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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding  
Broadband Infrastructure Deployment  
and to Support Service Providers in the  
State of California.

Rulemaking 20-09-001

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY'S (U 338-E) PHASE III REPLY**  
**COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 9, 2021 ALJ RULING**

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Dated: **October 15, 2021**

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Pursuant to the procedural schedule set forth in Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Glegola's September 9, 2021 email ruling (Ruling), which relates to Phase III of this proceeding on the creation of a statewide open-access middle mile network, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) respectfully submits the following reply comments to Sonic Telecom, LLC's (Sonic) October 1, 2021 Opening Comments filed on October 1, 2021 on Topic 7 (Other Issues Not Covered). Regarding Topic 7, Sonic asserts that there are thousands of existing utility poles that are unsafe and that pole owners are not correcting the safety violations.<sup>1</sup> As a result, Sonic recommends that the Commission order pole owners to fix pole violations within 90 days of a request for access to a pole.<sup>2</sup>

Sonic's proposal is outside the scope of Phase III, which addresses the state's creation of an open-access, middle-mile network.<sup>3</sup> Further, the Commission should not adopt Sonic's proposal because it is based on an unsupported assertion that utility owners are not fixing safety violations and an incorrect assumption that the pole owners have caused and are responsible for the safety violations, as opposed to attachers who may have unauthorized attachments or

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<sup>1</sup> Sonic's October 1, 2021 comments, p. 13.

<sup>2</sup> Sonic's October 1, 2021 comments, p. 14.

<sup>3</sup> Pole Attachment Rules are being adjudicated in R.17-06-028, Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Requesting Comments on "One-Touch Make Ready" Requirements in California (March 9, 2021).

attachments that do not conform to General Order 95 or the utilities' safety requirements.

For the above reasons, the Commission should reject Sonic's recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

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*/s/ Gloria M. Ing.*

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