December 19, 2024

Shinjini Menon Vice President, Asset Management and Wildfire Safety Southern California Edison Company 2244 Walnut Grove Rosemead, CA 91770

#### NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Ms. Menon:

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 Southern California Edison Company (SCE) in accordance with its 2023 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) and determined the existence of one or more violations. Energy Safety therefore issues SCE 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 August 13, 2024, Energy Safety conducted an inspection of SCE's WMP initiatives in the vicinity of the city of Palmdale, 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 8.1.2.1.1 - Covered Conductor, SCE failed to complete covered conductor installation on Pole ID 2297288E, Grid Hardening ID TD1814478-2297288E, at coordinates 34.565135, -118.131614. Energy Safety considers this completeness violation to be in the Minor risk category.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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, 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

Program Manager | Compliance Assurance Division

Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

Patrick.doherty@energysafety.ca.gov

Cc:

Raymond Fugere, SCE

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

<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



## **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:	Southern California Edison Company				
Report Number:	CADSCE_CAC12_20240813_1110				
Inspector:	CAC12				
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):	8.1.2.1.1 Covered Conductor				
Date of inspection:	August 13, 2024				
City and/or County of Inspection:	Palmdale, Los Angeles County				
Inspection Purpose:	Assess the accuracy of Southern California Edison Company'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	Grid Hardening ID	Lat/Long	HFTD	Initiative Number	Violation Type	Severity	Violation Description
Violation 1	2297288E	7288E TD1814478- 34.565135, Tier 2 8.1.2.1.1 Covered	Completeness Minor	Covered conductor not				
		2297288E	-118.131614		Conductor	'		installed.

# **Inspection Details**

#### Violation 1:

### **Relevant Requirement:**

Southern California Edison Company's WMP states the following regarding initiative number 8.1.2.1.1 Covered Conductor:

 "[Southern California Edison Company (SCE)] has continued to install [Covered Conductor (CC)] per the previous filing, and is targeting 1,100, 1,050 and 700 miles in years 2023, 2024 and 2025, respectively."<sup>7</sup>

### Finding:

On Pole ID 2297288E, Grid Hardening ID TD1814478-2297288E, at 156 Mountainside Dr, Palmdale, CA 93550, USA, 34.565135, -118.131614, the inspector observed that no covered conductor was present. The inspector's observation is documented in Violation 1 photographs, which are attachments to this report. Photo numbers Item1IA1Img2 and Item1IA1Img3 depict that no covered conductor was installed at the location, additionally the photo number Item1IA1Img1 depicts crossarms on the ground left next to the pole.

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

- 1. Southern California Edison Company's 2023 WMP Covered Conductor (8.1.2.1.1) work was identified as complete at this location.
- 2. Covered conductor was not installed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Southern California Edison Company, "SCE 2023-25 Wildfire Mitigation Plan," October 26, 2023. p. 252. [Online]. Available: https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=55866&shareable=true

# **Exhibits**

Exhibit A: Photo Log

Structure ID: 2297288E

Violation 1



Item1GImg1: Overall Pole



Item1IA1Img1: Crossarms Next to Pole



Item1GImg2: Pole ID



Item1IA1Img2: No Covered Conductor Present

