December 2, 2019
201911516

VIA EMAIL ONLY

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ATTN: SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
320 W FOURTH STREET SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES CA 90013

Re: Maria Fire
    Date of Incident: October 31, 2019
    Location of Incident: South Mountain, Santa Paula, Ventura County

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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 Thursday, October 31, 2019 at 8:02 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 the report under Public Utilities Code Section 315.

SCE observed a broken pole and downed wire on overhead 4 kV distribution facilities owned, operated, and maintained by a private entity on an oil lease property located on South Mountain, near the reported origin of the Maria Fire. We have not found evidence to date indicating that SCE facilities served as an ignition point for the Maria Fire.

On October 30, 2019 at 3:25 a.m., the Rainbow 16 kV circuit out of Somis Substation was de-energized by opening the circuit breaker pursuant to a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) event. This activity interrupted utility power to the private electric facilities located on the oil lease property.

On October 31, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., SCE initiated power restoration activities and closed the circuit breaker on the Rainbow 16 kV circuit and proceeded with energizing the remaining sections by 6:05 p.m. Within 10 minutes of the latter step in the PSPS event, the Maria Fire was reported in the area of South Mountain. SCE is continuing to review the circumstances surrounding its re-energization of the Rainbow 16 kV circuit and the potential role, if any, that activity may have had on the ignition of the fire. SCE again de-energized the Rainbow 16 kV circuit at 6:36 p.m. due to the fire.
SCE facilities sustained damage as a result of this fire but, the total cost associated with this damage has not been determined as of the date of this report. The Maria Fire Incident update issued by Ventura County Fire Department and Cal Fire on November 5, 2019 indicated 4 structures were destroyed.

SCE is unaware of any injuries resulting from this incident.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Eric K. Coolidge