

June 5, 2020

202004843

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

RE: Date of Incident: May 7, 2020
Location: Near 154 Hollister Ranch, Gaviota, CA

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with the reporting requirements set forth in the 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, May 7, 2020 at 7:18 a.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.

According to the Santa Barbara County Fire Department (SBCFD), a brush fire identified as the Hollister Fire was reported in the Gaviota area of Santa Barbara County on May 7, 2020, at 2:17 a.m. Cal Fire and SBCFD personnel responded and were involved in the fire suppression activities with SBCFD identified as the agency leading the fire investigation. SCE understands that the Hollister Fire burned 156 acres of vegetation and forward progress had been stopped as of May 7, 2020. Based upon the information we have to date, we do not believe the Hollister Fire destroyed or damaged any structures.

Prior to the start of the Hollister Fire, at 1:52 a.m., the Concepcion 16 kV circuit out of Gaviota Substation relayed and locked out. SCE initiated a patrol of the circuit. SCE personnel observed the Hollister Fire at approximately 2:28 a.m. in the vicinity of Gaviota State Beach and Hollister Ranch. While patrolling the circuit, our personnel discovered damage to Pole No. 4832139E, which supported 3 conductors consisting of 4/0 copper on the Concepcion 16 kV circuit. The subject pole exhibited fire damage and was fractured at the ground line. Based upon a visual examination, the subject pole exhibited dry rot and the presence of termites at and below the ground line.

Repairs to SCE facilities consisted of replacing the damaged pole. The overhead conductors supported by the subject pole did not show need for replacement and were reused. However, during the repair work, a section of the south phase was damaged, which required replacement of 15 feet of 4/0 copper conductor.

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SBCFD has identified a general area of origin in the proximity of the downed pole. The cause of the fire is under investigation. SCE is investigating potential causes including weather conditions, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the system.

There have been no reports of injuries in connection with this incident. At this time, the total amount of SCE property damage has not been tabulated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bernice", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bernice Cordero