

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Commission Order Instituting Investigation
Into Rates, Charges, Service and Practices
of Pacific Gas & Electric Company.

Investigation 95-02-015

Commission Order Instituting Rulemaking,
to Develop Standards for Electric System
Reliability and Safety Pursuant to
D96-09-073.

Rulemaking 96-11-004

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY'S (U 338-E)
ANNUAL REPORT OF 2020 DISTRIBUTION INSPECTIONS
SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO GENERAL ORDER NO. 165**

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Pursuant to Section III.D of the California Public Utilities Commission’s (“Commission”) General Order No. 165 (“GO 165”), Southern California Edison Company (“SCE”) respectfully submits its Annual Report of distribution inspections completed in 2020 (“Report”).¹

The data in this Report is based on information retrieved from SCE’s Work Management System (“WMS”) at different junctures during the year. SCE’s overhead and underground electric distribution system is large and dynamic. Equipment quantities, system configurations, and system conditions are continually changing as a result of many factors, including but not limited to: (1) customer-related issues or constraints, (2) weather and environmental conditions, (3) the addition and/or removal of equipment to accommodate new customer connections and load growth, (4) requests from customers, cities, and governmental agencies to relocate facilities, (5) the sale and/or acquisition of existing distribution systems, and (6) the retirement and

¹ See also Decision No. 97-03-070, Decision 12-01-032, and Decision 17-12-024.

replacement of aging plant. In addition, minor errors may occur in the entry of data into WMS. For example, a large amount of data is entered into WMS by linemen, troublemen, and other field personnel that work on our electrical system. Although these field personnel receive training on the field tools (such as laptop computers), virtually none of these individuals are experts or specialists in data entry. Moreover, due in part to the fact that over the many decades that SCE has served its customers SCE has inherited certain grid assets from other utilities, SCE may occasionally discover an asset that was not mapped into SCE’s records, and thus may not have full information regarding the asset.

Additionally, SCE continues to migrate to new software platforms for the field tools (laptop computers and tablets) used by field personnel to record and transmit inspection and maintenance information into the WMS. Those changes affected how data was created, utilized, and managed.

As a result of the above factors, the data in the WMS changes on a daily basis as new entries and corrections are made, and as assets are entered or removed from the system. Accordingly, a query to the WMS performed in the future will retrieve data that contains minor deviations from the data presented in the table below.

I.

SUMMARY OF SCE’S DISTRIBUTION INSPECTIONS
DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2020

SCE provides the following Summary Table in compliance with Section III.D of GO 165:

Type of Inspection (1)	Due (2)	Outstanding (3)	Completed (4)
Patrols by Grid	17,340	4	17,336
Streetlight Patrols by Equipment	493,782	160	493,622
Overhead Detailed by Poles	212,082	3,784	208,298
Underground Detailed by Equipment	179,255	15	179,240
Wood Pole Intrusive by Pole	3,759	264	3,495

Notes on the Summary Table

Column Number 1: Each inspection type is defined by the basis for actually reporting “units” of the inspection. Patrols account for each grid inspected, where a grid is a defined geographical area averaging about three quarters of a square mile. Streetlight patrols and underground detailed inspections account for each equipment and structure inspected. Cumulatively, intrusive pole inspections² and overhead detailed inspections account for each individual pole inspected.

Column Number 2: This column reports total inspections due in calendar year 2020 (the reporting period) and does not include outstanding inspections from prior years. Inspection records for years prior to 2020 are documented in SCE’s previous annual GO 165 reports, on file with the Commission.

Column Number 3: This column reports total inspections that were not completed in the reporting period. It does not include outstanding inspections from prior years. That information is documented in SCE’s previous annual GO 165 reports, as submitted to the Commission.

Column 4: This column reports all completed inspections for the reporting period for each program.

II.

DETAILS OF SCE’S DISTRIBUTION INSPECTIONS

DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2020

SCE includes below a narrative summary of the required GO 165 annual inspection performance data.

² Please see Section II.B.3 of this report for a more detailed description of SCE’s intrusive inspections.

A. Patrols

1. Grid Patrols (Urban and Rural)

As defined in GO 165, a patrol is a simple visual inspection of applicable utility equipment and structures. A patrol is designed to identify obvious structural problems and hazards. GO 165 requires annual patrols of applicable utility equipment and structures in urban areas and all high fire hazard areas, and biennial patrols in non-high fire rural areas. In 2020, SCE completed patrols on 17,336 urban and rural grids, which comprised 99.98% of its grids due for patrol type inspections. There was an outstanding count of four grid patrols that were not completed. The four outstanding grid patrols will be conducted in 2021.

2. Streetlight Patrols (Urban and Rural)

GO 165 requires annual patrols of all urban streetlights, and biennial patrols of all rural streetlights. In 2020, SCE patrolled 493,622 streetlights, which comprised 99.97% of its streetlights due for patrol inspection. There was an outstanding count of 160 streetlights that were not inspected due to various system issues, such as not having the complete set of data that is needed for the system to generate an inspection date for the asset. The 160 outstanding streetlight inspections will be conducted in 2021.

B. Detailed Inspections

Per the GO 165 requirements for specific types of equipment, SCE performs more extensive inspections when conducting detailed inspections on overhead and underground assets.

1. Overhead Detailed Inspections By Pole (ODI)

In 2020, SCE completed a total of 208,298 overhead detailed inspections of the 212,082 due in 2020, which comprised 98.2% of the 212,082 inspections due. Of the 212,082 inspections due, there was an outstanding count of 3,784 overhead detailed inspections by pole that were not inspected due to a combination of access and obstruction. The 3,784 overhead

detailed inspections will be conducted as soon as the various system issues are remedied, or the access/obstruction issues are resolved. As of the filing of this report 3,147 overhead inspections from 2020 are still pending. Please note that the overall completed ODI inspections conducted in 2020 by SCE was 369,259, which is more than 160,000 inspections beyond what was due in 2020.

2. Underground and Padmounted Equipment Detailed Inspections

In 2020, SCE completed 179,240 underground and padmounted equipment detailed inspections, which comprised 99.99% of its underground and padmounted equipment due for inspection. There was an outstanding count of 15 pieces of underground and padmounted equipment that were not inspected due to third-party constraints and other factors. The 15 underground and padmounted detailed inspections will be conducted as soon as the various constraints and other factors are resolved.

3. Wood Pole Inspections (Intrusive and Visual)

In 2020, SCE was able to continue the grid-based inspection program that it commenced in 2009. Under this program, we align our wood pole inspection cycles so that all poles located within the same grid share the same cycle. In other words, we perform intrusive inspections on all poles within a grid, not just those poles that happened to be due for intrusive inspection. As a result, in any given year the number of poles actually inspected will exceed the number of poles due to be inspected in the year.

A total of 3,759 wood poles were due for intrusive wood pole inspection in 2020. As a result of its grid-based inspection program, SCE completed many more inspections in 2020 than were due pursuant to GO 165 requirements: more than 97,000 actual intrusive inspections (boring-type inspections) and more than 27,000 visual inspections. A visual inspection includes sounding the pole using a tool such as a hammer and visually examining the pole rather than boring into the pole using a drill, which would be an intrusive inspection. Of the 3,759

inspections that were due in 2020, there were 264 outstanding wood pole inspections; these inspections were held up as a result of third-party constraints such as access or obstruction issues. The 264 intrusive pole inspections will be conducted as soon as the third-party constraints, such as access or obstruction issues, are resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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/s/ Gloria M. Ing

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July 1, 2021

VERIFICATION

I am the Managing Director for Transmission and Substations for Southern California Edison Company, and am authorized to make this verification on its behalf. I am informed and believe that the matters stated in the foregoing document are true.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 30th day of June, 2021, at Pomona, California.

/s/ Christine Fanous

Christine Fanous
Managing Director, Transmission and Substations
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY