

June 10, 2024

Allen Berreth Vice President of Transmission & Distribution Operations PacifiCorp 1700 NE Multnomah, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97232

### NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Mr. 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 2023 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.<sup>1</sup>

On May 23, 2024, Energy Safety conducted an inspection of PacifiCorp's WMP initiatives in the vicinity of the city of Fort Jones, California. The inspection report is enclosed herewith. Energy Safety found the following violation(s):

Violation 1. Energy Safety observed that in implementing 2023 WMP initiative 8.1.2.12 - Expulsion Fuse Replacements, PacifiCorp failed to complete Expulsion Fuse Replacement on pole ID 06243009.0028303 at coordinates 41.604880743129, -122.841787587528. Energy Safety considers this completeness violation 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.<sup>2</sup> 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 will not correct the violation, including the reasoning or justification for inaction and all supporting documentation.<sup>3</sup>

This response shall be filed in the Energy Safety e-Filing system under the 2023 NOV Docket<sup>4</sup> 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.<sup>5</sup> 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 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 Program Manager | Compliance Assurance Division Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety <u>Patrick.doherty@energysafety.ca.gov</u>

Cc: Megan Buckner, PacifiCorp <u>Megan.Buckner@pacificorp.com</u> Pooja Kishore, PacifiCorp

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, pp. 5-6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, pp. 6-7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/EFiling/DocketInformation.aspx?docketnumber=2023%20NOV</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup>

## Table 1. Risk Category and Correction Timelines

Risk Category	Violation and defect correction timeline				
Severe	Immediate resolution				
Moderate	<ul> <li>2 months (in High Fire Threat District (HFTD) Tier 3)</li> <li>6 months (in HFTD Tier 2)</li> <li>6 months (if relevant to worker safety; not in HFTD Tier 3)</li> </ul>				
Minor	12 months or resolution scheduled in WMP update				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, p. 5



State of California - A Natural Resources Agency OFFICE OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY 715 P Street, 20th Floor | Sacramento, CA 95814 916.902.6000 | www.energysafety.ca.gov Gavin Newsom, Governor

**Caroline Thomas Jacobs, Director** 

## **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			
Report Number:	PC_SIS_20240523_0916			
Inspector:	Samuel Isaiah			
WMP Year Inspected:	2023			
Quarterly Data Report (QDR) Referenced:	Quarter 4 (Q4)			
Inspection Selection:	Energy Safety viewed the contents of the 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 Replacements (2023 WMP initiative number 8.1.2.12)			
Date of inspection:	May 23, 2024			
City and/or County of Inspection:	Fort Jones, 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	06243009.0028303	41.604880743129, - 122.841787587528	Tier 2	8.1.2.12 - Expulsion Fuse	Completeness	Minor	Failure to replace Expulsion Fuse
				Replacements			

# **Inspection Details**

### Violation 1:

### Relevant Requirement:

PacifiCorp's WMP states the following regarding initiative number 8.1.2.12 - Expulsion Fuse Replacements on poles:

1. "This is a project to install new and CAL FIRE-approved non expulsion fuses including power fuses and current limiting fuses to replace existing expulsion fuse equipment with planned end date in 2024."<sup>7</sup>

#### Finding:

On pole ID 06243009.0028303 at 11724 Eastside Rd, Fort Jones, CA, 96032, USA, 41.604880743129, -

122.841787587528, the inspector observed that one of the fuses in place is a non-exempt expulsion fuse. The inspector's observation is documented in Violation 1 photographs, which are attachments to this report. Photo numbers Item6IA1Img1 and Item6IA1Img2 depict a non-exempt expulsion fuse.

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

- 1. PacifiCorp's WMP 8.1.2.12 Expulsion Fuse Replacement work was identified as complete at this location.
- 2. Energy Safety observed a non-exempt expulsion fuse.

# **Exhibits**

Exhibit A: Photo Log Structure ID: 06243009.0028303

Violation 1

