

Proceeding No.: I.08-11-006  
Exhibit No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Witness: Greg Peck

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF**

**GREG PECK**

**SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY**

**(RICE FIRE)**

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
June 5, 2009**



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**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF  
GREG PECK  
SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY**

Q: Please state your name and title.

A: Greg Peck. I am an Area Forester at SDG&E. My detailed qualifications are appended to this testimony.

Q: Are you familiar with the sycamore tree in the Rice Canyon area with SDG&E Tree ID FF1090?

A: Yes.

Q: What is the purpose of your testimony in these proceedings?

A: I visited the site of tree FF1090 on October 19, 2007, along with Chris Thompson, an SDG&E Area Forester. I am providing testimony regarding that site visit.

Q: Who employed you as of October 19, 2007?

A: I was an Assistant Area Forester with Western Environmental Consultants, Inc. ("WECI"). I worked with SDG&E foresters to resolve customer refusals, evaluated and authorized time & equipment ("T&E") requests from SDG&E contractors such as Davey Tree Surgery and investigated outages. I also conducted field safety visits with SDG&E contractor tree crews. In October 2007, I was Chris Thompson's Assistant Area Forester.

Q: Can you describe the circumstances of the October 19, 2007 visit to the site of tree FF1090?

A: At the October 16, 2007 weekly meeting with Davey Tree Surgery, Davey Tree Surgery had requested that SDG&E consider paying T&E for Davey's trim of tree FF1090 (for trimming overhang). As indicated above, I was assigned as Chris Thompson's Assistant Area Forester at that time, and I attended weekly meetings with Davey Tree Surgery with Chris. When Chris and I were doing our quarterly ride-along on Friday, October 19, 2007, we decided to stop by tree FF1090 to evaluate Davey's T&E request. We parked just north of where the power lines cross the road and got out of the truck to walk along the road to view tree FF1090.

1 Q: Do you have any record of the site visit on October 19, 2007?

2 A: Yes, I recorded the site visit in my daily log for October 19, 2007. I am attaching  
3 a copy of my log as Exhibit 1 to this testimony. The entry regarding "VM 379 1548 Rice Cyn"  
4 on "Fri 10-19-07" refers to the site visit to tree FF1090.

5 Q: What do you recall regarding the T&E request from Davey relating to tree FF1090?

6 A: I recall that Davey Tree Surgery requested T&E for trimming the overhang and  
7 perhaps for traffic control.

8 Q: To your knowledge, was the October 16, 2007 weekly meeting with Davey the first  
9 time Davey raised the T&E request relating to tree FF1090?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: Was a determination made as a result of your site visit regarding Davey Tree  
12 Surgery's T&E request?

13 A: Yes. We determined that SDG&E would not pay T&E for trimming the slight  
14 overhang but would pay T&E for traffic control.

15 Q: When you observed FF1090 on October 19, 2007, do you recall noting any  
16 compliance concerns regarding tree FF1090?

17 A: No. I don't recall having any concerns about the tree when we observed it on  
18 October 19, 2007.

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1 **QUALIFICATIONS**

2 My name is Greg Peck. I am employed by San Diego Gas & Electric Company  
3 (“SDG&E”) as an Area Forester in the Vegetation Management Department. My business  
4 address is 8315 Century Park Court, CP22, San Diego, California, 92123. I have thirty-one years  
5 of utility forestry experience, ranging from experience in tree trimming (Asplundh Tree Expert  
6 Company), pre-inspections (Davey Resource Group), auditing/assistant forester (Western  
7 Environmental Consultants, Inc.), and now as an Area Forester at SDG&E. I am a Certified  
8 International Society of Arboriculture (“ISA”) Arborist and Utility Specialist (WE7880AU). In  
9 my current capacity as Area Forester, I manage all time & equipment (“T&E”) work performed by  
10 SDG&E’s tree contractors. I also manage all tree-related special projects that come from other  
11 departments in SDG&E (such as Districts, Land, and Construction Services).

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