

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



March 26, 2024

SA2024-1116

Melvin Stark
Principal Manager, T&D Compliance Integration
Southern California Edison Company
1 Innovation Way
Pomona, CA 91786

SUBJECT: Substation Audit of Southern California Edison's Ventura Switching Center

Mr. Stark:

On behalf of the Electric Safety and Reliability Branch (ESRB) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Stacey Ocampo and Norvik Ohanian of my staff conducted a substation audit of Southern California Edison's (SCE) Ventura Switching Center from January 29, 2024 to February 2, 2024. The audit included a review of SCE's records and field inspections of SCE'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 April 26, 2024, by electronic or hard copy, of all corrective measures taken by SCE to remedy and prevent such violations.

Please note that ESRB will be posting the audit report and your response to our audit on the CPUC website. If there is any information in your response that you would like us to consider as confidential, we request that in addition to your confidential response, you also provide us with a public or redacted version of your response that can be posted publicly on our website.

If you have any questions concerning this audit, please contact Stacey Ocampo at (213) 266-4712 or Stacey.Ocampo@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
Stacey Ocampo, Utilities Engineer, Electric Safety and Reliability Branch, CPUC

AUDIT FINDINGS

I. Records Review

During the audit, my staff reviewed the following records:

- Map of the Ventura Switching Center AOR
- Listing of addresses of all substations in SCE Ventura AOR
- GO 174 Sub Inspection Program Summary 2022 Final Signed
- Section 6.9 Substation Inspections, of SCE's Operators Manual
- SCE Substation Policies and Procedures
- SCE Ventura Substation Inspector Training Records
- SCE Substation Inspection Records from December 2020 to November 2023
- Visual inspection checklist, substation equipment list, one-line diagrams and most recent electrical test for six selected substations
- Four most recent oil sample test results
- Pending and Completed Workorders for the year 2023
- Infrared testing for three selected substations in 2023

II. Field Inspections

My staff inspected the following facilities during the field portion of the audit:

No.	Substation Name	City
1	SATICOY	Saticoy
2	PIERPONT	Ventura
3	SAN MIGUEL	Ventura
4	GONZALES	Oxnard
5	CAMGEN	Camarillo
6	ONSHORE	Ellwood
7	ISLA VISTA	Goleta
8	COLEGIO	Isla Vista
9	SANTA BARBARA	Santa Barbara
10	MONTECITO	Santa Barbara
11	ORTEGA	Summerland
12	CARPINTERIA	Carpinteria
13	TAPIA	Malibu
14	RECLAIM	Calabasas
15	CRATER	Agoura
16	MALIBU	Agoura
17	OAK PARK	Thousand Oaks
18	THOUSAND OAKS	Thousand Oaks
19	PHARMACY	Thousand Oaks
20	NEWBURY	Conejo

III. Field Inspection - Violations List

My staff observed the following violations during the field portion of the audit:

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:

Saticov Substation

- The insulator on Highway 16 kV C-phase jack bus was chipped.

San Miguel Substation

- The 66/16 kV transformer bank no. 2 was leaking oil from the tank bottom valve.

Isla Vista Substation

- The 66 kV B-phase operating bus potential transformer had a very low oil pressure gauge reading.
- The no. 1 transformer bank 16 kV circuit breaker had a very low oil level indication.

Montecito Substation

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.
- The Miramar 4 kV step voltage regulator was leaking oil from the side cover.
- The 16/4 kV C-phase transformer was leaking oil under the radiator.

Ortega Substation

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.

Carpinteria Substation

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.

- The insulator on Sheffield 16 kV A-phase line side circuit breaker was chipped.

Crater Substation

- The Plateau 16kV line side circuit breaker had a very low oil level indication.

Malibu Substation

- A bird nest was found under the no. 2 bank 66 kV bus side circuit breaker A-phase current transformer.
- A bird nest was found under the Crater-Valdez 66 kV bus side circuit breaker C-phase current transformer.
- A bird nest was found under the no. 1 bank 66 kV transfer bus circuit breaker C-phase current transformer.

Oak Park Substation

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.
- One of the cooling fans on the North side of 66/16 kV transformer bank no. 4 failed to start as expected.

Pharmacy Substation

- The chemical hazard warning sign was missing at the entrance of the room where batteries are stored.

Newbury Substation

- The 66/16 kV transformer bank no. 1 (North unit) had an opaque and broken window for internal gas pressure gauge.
- The 66/16 kV transformer bank no. 1 (South unit) had an opaque and broken window for internal gas pressure gauge.