	Carpinteria		TK3535840	NEW	4615 Aragon Dr
108	Carpinteria		TK3535841	NEW	4625 El Carro Ln
120	Carpinteria		TK3535842	NEW	1482 Anita St
99	Montecito	4493954E	TK3535856	NEW	CRPRCAXF 4493954E
23	Santa Barbara	1015391E	TK3535947	NEW	SNBBCAXF 1015391E
71	Montecito	GT218180	TK3535949	NEW	MNTTCAXF GT218180
21	Santa Barbara	1015386E	TK3536092	NEW	SNBBCAXF 1015386E
72	Montecito	4340103E	TK3535950	NEW	MNTTCAXF 43401035E
28	Santa Barbara	S27858Y	TK3536093	NEW	SNBBCAXF S27858Y
29	Santa Barbara	S9303Y	TK3536095	NEW	SNBBCAXF S9303Y
31	Santa Barbara	4551311E	TK3536096	NEW	SNBBCAXF 4551311E
34	Santa Barbara	1324174E	TK3536097	NEW	SNBBCAXF 1324174E
76	Montecito	4340104E	TK3535951	NEW	MNTTCAXF 4340104E
78	Montecito	S26420Y	TK3536081	NEW	MNTTCAXF S26420Y
50	Ellwood	1324563E	TK3536104	NEW	ELWDCAXF 1324563E
49	Ellwood	4733701E	TK3536215	NEW	ELWDCAXF 4733701E
44	Ellwood	1523869E	TK3536216	NEW	ELWDCAXF 1523869E
54	Gaviota	GT103381	TK3536217	NEW	GVTACAXA GT103381
53	Gaviota	GT115282	TK3536218	NEW	GVTACAXA GT115282
52	Gaviota	GT115284	TK3536219	NEW	GVTACAXA GT115284
102	Goleta		TK3536220	NEW	5875 Calle Real
103	Goleta		TK3536221	NEW	5875 Calle Real

Type
Pole
Pedestal
Manhole 154A
Handhole
Pole
Handhole 17
Handhole 19

Violation Description	
Permanent abandoned service drops were observed on or near each of the following poles	
The climbing space on Pole was obstructed by vegetation	
Permanent abandoned service drops were observed on or near each of the following poles	
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation	
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation	
Vault Lid corroded and broken	
Manhole was flooded and under water.	
Hand Hole not securely closed, and buried under dirt.	
An unauthorized permanent "Private Road" sign is attached to Pole	
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation	
the "eye" of the down guy anchor attached to the pole was buried	
Damaged Copper terminal box, A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by v	/egetation
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation	
Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed, The conduit protecting the Frontier riser atta	ached to Po
Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed	
Loose cable dangling from the copper terminal, Permanent abandoned service drops were observed	d on or nea
The copper terminal box was open and damaged.	
Permanent abandoned service drops were observed on or near each of the following poles	
Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed	
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation	
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation	
An unauthorized permanent "Resident Address No." sign is attached to Pole	
Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed	
Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed	
Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed	
Hand Hole not securely closed, and the chamber is full of dirt.	
Hand Hole not securely closed, and the chamber is full of dirt.	

ole S27858Y was damaged

ar each of the following poles

No.	Facility Identificat	ion A	Address	Facility Type	Location
	95	14839		Pole	Montecito
	81	4476398		Pole	Montecito
	22 1015385E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	21 1015386E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	23 1015391E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	74 1015828E			Pole	Montecito
	83 1016513E			Pole	Montecito
	84 107628E			Pole	Montecito
	9 1189239E			Pole	Carpinteria
	68 1323119E			Pole	Goleta
	87 1324119E			Pole	Goleta
	34 1324174E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	50 1324563E			Pole	Ellwood
	48 1324565E			Pole	Ellwood
	24 1372074E 86 1481731E			Pole Pole	Santa Barbara Goleta
	64 1481874E			Pole	Goleta
	63 1481875E			Pole	Goleta
	62 1481876E			Pole	Goleta
	61 1481877E			Pole	Goleta
	41 1523866E			Pole	Ellwood
	42 1523867E			Pole	Ellwood
	43 1523868E			Pole	Ellwood
	44 1523869E			Pole	Ellwood
	45 1523870E			Pole	Ellwood
	46 1523871E			Pole	Ellwood
	93 1524073E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	40 1524198E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	39 1524199E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	35 1524719E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	91 1828718E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	90 1828719E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	88 1828720E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	82 1828903E			Pole	Montecito
	66 184859E			Pole	Goleta
	75 1868549E			Pole	Montecito
	15 205064E			Pole	Carpinteria
	1 207295E			Pole	Carpinteria
	16 2143989E			Pole	Carpinteria
	30 2244742E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	20 2244781E 37 2320658E			Pole Pole	Carpinteria Santa Barbara
	36 2320659E			Pole	Santa Barbara
	19 4130512E			Pole	Carpinteria
	72 4340103E			Pole	Montecito
	76 4340103E			Pole	Montecito
	, O 4340104E			i UIE	WIGHTECHO

80	4340109E	Pole	Montecito
73	4371165E	Pole	Montecito
65	4403794E	Pole	Goleta
47	4421967E	Pole	Ellwood
99	4493954E	Pole	Montecito
97	4493955E	Pole	Montecito
33	4499508E	Pole	Santa Barbara
12	4538874E	Pole	Carpinteria
31	4551311E	Pole	Santa Barbara
67	455264E	Pole	Goleta
4	4660254E	Pole	Carpinteria
49	4733701E	Pole	Ellwood
	4753047E	Pole	Santa Barbara
27	4830341E	Pole	Santa Barbara
100	4869169E	Pole	Montecito
18	4890145E	Pole	Carpinteria
8	4890880E	Pole	Carpinteria
	4919037E	Pole	Santa Barbara
	4955666E	Pole	Montecito
	FTR115759	Pole	Gaviota
	FTR5745	Pole	Gaviota
	GT103381	Pole	Gaviota
	GT103616	Pole	Gaviota
	GT115281	Pole	Gaviota
	GT115282	Pole	Gaviota
	GT115284	Pole	Gaviota
	GT116335	Pole	Santa Barbara
	GT123535	Pole	Gaviota
	GT132464	Pole	Gaviota
	GT132465	Pole	Gaviota
	GT13463	Pole	Montecito
	GT137054E	Pole	Carpinteria
	GT218180	Pole	Montecito
	GT23870	Pole	Santa Barbara
	GT82939	Pole	Goleta
	GT99463	Pole	Montecito
	S13749Y	Pole	Montecito
	S17171Y	Pole	Carpinteria
	S26420Y	Pole	Montecito
	S27858Y	Pole	Santa Barbara
	S27861Y	Pole	Santa Barbara
	S27964Y	Pole	Carpinteria
	S29136Y	Pole	Carpinteria
	S29137Y	Pole	Carpinteria
	S29140Y	Pole	Carpinteria
	S29141Y	Pole	Carpinteria
2	S29322Y	Pole	Carpinteria

5 S2	29323Y		Pole	Carpinteria
7 S2	29324Y		Pole	Carpinteria
29 S	9303Y		Pole	Santa Barbara
38 T8	8617-504		Pole	Santa Barbara
94 V	Z106223		Pole	Montecito
70 V	Z106441		Pole	Goleta
69 V	Z10654		Pole	Goleta
110		1426 Begonia Dr	Flowerpot	Carpinteria
112		1435 Begonia Dr	Flowerpot	Carpinteria
111		1436 Begonia Dr	Handhole	Carpinteria
113		1456 Begonia Dr	Flowerpot	Carpinteria
117		1474 Anita St	Pull box	Carpinteria
118		1475 Anita St	Handhole	Carpinteria
119		1478 Anita St	Handhole	Carpinteria
120		1482 Anita St	Handhole	Carpinteria
104		4515 El Carro Ln	Manhole	Carpinteria
107		4515 El Carro Ln	Vault	Carpinteria
106		4516 El Carro Ln	Manhole	Carpinteria
105		4535 El Carro Ln	Manhole	Carpinteria
115		4615 Aragon Dr	Pedestal	Carpinteria
108		4625 El Carro Ln	Manhole	Carpinteria
109		4655 El Carro Ln	Manhole	Carpinteria
114		4725 El Carro Ln	Pedestal	Carpinteria
116		4725 El Carro Ln	Manhole	Carpinteria
101		5875 Calle Real	Hand hole	Goleta
102		5875 Calle Real	Handhole 17	Goleta
103		5875 Calle Real	Handhole 19	Goleta

Damaged Copper terminal box, A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation
The copper terminal box was open and damaged. A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation
An unauthorized permanent "Resident Address No." sign is attached to Pole
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation

Permanent abandoned service drops were observed on or near each of the following poles

An unauthorized permanent "Private Road" sign is attached to Pole
Loose cable dangling from the copper terminal, Permanent abandoned service drops were observed on or near
The climbing space on Pole was obstructed by vegetation A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation
Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed
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Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed
the "eye" of the down guy anchor attached to the pole was buried
Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed, The conduit protecting the Frontier riser attached to Pole
Permanent abandoned service drops were observed on or near each of the following poles
A Frontier communication conductor attached is being strained by vegetation
Permanent abandoned service drops were observed on or near each of the following poles

Missing or damaged pole number tags were observed
Hand Hole not securely closed, and buried under dirt.
Vault Lid corroded and broken Manhole was flooded and under water.
Hand Hole not securely closed, and the chamber is full of dirt. Hand Hole not securely closed, and the chamber is full of dirt.

No.	Facility		Facility	
1	207295E		Pole	
2	S29322Y		Pole	
3	S17171Y		Pole	
4	4660254E		Pole	
5	S29323Y		Pole	
6	S27964Y		Pole	
7	S29324Y		Pole	
8	4890880E		Pole	
9	1189239E		Pole	
10	S29141Y		Pole	
11	S29140Y		Pole	
12	4538874E		Pole	
13	S29136Y		Pole	
14	S29137Y		Pole	
15	205064E		Pole	
16	2143989E		Pole	
17	GT137054		Pole	
18	4890145E		Pole	
19	4130512E		Pole	
20	2244781E		Pole	
21	1015386E		Pole	
22	1015385E		Pole	
23	1015391E		Pole	
24	1372074E		Pole	
25	GT116335		Pole	
26	S27861Y		Pole	
27	4830341E		Pole	
28	S27858Y		Pole	
29	S9303Y		Pole	
30 31	2244742E 4551311E		Pole Pole	
32	4919037E		Pole	
33	4919037E 4499508E		Pole	
34	1324174E		Pole	
35	1524774E		Pole	
36	2320659E		Pole	
37	2320658E		Pole	
38	T8617-		Pole	
39 1524199E		Pole	1010	Santa
40 1524198E		Pole		Santa
41 1523866E		Pole		Ellwood
42 1523867E		Pole		Ellwood
43 1523868E		Pole		Ellwood
44 1523869E		Pole		Ellwood
45 1523870E		Pole		Ellwood
46 1523871E		Pole		Ellwood

47 4421967E		Pole		Ellwood
48 1324565E		Pole		Ellwood
49 4733701E		Pole		Ellwood
50 1324563E		Pole		Ellwood
51 GT123535		Pole		Gaviota
52 GT115284		Pole		Gaviota
53 GT115282		Pole		Gaviota
54 GT103381		Pole		Gaviota
55 GT115281		Pole		Gaviota
56 GT132464		Pole		Gaviota
57 GT132465		Pole		Gaviota
58 FTR5745		Pole		Gaviota
59 GT103616		Pole		Gaviota
60 FTR11575		Pole		Gaviota
61 1481877E		Pole		Goleta
62 1481876E		Pole		Goleta
63 1481875E		Pole		Goleta
64 1481874E		Pole		Goleta
65 4403794E		Pole		Goleta
66 184859E		Pole		Goleta
67 455264E		Pole		Goleta
68 1323119E		Pole		Goleta
69 VZ10654		Pole		Goleta
70 VZ106441		Pole		Goleta
71 GT218180		Pole		Montecito
72 4340103E		Pole		Montecito
73 4371165E		Pole		Montecito
74 1015828E		Pole		Montecito
75 1868549E		Pole		Montecito
76 4340104E		Pole		Montecito
77 GT99463		Pole		Montecito
78 S26420Y		Pole		Montecito
79 S13749Y		Pole		Montecito
80 4340109E		Pole		Montecito
81 4476398		Pole		Montecito
82	1828903E		Pole	
83	1016513E		Pole	
84	107628E		Pole	
85	GT82939		Pole	
86	1481731E		Pole	
87	1324119E		Pole	
88	1828720E		Pole	
89	4753047E		Pole	
90	1828719E		Pole	
91	1828718E		Pole	
92	GT23870		Pole	
93	1524073E		Pole	

94	VZ106223	Pole
95	14839	Pole
96	GT13463	Pole
97	4493955E	Pole
98	4955666E	Pole
99	4493954E	Pole
100	4869169E	Pole
101	5875 Calle Real	Hand hole
102	5875 Calle Real	Handhole 17
103	5875 Calle Real	Handhole 19
104	4515 El Carro Ln	Manhole
105	4535 El Carro Ln	Manhole
106	4516 El Carro Ln	Manhole 155A
107	4515 El Carro Ln	Vault
108	4625 El Carro Ln	Manhole 154A
109	4655 El Carro Ln	Manhole 186A
110	1426 Begonia Dr	Flowerpot
111	1436 Begonia Dr	Handhole
112	1435 Begonia Dr	Flowerpot
113	1456 Begonia Dr	Flowerpot
114	4725 El Carro Ln	Pedestal
115	4615 Aragon Dr	Pedestal
116	4725 El Carro Ln	Manhole 153A
117	1474 Anita St	Pull box
118	1475 Anita St	Handhole
119	1478 Anita St	Handhole
120	1482 Anita St	Handhole

Location

Carpinteri Santa Santa

1

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Montecito

Montecito Montecito

Goleta

Goleta

Goleta

Santa

Santa

Santa Santa

Santa

Santa

Montecito	94
Montecito	95
Montecito	96
Montecito	97
Montecito	98
Montecito	99
Montecito	100
Goleta	101
Goleta	102
Goleta	103
Carpinteri	104
Carpinteri	105
Carpinteri	106
Carpinteri	107
Carpinteri	108
Carpinteri	109
Carpinteri	110
Carpinteri	111
Carpinteri	112
Carpinteri	113
Carpinteri	114
Carpinteri	115
Carpinteri	116
Carpinteri	117
Carpinteri	118
Carpinteri	119
Carpinteri	120