



April 12, 2024

Allen Berreth
Vice President of Transmission & Distribution Operations
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NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Mr. Allen Berreth:

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code section 326 and Government Code section 15475.1, the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) has conducted an inspection of work completed by PacifiCorp in accordance with its Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) and determined the existence of one or more violations. Energy Safety therefore issues PacifiCorp a Notice of Violation (NOV), identifying noncompliance with an approved WMP or any law, regulation, or guideline within the authority of the Office.¹

On August 8, 2023, Energy Safety conducted an inspection of PacifiCorp WMP initiatives in the vicinity of the city of Happy Camp, California. The inspection report is enclosed herewith. Energy Safety found the following violation:

Violation 1. Energy Safety observed that in implementing 2022 WMP initiative 7.3.3.7 – Expulsion Fuse Replacement, PacifiCorp failed to adhere to a required protocol of replacing expulsion fuses with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)-approved power fuses on pole ID 07116007.0112804 at coordinates 41.7969133438358, -123.380378228127. Energy Safety considers this violation for failure of completeness to be in the Minor risk category.

Response Options

Energy Safety may prescribe a timeframe for resolution of a violation associated with the assigned risk category.² Within 30 days from the issuance date of this NOV, the electrical corporation must provide a response advising Energy Safety of corrective actions taken or planned to remedy the above identified violation(s) and prevent recurrence. Alternatively, the electrical corporation must advise Energy Safety that it

¹ Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, section 29302(b)(2)

² Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, pp. 5-6

will not correct the violation, including the reasoning or justification for inaction and all supporting documentation.³

This response shall be filed in the Energy Safety e-Filing system under the 2022 NOV Docket⁴ and the associated file name(s) must begin with the NOV identification number provided above.

Pursuant to Government Code section 15475.4, if the electrical corporation intends to request a hearing “to take public comment or present additional information,” it must also do so within the 30-day timeframe. If a petition for hearing is not received by the deadline, then the determination and conditions set forth in this NOV become final.

Prior to its response or request for hearing, the electrical corporation may also request an informal conference with Energy Safety’s Compliance Assurance Division for the purpose of disputing any issues raised in this NOV no later than five (5) business days before the response deadline.⁵ Requests for informal conference with Energy Safety must be e-mailed to compliance@energysafety.ca.gov, with a copy sent to all Energy Safety Compliance Assurance Division staff identified in the NOV.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code section 8389(g), following receipt of the electrical corporation’s response to this NOV and resolution of any disputes, this matter may be referred to the California Public Utilities Commission for its consideration of potential enforcement action, as it deems appropriate.

Sincerely,

Patrick Doherty

Patrick Doherty

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Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

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³ Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, pp. 6-7

⁴ <https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/EFiling/DocketInformation.aspx?docketnumber=2022-NOV>

⁵ Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, p. 6

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INSPECTION REPORT

Overview

Inspection Categories

The Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) conducts inspections to verify the work performed by an electrical corporation as reported in an approved Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) or subsequent filing, and to assess general conditions of electrical infrastructure that may adversely impact an electrical corporation’s wildfire risk.

A Notice of Violation (NOV) is issued for any instances of noncompliance discovered during an inspection related to an electrical corporation’s execution of its WMP initiatives.

Correction Timelines

Violations must be corrected in a timely manner. Energy Safety may prescribe a timeframe for resolution of a violation. If Energy Safety assigns a risk category to a violation, an electrical corporation must correct the violation as required per the timelines provided in Table 1.⁶

Table 1. Risk Category and Correction Timelines

Risk Category	Violation and defect correction timeline
Severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immediate resolution
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 months (in High Fire Threat District (HFTD) Tier 3)• 6 months (in HFTD Tier 2)• 6 months (if relevant to worker safety; not in HFTD Tier 3)
Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 months or resolution scheduled in WMP update

⁶ Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, p. 5



Inspection Summary

Table 2 provides a summary of the selection of the WMP inspection location and initiative. Table 3 provides a summary of the violation(s) found during the inspection. Details regarding the inspection that identified the violation(s) are provided in the Inspections Details Section below.

Table 2: Inspection Location and Initiative Summary

Electrical Corporation:	PacifiCorp (PC)
Report Number:	PC_CAC9_20230808_0929
Inspector:	CAC9
WMP Year Inspected:	2022
Quarterly Data Report (QDR) Referenced:	Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 (Q3 & Q4)
Inspection Selection:	Energy Safety viewed the contents of the Q3 & Q4 QDR and performed an analysis that resulted in the selection of the WMP initiatives and locations referenced in this report.
Relevant WMP Initiative(s):	Expulsion Fuse Replacement (2022 WMP initiative number 7.3.3.7)
Date of inspection:	August 8, 2023
City and/or County of Inspection:	Happy Camp, Siskiyou County
Inspection Purpose:	Assess the accuracy of PacifiCorp's QDR data, completeness of its work, compliance with WMP requirements, and compliance with its protocols.

Table 3: WMP Inspection Violation(s)

Violation #	Structure ID	Lat/Long	HFTD	Initiative Number	Violation Type	Severity	Violation Description
Violation 1	07116007.0112804	41.7969133438358, -123.380378228127	Tier 2	7.3.3.7 – Expulsion Fuse Replacement	Completeness	Minor	Failure to replace expulsion fuses

Inspection Details

Violation 1:

Relevant Requirement:

PacifiCorp's WMP states the following regarding initiative number 7.3.3.7 – Expulsion Fuse Replacement on poles:

1. PacifiCorp defines expulsion fuse replacement as “[i]nstallations of new and CAL FIRE-approved power fuses to replace existing expulsion fuse equipment.”⁷
2. “PacifiCorp plans to replace all expulsion fuses located in HFTD Tier 3 and Tier 2 as part of a multi-year effort; this is a new program, developed based on feedback received in the [Resolution] WSD-017 [Energy Safety] Action Statement. This risk-informed strategy will fully address the risk ignition probability due to expulsion fuses in the HFTDs.”⁸

Finding:

On pole ID 07116007.0112804 at 5 Attebery St, Happy Camp, CA 96039, USA, 41.7969133438358, -123.380378228127, the inspector observed expulsion fuses on the pole. The inspector's observation is documented in Violation 1 photographs, which are attachments to this report. Photo numbers Item1GIimg1, Item1GIimg2, and Item1IA1img1 depict expulsion fuses on the subject pole where PacifiCorp reported installing non-expulsion fuses.

Energy Safety concludes that Violation 1 is Minor because of these facts:

1. PacifiCorp's WMP expulsion fuse replacement work was identified as complete at this location.
2. The subject pole is in HFTD Tier 2.
3. PacifiCorp failed to replace expulsion fuses with CAL FIRE-approved non-expulsion fuses.

⁷ PacifiCorp, “2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan,” Revised July 15, 2022. p. 280. [Online]. Available: <https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=52700&shareable=true>

⁸ PacifiCorp, “2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan,” Revised July 15, 2022. p. 177. [Online]. Available: <https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=52700&shareable=true>

Exhibits

Exhibit A: Photo Log

Structure ID: 07116007.0112804

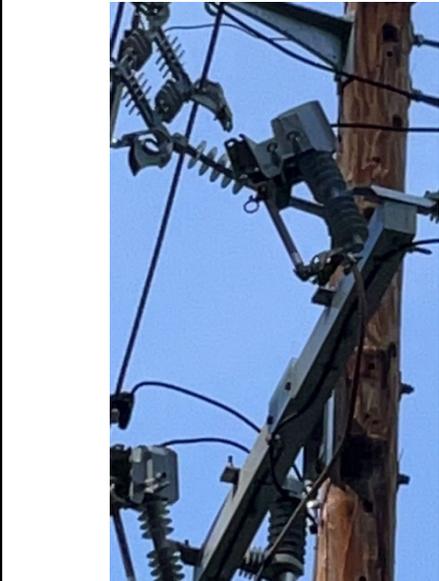
Violation 1



Item1G: Overall pole.



Item1G: Pole ID.



Item1IA1: Closeup view of expulsion fuses on subject pole.