



Incident Investigations for Electric and Communication Facilities

Electric utilities must report electric incidents (accidents involving electric facilities), which meet any of the criteria below:

- A fatality or injury involving electric facilities.
- Damage to property of the utility or others in excess of \$50,000.
- Significant media coverage.
- A major outage to at least 10% of the utilities entire service territory is experienced at a single point in time.

In general, the electric utility must report these types of incidents to the CPUC within two (2) hours of their occurrence. ESRB investigates these incidents to enforce the CPUC's rules and regulations and to determine how we can limit the occurrences of such incidents in the future. ESRB produces an investigative report for each incident reported and investigated.

To request a copy of a report, please contact our Legal Division with a specific and focused request so that the records can be identified, located and retrieved our staff:

CPUC Legal Division Public Records Office

505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102

Fax: (415) 703-2262

Phone: 415-703-1366

public.records@cpuc.ca.gov

For more details about the reporting requirements, please see the excerpt from [Appendix B to D.06-04-055](#) and CPUC [Resolution E-4184](#).

ESRB Investigations

Larkin Substation Outage - On April 21, 2017, an equipment failure at Larkin Substation resulted in a fire and outage to the northern part of San Francisco, California. Larkin Substation is owned by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). The CPUC is currently investigating the root cause of the incident.

[\[Download the Outage Investigation Report by PG&E's consultant Exponent\]](#)

Historical Incident Statistics

Note: The data below was collected from our database through December 2017.

Total Number of Reported Incidents

The table below shows the total number of reported incidents by each utility per year.

Utility	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Communication Infrastructure Provider	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Bear Valley Electric	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3	3	2	2	13

Kirkwood Meadows Public Utilities (formerly Mountain Utilities)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Pacific Gas & Electric	83	44	49	57	77	103	115	82	50	33	79	772
PacifiCorp (Pacific Power)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	4	0	1	1	9
Souther California Edison	27	27	39	25	36	49	50	74	52	52	41	472
San Diego Gas & Electric	26	14	6	7	11	15	38	15	18	21	8	179
Liberty Utilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Transbay Cable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Yearly Total	136	87	95	92	124	167	206	182	123	110	134	1456

Total Number of Fatalities per Utility

The table below shows the number of fatalities that resulted from reported incidents for each utility.

Utility	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Communication Infrastructure Provider	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pacific Gas & Electric	5	6	4	7	4	4	6	4	9	6	5	60
PacifiCorp (Pacific Power)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Souther California Edison	5	3	3	4	8	7	6	11	5	7	3	62
San Diego Gas & Electric	4	2	1	0	0	3	2	1	1	1	0	15
Yearly Total	14	11	8	11	12	14	14	18	15	14	9	140

Total Number of Injuries per Utility

The table below shows the total number of injuries that resulted from reported incidents for each utility.

Utility	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Communication Infrastructure Provider	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Pacific Gas & Electric	9	12	9	6	11	12	11	14	15	6	10	115
PacifiCorp (Pacific Power)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Souther California Edison	12	15	20	16	16	18	16	24	19	12	13	181
San Diego Gas & Electric	5	4	2	0	3	5	3	3	2	3	1	31
Yearly Total	26	32	31	22	30	35	31	42	36	21	24	330

Total Number of Utility Incidents by Cause

The table below shows the total number of reported incidents sorted by cause for each utility.

Cause	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Equipment/Line Failure	35	18	36	28	55	49	76	52	26	29	33	437
Vehicle	14	6	9	8	10	17	19	15	7	14	10	129
Utility Work	22	24	23	19	27	31	39	41	34	16	17	293
Vegetation	11	11	7	9	8	10	15	16	13	11	25	136
Natural Cause	9	3	2	6	10	18	19	19	11	11	8	116
Excavation	12	8	2	4	2	11	3	3	7	3	2	57
Other	33	17	16	18	12	31	35	36	25	26	39	288
Yearly Total	136	87	95	92	124	167	206	182	123	110	134	1456