

Southern California Edison
2023-WMPs – 2023-WMPs

DATA REQUEST SET Cal Advocates - SCE - 2023 WMP - 09

To: Cal Advocates
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Job Title: Advisor
Received Date: 4/20/2023

Response Date: 4/25/2023

Question 08:

In section 8.1.2.3 - Distribution Pole Replacements and Reinforcements, on p. 260 of your WMP, SCE states:

SCE has historically had two major pole replacement programs, Deteriorated (Det) Pole Program and Pole Loading Program (PLP), to improve the safety and reliability of the electric grid. As part of the Det Pole Program, SCE intrusively inspects poles through the Intrusive Pole Inspection (IPI) Program... The PLP Program assesses the safety factor of a pole to identify instances that do not meet either GO 95 or SCE's internal requirements that exceed GO 95. Poles that do not meet these requirements are documented and scheduled for either repair or replacement.

- a) What is your normal inspection cycle (i.e., frequency) for the abovementioned Det Pole Program?
- b) What is your normal inspection cycle (i.e., frequency) for the abovementioned PLP Program?
- c) Please provide the following ages for poles that are scheduled to be replaced in 2023:
 - i. Average
 - ii. Median
 - iii. Minimum
 - iv. Maximum
- d) Please provide the following ages for poles that are scheduled to be repaired in 2023.
 - i. Average
 - ii. Median
 - iii. Minimum
 - iv. Maximum
- e) Please provide the following ages for poles that are scheduled to be replaced in 2024.
 - i. Average
 - ii. Median
 - iii. Minimum
 - iv. Maximum
- f) Please provide the following ages for poles that are scheduled to be repaired in 2024.
 - i. Average
 - ii. Median
 - iii. Minimum
 - iv. Maximum

Response to Question 08:

a) What is your normal inspection cycle (i.e., frequency) for the abovementioned Det Pole Program?

The Intrusive Pole Inspections (IPI) and the Pole Loading Program (PLP) are both related to helping ensure the structural integrity and safety of distribution poles, but they are distinct programs with different scope and objectives. The Det Pole Program addresses poles that require remediation due to noncompliant safety factor, pole deterioration, or other reasons and is not an inspection program, thus there is no inspection cycle. The Det Pole Program manages pole replacement notifications identified by SCE's various pole inspection and assessment programs, including the PLP and IPI Programs.

SCE's IPI Program is required by GO 165. GO 165 requires intrusive inspections for all poles by the time they reach 25 years in-service and then requires re-inspection at least once every 20 years. In 2009, SCE started to perform inspections on a "grid" basis to reduce travel time per inspection, as an efficiency measure and to normalize the number of inspections (and therefore replacements) required each year. SCE also began transitioning to a 10-year inspection cycle, which the Commission approved and is an industry best practice, that meets and exceeds GO 165 requirements. SCE completed its first grid-based cycle in 2018. Furthermore, the IPI Program is required to comply with Rule 44.2 of GO 95, which mandates that pole loads calculated in anticipation of additional construction incorporate the results of an intrusive inspection completed within the previous five years for wood poles older than 15 years.

b) What is your normal inspection cycle (i.e., frequency) for the abovementioned PLP Program?

PLP was a one-time field assessment program in operation between 2014-2022 and focused on assessing the load-carrying capacity of poles to help ensure they can safely support the weight of overhead lines, transformers, and other attached equipment.

c) Please provide the following ages for poles that are scheduled to be replaced in 2023:

i. Average; ii. Median; iii. Minimum; iv. Maximum

SCE interprets this question to be asking for the age of poles to be replaced in 2023 as part of the Det Pole Program. See below.

- i. Average – 54 years
- ii. Median – 58 years
- iii. Minimum – 1 year
- iv. Maximum – 103 years

d) Please provide the following ages for poles that are scheduled to be repaired in 2023.

i. Average; ii. Median; iii. Minimum; iv. Maximum

SCE interprets this question to be asking for the age of poles to be repaired in 2023 as part of the Det Pole Program. PLP guy repairs involve the design and installation or modification of guy wires. A Det Pole Program repair is a steel stub restoration method that extends the life of a deteriorated pole. See below.

- i. Average – 39 years
- ii. Median – 44 years
- iii. Minimum – 3 years
- iv. Maximum – 72 years

e) Please provide the following ages for poles that are scheduled to be replaced in 2024.

i. Average; ii. Median; iii. Minimum; iv. Maximum

SCE interprets this question to be asking for the age of poles to be replaced in 2024 as part of the Det Pole Program. See below.

- i. Average – 56 years
- ii. Median – 59 years
- iii. Minimum – 1 year
- iv. Maximum – 103 years

f) Please provide the following ages for poles that are scheduled to be repaired in 2024.

i. Average; ii. Median; iii. Minimum; iv. Maximum

SCE anticipates completing the remaining PLP guy repairs in 2023, thus zero PLP repairs are planned for 2024. Det Pole Program repairs have either not been identified yet or still need to be confirmed that it will be scheduled to be repaired in 2024.