

October 3, 2022

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## VIA EMAIL ONLY

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION STATE OF CALIFORNIA ATTN: WILL DUNDON – WILDFIRE SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT BRANCH 320 W FOURTH STREET SUITE 500 LOS ANGELES CA 90013

Re:	Fairview Fire	
	Date of Incident:	September 5, 2022
	Location of Incident:	South of the intersection of Fairview Avenue and
		Bautista Road, Hemet, California

## Dear Mr. Dundon:

In accordance with the reporting requirements set forth in Resolution E-4184, this letter supplements the notice Southern California Edison Company (SCE) provided to the Commission via the web-based reporting system on Monday, September 5, 2022 at 8:13 p.m., regarding the above-referenced incident. SCE is required to submit this information pursuant to Commission instructions, resolutions and the Public Utilities Code, and submits this report under Public Utilities Code Section 315.

On September 5, 2022, at approximately 3:37 p.m., a wildland fire named the "Fairview Fire" was reported in the vicinity of Fairview Avenue and Bautista Road, Hemet, Riverside County, California. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire), the agency leading the investigation, reported the Fairview Fire burned approximately 28,307 acres and resulted in the following damage to structures: single residences: 22 destroyed and 5 damaged; other minor structures: 14 destroyed and 3 damaged. Additionally, Cal Fire reported 2 fatalities and 1 injury to civilians, as well as 2 injuries to responding fire personnel. Suppression costs are estimated at \$38,850,000.

While the investigation remains ongoing, our information reflects that on September 5, 2022 at 3:29 p.m., the Sprague 12 kV Circuit out of Mayberry Substation relayed to a lock-out at Remote Automatic Recloser (RAR) 0139. The SCE first responder observed a fuse operated on BF08085 which is supported by Pole No. 4905500E.

Cal Fire investigators identified two areas of interest, one of which involved the location near a pole line associated with overhead utility facilities owned by SCE and Frontier Communications (Frontier). Cal Fire also identified a separate area of interest approximately 500 feet west of the pole line, which was cordoned off with yellow and red tape.

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The subject pole line was supported by Pole Nos. 220029S and 220028S. There were no downed conductors in the subject area. As part of its investigation, Cal Fire personnel requested removal of the overhead electrical and telecommunication facilities within the subject span. SCE cooperated with this request and on Monday, September 12, 2022, SCE personnel removed both No. 2 Aluminum Conductor Steel Reinforced (ACSR) overhead primary conductors, which were uncovered, 4 insulators, 2 crossarms, and a down guy wire from the subject span. Frontier also removed the telecommunication facilities and its down guy wire from the subject span the same day. All of the items removed at the request of Cal Fire were retained by Cal Fire.

The cause of the operations on RAR 0139 and BF08085 on September 5 has not been determined and may not be definitively understood until additional information is available, including information which can only be obtained through examination and testing of the material retained by Cal Fire investigators. Additionally, during the removal of materials, an SCE conductor and Frontier messenger exhibited what appeared to be signs of marks or damage. However, it is not known when this condition occurred or if these materials were impacted by the circuit activity that occurred on September 5, 2022, or whether they contributed to the ignition of the Fairview Fire.

While the damage to SCE facilities has not yet been tabulated, SCE identified 26 poles that required replacement.

Sincerely.

Bernice Cordero