

1 **2- SUMMARY**

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3 The electrical service provided by the Southern California Edison Company
4 (SCE) to the area surrounding 1701 Martin Ranch Road was shut off causing disruption
5 in service sometime during the day on October 21, 2007. This was the result of strong
6 Santa Ana winds causing damage to a circuit requiring power shut-off while repairs were
7 made. During repairs there were periods of time when power was restored intermittently.
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9 On October 23, 2007, sometime between 12:30 a.m. and 12:45 a.m., Monica
10 Soares was inside her home at _____ located _____
11 1701 Martin Ranch Road. The lights in the room that Monica Soares was standing in
12 illuminated momentarily when power was restored, and then the lights went back out.
13 After the power went out, Monica Soares and her husband returned to their primary
14 residence next door at _____. As she pulled into the driveway she had
15 a view looking north, and there was no evidence of the fire, but the wind was blowing
16 hard. Upon entering her home and then looking out her north facing bedroom window,
17 she saw fire burning on the hillside in the direction of 1701 Martin Ranch Road, and she
18 called 9-1-1 to report the fire at about 12:55 a.m.
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20 According to SCE Claims Representative Paul Pimentel, at about 12:40 a.m., on
21 October 23, 2007, the circuit supplying electricity, in part to the conductor spanning
22 across a power pole in front of the dome house at 1701 Martin Ranch Road, was re-
23 energized after on-going repairs had been made by SCE to restore power to the area. The
24 R.A.R. Switch on the circuit sensed a fault, and the circuit opened shutting off the power.
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26 On October 23, 2007, at 12:55 a.m., the San Bernardino City fire / police dispatch
27 center received a 9-1-1 call from Monica Soares reporting the fire. A log entry at 12:57
28 a.m. on the dispatch record read "Edison also calling it in".
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30 I conducted the cause and origin investigation, and the cause of the fire was
31 determined by my investigation to be the result of an arcing conductor on the ground
32 igniting dried grass. My investigation placed the fire's origin was in front of 1701 Martin
33 Ranch Road next to SCE pole # 2137612E.
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