

<b>TITLE</b> OPERATIONS MANUAL	<b>STANDARD</b> INSTRUCTION 02		<b>DEPARTMENT</b> FIRE
<b>SUBJECT</b> FIRE SUPPRESSION: VEHICLE ACCIDENT INVOLVING ELECTRICAL LIVE FRONT TERMINATORS	<b>SECTION</b> 31	<b>PAGE</b> 1 of 1	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> 12/06/2011

**I. PURPOSE**

To establish policies and procedures for Fire-Rescue personnel when responding to vehicle accidents involving pad mounted electrical equipment.

**II. SCOPE**

This policy shall apply to all SDFD Personnel.

**III. AUTHORITY**

The Fire Chief in coordination with the Assistant Fire Chief of Operations, Deputy Chief Shift Commanders authorizes the information within this policy.

**IV. POLICY**

A. Safety

1. Pad mounted electrical equipment (Green Box) are used throughout San Diego County in order to operate and supply underground equipment, structures and customers.
2. This pad mounted equipment is capable of handling electrical service wires which produce up to 12,000 volts (12Kv) of electricity
3. If a circuit is faulted, a protective relay will isolate the circuit and automatically try to re-energize or test the circuit two times. This occurs within the first 45 seconds of the initial fault.
4. If the relay is unsuccessful in restoring service to the circuit, a system operator might manually try to test or reenergize the circuit during system outage management procedures usually within the first ten minutes of the initial outage.

B. Emergency Procedures – Vehicle Accident

In the event Fire-Rescue crews are called to a vehicle accident incident involving a pad mounted electrical equipment, emergency procedures should include the following:

1. Assume all electrical lines are energized (hot), even if not arcing or sparking.
2. Contact Fire Communications Center (FCC) immediately to report that the incident involves a SDG&E pad mounted electrical equipment. When damage is reported and fire department units are at scene, system operators will stop all testing or potential re-energizing until an electrical trouble-shooter arrives on scene and makes contact with crews.
3. Secure scene and keep personnel a safe distance (10 feet) from damaged electrical equipment or vehicles in contact with damaged equipment
4. If a life safety is or rescue situation exists, extreme caution should be used in entering the scene until a qualified SDG&E electrical worker can de-energize the area and make the scene safe.

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5. If at all possible wait for SDG&E personnel to arrive prior to making contact with any vehicle that may be in contact with the equipment.