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August 23, 2023

## **DATA REQUEST RESPONSE**

### **LIBERTY UTILITIES (LIBERTY)**

Data Request No.: OEIS-P-WMP\_2023-LU-004  
Requesting Party: Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety  
Originator: Nathan Poon [Nathan.Poon@energysafety.ca.gov](mailto:Nathan.Poon@energysafety.ca.gov)  
Subjects: Q01. Transmission system inspections  
  
Date Received: August 18, 2023  
Due Date: August 23, 2023

**Q01. Regarding transmission system inspections:**

- a. On page 169 of Liberty's 2023 WMP, footnote 53 states that Liberty does not have a separate program for transmission inspections. Liberty's 94 miles of transmission lines are included in the distribution inspection program.
  - i. Describe how transmission inspections are included in the distribution inspection program.
  - ii. Describe any differences with the transmission inspection process compared to distribution, as applicable.
- b. For transmission detailed inspections:
  - i. Are overhead transmission detailed inspections performed on a 5-year cycle? If so, describe this process, including any timeline differences for HFTD. If not, explain why.
  - ii. Are approximately 20% of the transmission line miles inspected each year, or is the entirety of the transmission system inspected in one year, then again five years later?
  - iii. Are transmission line detailed inspections executed using the same checklists and/or manuals as distribution detailed inspections? If so, how does Liberty account for transmission-specific equipment?
  - iv. Are there different inspector qualifications required for transmission line inspections vs distribution line inspections? If so, describe such qualifications.
- c. For transmission intrusive pole inspections:
  - i. Are transmission intrusive pole inspections performed on a 10-year cycle? If so, describe this process, including any timeline differences for HFTD. If not, explain why.
  - ii. Are approximately 10% of the transmission poles inspected each year, or are the entirety of the transmission system poles inspected in one year, then again ten years later?
  - iii. Are transmission pole intrusive inspections executed using the same checklists and/or manuals as distribution intrusive inspections? If so, how does Liberty account for transmission-specific equipment?
- d. For transmission patrol inspections
  - i. Are transmission patrol inspections completed annually? If so, describe this process, including any timeline differences for HFTD. If not, explain why.
  - ii. Are transmission line patrol inspections executed using the same checklists and/or manuals as distribution- patrol inspections? If so, how does Liberty account for transmission-specific equipment?

**Response to Q01.:**

- a.
  - i. Transmission inspections are treated the same as distribution inspections and are included in the same inspection schedules.
  - ii. None.

- b.
  - i. Detailed transmission inspections are on a five-year cycle. There are no differences for HFTD zones. Liberty's detailed inspection program is compliant with GO 165 timelines for overhead inspections.
  - ii. Transmission is inspected during two of the five-year cycles. Transmission in North Lake Tahoe is inspected in one year of the inspection cycle and transmission in South Lake Tahoe is inspected in another year of the inspection cycle.
  - iii. Yes, the same checklists are used for transmission and include transmission equipment.
  - iv. No.
  
- c.
  - i. Yes, intrusive pole inspections are on a ten-year cycle. Liberty uses a third party contractor to perform intrusive pole inspections and urgent pole replacements are completed as soon as possible. There are no differences for HFTD zones. Liberty's intrusive pole inspection program is compliant with GO 165 timelines for overhead inspections.
  - ii. Liberty's transmission poles are rolled into the overall ten-year intrusive pole inspection schedule with the distribution system. The transmission intrusive pole inspections are not all conducted in one year and are spread out across the ten-year cycle
  - iii. Yes, the same checklists are used for transmission intrusive pole inspections and include transmission equipment.
  
- d.
  - i. Patrol inspections are completed on transmission annually except for years where those transmission lines are on the detailed inspection schedule. There are no differences for HFTD zones. Liberty's intrusive pole inspection program is compliant with GO 165 timelines for overhead inspections.
  - ii. Yes, the same checklists are used for transmission intrusive pole inspections and include transmission equipment.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at:

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