



June 14, 2024

Allen Berreth  
Vice President of Transmission & Distribution Operations  
PacifiCorp  
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## 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 15, 2024, Energy Safety conducted an inspection of PacifiCorp's WMP initiatives in the vicinity of the city of Weed, California. The inspection report is enclosed herewith. Energy Safety found the following violation:

Violation 1. Energy Safety observed that in implementing 2023 WMP initiative 8.1.2.1 – Covered Conductor Installation, PacifiCorp failed to provide accurate data in reporting that covered conductor was installed on pole ID 06242005.0357760 at coordinates 41.4468074024304, -122.38650391427. Energy Safety considers this data accuracy violation to be in the Minor risk category.

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<sup>1</sup> Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, section 29302(b)(2)

## 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](mailto: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  
Program Manager | Compliance Assurance Division  
Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety  
[Patrick.doherty@energysafety.ca.gov](mailto:Patrick.doherty@energysafety.ca.gov)

Cc:

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

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

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

<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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immediate resolution</li></ul>
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12 months or resolution scheduled in WMP update</li></ul>

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<sup>6</sup> 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 violations found during the inspection. Details regarding the inspection that identified the violations are provided in the Inspections Details Section below.

***Table 2: Inspection Location and Initiative Summary***

Electrical Corporation:	PacifiCorp (PC)
Report Number:	PC_CAC17_20240515_0912
Inspector:	CAC17
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 Initiatives:	Expulsion Fuse Replacements (2023 WMP initiative number 8.1.2.12) Line Rebuild Program - Covered Conductor Installation (2023 WMP initiative number 8.1.2.1)
Date of inspection:	May 15, 2024
City and County of Inspection:	Weed, 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 Violations**

<b>Violation #</b>	<b>Structure ID</b>	<b>Lat/Long</b>	<b>HFTD</b>	<b>Initiative Number</b>	<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Severity</b>	<b>Violation Description</b>
Violation 1	06242005.0357760	41.4468074024304, -122.38650391427	Tier 2	8.1.2.1 - Line Rebuild Program - Covered Conductor Installation	Data Accuracy	Minor	Inaccurate data provided on covered conductor installation

# Inspection Details

## Violation 1:

### Relevant Requirement:

PacifiCorp's WMP states the following regarding initiative number 8.1.2.1 - Line Rebuild program - Covered Conductor Installation on poles:

1. "Pacific Power's line rebuild program includes deployment of the following main techniques:  
**Reconductor with covered conductor:** Specialized overhead covered conductors can be constructed with additional shielding and enhanced insulating properties to aid in wildfire mitigation."<sup>7</sup>

Version 3.1 of Energy Safety's Data Guidelines states the following with respect to data submitted by an electrical corporation when reporting on its 2023 WMP initiatives:

1. "Electrical corporations must ensure location accuracy in their [geographic information system] data submissions..."<sup>8</sup>

### Finding:

On pole ID 06242005.0357760 on Belcastro Dr, Weed, CA, 96094, USA, 41.4468074024304, -122.38650391427, the inspector observed that covered conductor from the south terminated, and bare conductor extended to the north, whereas covered conductor installation was reported to continue farther to the north along this line. The inspector's observation is documented in Violation 1 photographs, which are attachments to this report. Photo numbers Item3GIimg1, Item3GIimg2, Item3IA2img1, and Item3IA2img4 depict the presence of covered conductor from the south terminating at the subject pole and bare conductor extending northward.

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

1. PacifiCorp's WMP Covered Conductor Installation initiative (8.1.2.1) work was identified as complete at this location and to the north.
2. The line of covered conductor installation was not completed to the north but instead terminated at this pole.

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<sup>7</sup> PacifiCorp, "2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigation," Feb. 22, 2024. pp. 140-141. [Online]. Available:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=56336&shareable=true>

<sup>8</sup> Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, "Data Guidelines, Version 3.1," Feb. 17, 2023, p. 10 [Online]. Available:



<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=53475&shareable=true>

# Exhibits

Exhibit A: Photo Log

Structure ID: 06242005.0357760

Violation 1

	
<p><b>Item3GImg1:</b> Pole ID.</p>	<p><b>Item3GImg2:</b> Overall pole.</p>





**Item3IA2Img1:** View to the north showing covered conductor ending at subject pole and bare conductor extending northward.



**Item3IA2Img4:** Wide view to the north beyond locked gate showing bare conductor continuing northward.