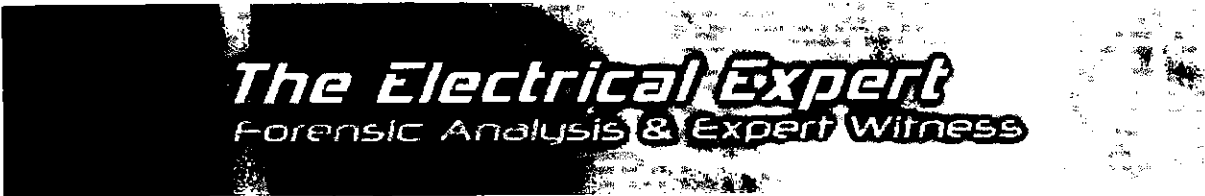


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3/12/08

Mahmoud (Steve) Antabli, P.E.
California Public Utilities Commission

Pursuant to your request today, I have outlined the following for you regarding the Witch Fire in San Diego, California.

Pole 416674 Found Carbon marke on inerior of yellow guy guard.
Found Arcing between Down Guy Anchor and Down Guy Cable.

Pole 416679 Found arcing between nut plate and galvanized Shield.
Found Arcing between the Down guy anchor eye and down guy cable.
This is the picture on the website where Fire started.

Pole 416689 Found Arcing on inside of galvanized cover. From Down guy cable.

Pole 416685 Arcing between Down guy anchor and Down Guy Cable.
Arcing between Galvanized Cover and Down Guy Cable.
Secondary location where Fire ignited.

Pole 416686 Cedar Fire, Carbon Resedue on yellow cover.
Ground Rod, wrong location.
Arcing between anchor and down guy attachment.

Additionally, I shared with you that the resolution to correnct this problem is to separate the down guys at the point of attachment as outlined in my report by 12" on the pole.

A secondary resolution is to stagger the down guys on adjacent poles. Still have all of the north Down guys located approx. every 3- 4 poles and stagger the South Down guys the same way just on different poles. The mechanical strenth and integrity would be the same. Le as follows:

(old)



(new)



The Electrical Expert

Forensic Analysis & Expert Witness

The poles are anchored in both directions due to the change in wind direction. The poles are anchored every 3 or 4 poles (spans), which is adequate to hold up the remaining poles. Consequently, staggering the anchors, is the same concept depending on wind direction. The supports will be adequate.

This memo should also serve to document my concern for the safety of the citizens in San Diego County. You indicated to me today that the investigation currently is in the hands of Cal Fire. I have been told that Cal Fire does not have any Utility Electrical Engineers qualified to review this scenario. Additionally you mentioned that the investigation is on hold resulting from the line currently being held under the jurisdiction of Cal Fire. The fire season is near and time is of the essence to correct this basic design error by SDG&E. Additionally, I understand SDG&E is attempting to deny and divert attention and suggesting my findings are unsubstantiated. Please note, the meeting I had with SDG&E attorney and employees fully understand the design problem.

The two options I have provided you are both in compliance with GO-95 and are very basic resolutions that should not cost 50k to complete all modifications and should not take more than 5-days.

I do understand the liability SDG&E faces, however public safety must come first. Should delays continue into the fire season and one more house burn down, or one more person gets hurt or dies resulting from SDG&E not taking responsibility and making immediate repairs to protect the public, combined with the red tape I am seeing in getting a very simple basic problem corrected, all involved should be held accountable personally, and liable for any future consequences to innocent families that have to rely on regulatory agencies to police the utilities.

I will not stand by and watch SDG&E hide behind pending litigation for a reason not to correct this problem. As I shared with you, I believe the evidence shows, and it appears to me that SDG&E had prior knowledge following the 2003 fires and chose not to fix in 2003 because of the liability of the Cedar and Paradise fire. If that is the case, then that decision resulted in repairs slipping through the cracks and causing the 2007 Witch Fire. Consequently, it appears to me that the catastrophic destructin in 2007 should have been prevented.

Please advise me on when your report will be final, so I can follow up. As of 3/11/08, there has not been any repairs made to date.

If delays continue and nobody will take charge, I would suggest calling a meeting on site with SDG&E, Ask Larry Davis (attorney for Sempra) to bring the three employees I met with along with inviting Cal Fire and anyone else who might have an interest in protecting the Public.

Please call me with any questions.



Ed Clark

Cc: Larry Davis (attorney for Sempra)
Jeff McDonald (Union Tribune, SD)

Pole 416686

Pole 416685

Pole 416684

Pole 416683

Pole 416682

Pole 416681

Pole 416680

Pole 416679

Pole 416678

Pole 416677

SDGE markers Pole 416676

Pole 416675

Pole 416674

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Google

