

Docket: : A.15-09-010
Exhibit Number : _____
Reference Number : ORA-02
Commissioner : L. Randolph
ALJ : J. McKinney
Witness : N. Stannik



**OFFICE OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Application of San Diego Gas & Electric
Company for Authorization to Recover
Costs Related to the 2007 Southern
California Wildfires Recorded in the Wildfire
Expense Memorandum Account (WEMA)**

ORA Supporting Timeline

San Francisco, California
October 3, 2016

1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2

3

I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.....1

4

II. ORA SUPPORTING TIMELINE.....2

5

III. REFERENCES7

6

7

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

2 This exhibit presents a supporting timeline of events and history related to the
3 2007 Southern California Wildfires. Please see Exhibit ORA-01 for the full
4 analyses and recommendations of the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA)
5 regarding San Diego Gas & Electric’s (SDG&E) Wildfire Expense Memorandum
6 Account (WEMA) Application.

7 This Exhibit focuses primarily on history and events discussed in ORA’s main
8 testimony (ORA-01). This timeline does not, and is not intended to, include all
9 events relevant to the 2007 wildfires.

10 All times are presented in 24-hour format. For example, 8AM is written as
11 08:00, 1PM as 13:00, and midnight as 00:00.

12 For simplicity and ease of use, terms such as “Witch Fire Pole” or “Guejito
13 Fire Pole” are used. These terms are meant to indicate the utility poles that are part
14 of the facilities allegedly involved in the ignition of the Witch and Guejito
15 wildfires.

16 The term “most recent” as used in this exhibit is meant as a comparison
17 relative to the time of ignition of the Witch, Guejito, and Rice fires.

18 ORA notes that, judging from Grid Control Center audio calls, the two events
19 at 15:24 and 15:25 on October 21, 2007 appear to be reversed. This discrepancy is
20 unconfirmed, but may be the result of error in time stamps.

1 **II. ORA SUPPORTING TIMELINE**

Date	Time	Description	Reference
1940		Original installation of Guejito Fire pole P112340	1
1949		Original installation of Rice Fire pole P213072	2
1959		Original construction of Witch Fire poles Z416675 and Z416676	3
Early 1990s		Witch Fire pole Z416676 replaced	4
2000		Witch Fire pole Z416675 cross arms replaced	5
August 2001		Cox Communications facilities attached to Guejito Fire poles P196394 and P196387	6
February 10, 2002		Tie Line (TL) 637 phase-to-phase fault	7
April 18, 2005		Most recent detailed SDG&E inspection of Guejito Fire pole P196387	8
November 8, 2005		Most recent SDG&E inspection of Witch Fire poles Z416675 and Z416676	9
February 24, 2006		Repair of Rice Fire pole P112340 slack anchor guy	10
June 18, 2007	13:00	Tree FF1090 inspected by Davey Tree inspector Mark Clemens, recommends trimming within 0-3 months and notes “remove direct overhang”	11,12
June 19, 2007		Witch Fire pole Z416674 replaced	13
June 20, 2007		US Forest Service Issues Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory	14
June 22, 2007		Most recent SDG&E detailed overhead inspection for Guejito Fire pole P196394	15
July 30, 2007		CalFire issues Fire Behavior Alert	16
August 30, 2007		SDG&E patrol inspection of Guejito Fire poles P196394 and P196387	17
September 1, 2007		Davey Tree receives full package of vegetation management work to be completed in Vegetation Management Area (VMA) 379, Rainbow 1 area, including Tree FF1090	18

October 15, 2007		Davey Tree Surgery General Foreman Jorge Orellana visits Tree FF1090, according to Davey Tree Surgery Data Request Response	19
October 18, 2007		3 months from June 18, 2007 tree FF1090 inspection date, which recommended trimming "within 0-3 months"	
October 19, 2007		SDG&E forester Chris Thompson and WECl forester Greg Peck visit FF1090 on route to outage to evaluate time and equipment request	20
October 19, 2007	09:58	Red Flag Watch Issued	21
October 21, 2007	03:00	High Wind Warning issued	22
October 21, 2007	04:45	Red Flag Warning issued	23
October 21, 2007	08:53	Tie Line (TL) 637 faults for the first time	24
October 21, 2007	09:05	SDG&E troubleman Ray Necochea dispatched to Santa Ysabel substation	25
October 21, 2007	09:30	Harris Fire ignites	26
October 21, 2007	09:57	SDG&E troubleman Ray Necochea on site at Santa Ysabel substation	27
October 21, 2007	11:22	TL637 faults for the second time	28
October 21, 2007	11:56	Call to send troublemen to Santa Ysabel and Creelman substations	29,30
October 21, 2007	12:01	SDG&E troubleman Ray Necochea dispatched to Santa Ysabel substation	31
October 21, 2007	12:07	SDG&E lineman Michael Higbee dispatched to Creelman substation	32
October 21, 2007	12:14	Julian Weather Station data reports 24 MPH winds with 43 MPH gusts	33
October 21, 2007	12:19	SDG&E Grid Control Operator James Minton reports that the peak electrical use is much lower than expected and plenty of generation is available	34
October 21, 2007	12:19	SDG&E troubleman Ray Necochea reports the third fault of TL637 while on the phone with grid control, says SDG&E is "going to have to get a patrolman out that way"	35,36

October 21, 2007	12:20	SDG&E lineman Michael Higbee on site at Creelman substation	37
October 21, 2007	12:23	Tie Line (TL) 637 faults for the third time	38
October 21, 2007	12:29	Witch Fire reported by CalFire Air Tanker Pilot Mike Venable	39
October 21, 2007	12:34	SDG&E troubleman Ray Necochea on site at Santa Ysabel substation, reports on phone that TL637 tripped twice during the last fault and says "ought to get them out here man"	40,41
October 21, 2007	12:35	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection dispatched to Witch Fire	42
October 21, 2007	13:11	SDG&E Transmission Construction & Maintenance Manager Bret Ball reports SDG&E Construction Supervisor John Hotta and SDG&E Fire Coordinator Bryan Crouch have been sent out to TL637 due to the fire	43
October 21, 2007	13:14	Bret Ball reports John Hotta in route to Santa Ysabel substation	44
October 21, 2007	13:15	Pilot of CalFire Tanker 82 reported that the Witch fire "blew up"	45
October 21, 2007	13:59	Bret Ball requests to turn off automatic reclosing on TL637 due to fire	46
October 21, 2007	14:46	San Diego County proclamation of local emergency in response to Witch and Harris Fires	47
October 21, 2007	15:24	John Hotta asks line TL 637 to be open	48
October 21, 2007	15:25	TL637 faults for the fourth time	49
October 21, 2007	15:27	TL637 reported open at both ends	50
October 21, 2007	16:43	TL637 opened per electrical switching order document	51
October 21, 2007	23:53	Ramona Airport station reports 35 MPH winds with 44 MPH gusts	52
October 22, 2007	00:45	Resident Tyson Short reports in writing to have seen a flashes near the origin area of the Guejito Fire	53
October 22, 2007	00:59	SDG&E equipment interruption between Guejito Fire poles P196387 and P196394 reported by SDG&E engineer Larry Hall	54

October 22, 2007	01:00	CalFire Battalion Chief Suzanne Todd witnessed an arcing power line and fire in route to the Witch Fire, later determined to be the Guejito Fire	55
October 22, 2007	03:15	Palomar Station data reports 13% relative humidity and 18 MPH winds with 24 MPH gusts	56
October 22, 2007	04:05	Resident Ed Jones reports the power went out and claims to have seen fire in both Specific Origin Areas of the Rice Fire	57
October 22, 2007	04:10	Resident Frank DeSilva reports sparks coming from the Specific Origin Area #2 of the Rice Fire	58
October 22, 2007	04:13	Valley Center Station reports 24 MPH wind with 47 MPH gusts	59
October 22, 2007	04:16	Rice Fire reported by resident Tom Davis	60
October 22, 2007	04:17	Conductors between Rice Fire poles P112340 and P213072 de-energized	61
October 22, 2007	06:30	CalFire Fire Captain Specialist Matthew Gilbert begins investigation of Witch Fire	62
October 22, 2007	11:30	SDG&E tree crew arrives at the Rice Fire ignition location	63
October 22, 2007	16:00	Tree crew instructed to remove undamaged portion of the sycamore tree FF1090 at Rice Fire ignition area	64
October 23, 2007		CalFire Fire Captain Specialist Matthew Gilbert begins investigation of Rice Fire	65
October 23, 2007	15:00	High Wind Warning expires	66
October 24, 2007		First repair made on the conductor between Rice Fire poles P112340 and P213072	67
October 24, 2007	18:00	Red Flag Warning expires	68
October 25, 2007	15:02	TL637 manually re-energized by Bret Ball	69
October 28, 2007		Rice Fire fully contained	70
October 31, 2007		Witch and Harris Fires fully contained	71
October 31, 2007		Second repair made on the conductor between Rice Fire poles P112340 and P213072	72
November 1, 2007		CalFire Investigator Gary Eidsmoe begins investigation of Guejito Fire	73

November 1, 2007		Date claimed by SDG&E by which FF1090 should have been trimmed	74
November 5, 2007	13:43	Conductor between Rice Fire poles P112340 and pole P213072 re-energized after reinstallation	75
November 12, 2007	06:50	Tie Line (TL) 637 faults	76
November 13, 2007		Date of Rice Tree FF1090 “exception” trim recorded on tree history form	77
September 2, 2008		Consumer Protection and Safety Division (CPSD) Investigations of Witch, Rice, and Guejito fires released	78
March 6, 2009		CPSD Supplemental Direct Testimony in Guejito Fire investigation	79
March 20, 2009		CPSD Supplemental Direct Testimony in Witch and Rice Fire investigation	80
May 18, 2009		Cox and SDG&E Testimony in Guejito Fire investigation	81
June 5, 2009		SDG&E testimony in Witch and Rice Fire investigation	82
June 8, 2007		CPSD Rebuttal Testimony in Guejito Fire Investigation	83
June 22, 2009		CPSD Rebuttal Testimony in the Witch and Rice Fire Investigation	84
August 31, 2009		Wildfire Expense Balancing Account (WEBA) Application Filed	85
April 26, 2010		Decision 10-04-047 approves Witch/Rice and Guejito settlement between CPSD and SDG&E	86
December 20, 2012		Decision 12-12-029 rejects WEBA Application	87
September 25, 2015		SDG&E Wildfire Expense Memorandum Account (WEMA) Opening Testimony filed	88
February 22, 2016		WEMA Prehearing Conference held	89
May 11, 2016		Opening comments filed on Threshold Issues in WEMA	90
October 3, 2016		ORA WEMA Testimony Filed on Phase 1 issues (reasonableness of SDG&E’s operation and management of its facilities prior to the 2007 Wildfires)	

1 III. REFERENCES

-
- ¹ SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0005001.TIF.
- ² SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0005001.TIF.
- ³ Prepared Direct Testimony of Darren Weim, p. 18, Table 1.
- ⁴ Weim Testimony, p. 18, Table 1.
- ⁵ Weim Testimony, p. 18, Table 1.
- ⁶ Prepared Direct Testimony of Greg Walters, p. 9, lines 14-16.
- ⁷ Direct Testimony of Gerry Akin in I. 08-11-007 (Guejito), p. 6, lines 17-21.
- ⁸ Weim Testimony, pp. 10-11, lines 22 and 1, respectively.
- ⁹ SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0000771.TIF.
- ¹⁰ SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0005001.TIF.
- ¹¹ SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0005023.TIF.
- ¹² SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0005024.TIF.
- ¹³ SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0000887.TIF.
- ¹⁴ CalFire "California Fire Siege 2007: An Overview," p. 15.
- ¹⁵ Weim Testimony, pp. 10-11, lines 22 and 1, respectively.
- ¹⁶ CalFire "California Fire Siege 2007: An Overview," p. 15.
- ¹⁷ Weim Testimony, p. 10, lines 18-20.
- ¹⁸ CalFire Investigation Report (Rice Fire), p. 17, lines 3-5.
- ¹⁹ Direct Testimony of Don Akau in I. 08-11-006 (Witch/Rice), p. 10, lines 5-8.
- ²⁰ Akau Testimony (Witch/Rice Oil), p. 10, lines 10-13.
- ²¹ Mesonet Environmental Database, Red Flag Warnings. See: <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/vtec/#2007-O-NEW-KSGX-FW-A-0007/USCOMP-NOR-200710191700>
- ²² Mesonet Environmental Database, Red Flag Warnings. See: <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/vtec/#2007-O-NEW-KSGX-HW-W-0011/USCOMP-NOR-200710211000>
- ²³ Mesonet Environmental Database, Red Flag Warnings. See: <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/vtec/#2007-O-NEW-KSGX-FW-W-0014/USCOMP-NOR-200710211145>
- ²⁴ SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0004397.TIF.
- ²⁵ Transcript of Examination Under Oath of Ray Necochea, February 18, 2010. Exhibit 050-468.
- ²⁶ CalFire "California Fire Siege 2007: An Overview," p. 20.
- ²⁷ Necochea EUO, Exhibit 050-468.
- ²⁸ SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0004397.TIF.
- ²⁹ SDG&E Grid Control Center Audio Recording (SDGE0208938_STM_jcampbel_datarequest_10-21-2007_19F.wav) provided in SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1. See also audio recordings call log "SDGE0246762-SDGE0246773.pdf."
- ³⁰ SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0246762-SDGE0246773.pdf
- ³¹ Necochea EUO, Exhibit 050-468, p. 4.
- ³² Necochea EUO, Exhibit 050-468, p. 4.
- ³³ CalFire Investigation Report (Witch Fire), p. 8, line 9.
- ³⁴ Control Center Audio (SDGE0208961_STM_jcampbel_datarequest_10-21-2007_1B6.wav)
- ³⁵ Control Center Audio (SDGE0208961_STM_jcampbel_datarequest_10-21-2007_1B6.wav)
- ³⁶ Control Center Audio (SDGE0208962_STM_jcampbel_datarequest_10-21-2007_1B7.wav)
- ³⁷ Necochea EUO, Exhibit 050-468, p. 4.

38 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0004397.TIF.

39 CalFire Investigation Report (Witch Fire), p. 2, lines 1-2.

40 Necochea EUO, Exhibit 050-468.

41 Control Center Audio (SDGE0208971_STM_jcampbel_datarequest_10-21-2007_1C0.wav).

42 CalFire Report (Witch Fire), p.2, lines 2-6.

43 Control Center Audio (SDGE0208994_STM_jcampbel_datarequest_10-21-2007_1D7.wav)

44 Transcript of Examination Under Oath of John Hotta, pp. 301-302, lines 25 and 1-2, respectively.

45 CalFire Report (Witch Fire), p.19, line 28.

46 Transcript of Examination Under Oath of James Minton, April 11, 2014, Exhibit 283-3499.

47 2007 San Diego County Firestorms After Action Report, page xiii.

48 Control Center Audio (SDGE0209039_STM_jcampbel_datarequest_10-21-2007_204.wav)

49 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0004397.TIF.

50 Control Center Audio (SDGE0209039_STM_jcampbel_datarequest_10-21-2007_204.wav)

51 Hotta EUO Transcript, Exhibit 044-360.

52 CalFire Investigation Report (Guejito), p. 8.

53 CalFire Report (Guejito), p. 40.

54 CalFire Report (Guejito), p. 16.

55 CalFire Report (Guejito), p. 3.

56 CalFire Report (Rice), p. 8, lines 1-7.

57 CalFire Report (Rice), p. 15, lines 20-25.

58 CalFire Report (Rice), p. 15, lines 13-16.

59 CalFire Report (Rice), p. 8, line 8.

60 CalFire Report (Rice), p. 11, lines 2-3.

61 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-08, Question 5.

62 CalFire Report (Rice), p. 11, lines 28-29.

63 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0005059.TIF.

64 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, Attachment SDGE0005059.TIF.

65 CalFire Report (Rice), p. 3.

66 Mesonet Environmental Database, Red Flag Warnings. See: <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/vtec/#2007-O-NEW-KSGX-HW-W-0011/USCOMP-NOR-200710211000>

67 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-08, Question 6.

68 Mesonet Environmental Database, Red Flag Warnings. See: <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/vtec/#2007-O-NEW-KSGX-FW-W-0014/USCOMP-NOR-200710211145>

69 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-05, Question 15.

70 CalFire "California Fire Siege 2007: An Overview," p. 67.

71 CalFire "California Fire Siege 2007: An Overview," p. 67.

72 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-08, Question 6.

73 CalFire Report (Rice), p. 11.

74 Akau Testimony (Witch/Rice Oil), p. 6, lines 7-11.

75 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-08, Question 5.

76 Necochea EUO, Exhibit 050-475.

77 SDG&E Response to ORA Data Request DR-02, Question 1, sequentially-numbered attachments SDGE0005023.TIF through SDGE0005025.TIF.

78 Various. See, for example: CPSD Investigation of the Rice Fire.

79 Supplemental Direct Testimony of the Consumer Protection and Safety Division (CPSD) in I. 08-11-007 (Guejito).

80 Supplemental Direct Testimony of the Consumer Protection and Safety Division (CPSD) in I. 08-11-006 (Witch/Rice).

-
- ⁸¹ Various. See, for example: Direct Testimony of Coxcom, Inc. and Cox California Telcom, LLC.
- ⁸² Various. See, for example: Direct Testimony of Don Akau.
- ⁸³ Rebuttal Testimony of the Consumer Protection and Safety Division (CPSD) in I. 08-11-007 (Guejito).
- ⁸⁴ Rebuttal Testimony of the Consumer Protection and Safety Division (CPSD) in I. 08-11-006 (Witch/Rice).
- ⁸⁵ Joint Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, Southern California Gas Company, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company. A. 09-08-020, filed August 31, 2009. See: <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/EFILE/A/106488.PDF>.
- ⁸⁶ Decision 10-04-047, issued April 26, 2010. See: http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/WORD_PDF/FINAL_DECISION/116945.PDF.
- ⁸⁷ Decision 12-12-029, issued December 28, 2012. See: <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M040/K674/40674698.PDF>.
- ⁸⁸ Various. See, for example: Prepared Direct Testimony of Don Akau.
- ⁸⁹ Various. See, for example: Post Prehearing Conference Statement of San Diego Gas & Electric Company. See: <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M161/K887/161887472.PDF>.
- ⁹⁰ Various. See, for example: Office of Ratepayer Advocates Opening Brief on Threshold Issues. See: <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M164/K176/164176070.PDF>.