

## Curriculum Vitae – Maximo M. Fuentes



### **Maximo M. Fuentes**

Management Consultant and Expert Witness

4005 Manzanita Ave Suite 6 PMB 507

Carmichael, CA 95608 USA

Tel: (916)505-7298

Email: maxfuentes@icloud.com

Web: www.gridresources.net

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### **Summary**

- Served 31 years in the transmission and distribution electric power industry as a certified IBEW lineman, line foreman, retiring in 2015 as a Grid Assets Line Supervisor
- 18 years teaching and training high voltage electric power lineworkers in construction of overhead transmission and distribution power lines, as well as construction of underground distribution power lines
- Expert at applying OSHA 1910.269 standards, CAL-OSHA Title 8, and General Orders 95, 128, 165, 166, 174, and the NESC
- Master at developing, writing, and implementing skills training for powerline workers for low to high-voltage industry practices, work methods and guidelines
- Experience in developing and writing Hazard and Wildfire Mitigation Plans, for utilities and working as an independent third-party reviewer of plans
- Development and delivery of leadership and professionalism workshops for utilities and the IBEW
- Creation and maintenance of line work and safety procedures
- Experience staffing line crews, fault locators, and heavy equipment operators

### **Employment History**

#### **Max Fuentes Consulting and Expert Witness – Owner**

##### **2015 - present**

- Provide expertise for utilities developing work and safety procedures for all line construction tasks and maintenance
- Review existing construction standards and recommend updates and revisions
- Provide leadership and professionalism workshops for utilities and the IBEW Local 1245
- Develop, write and review Wildfire Mitigation Plans, risk assessments and opinions and also act as an Independent Third Party for reviewing plans

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- Recommend and training programs for new employees, develop apprenticeship programs for utilities
- Consult on legal and regulatory standards as they relate to the Electric Power Industry, including line construction, work methods, work practices, hi voltage linework training, and so forth
- Compose detailed expert witness reports and declarations
- Research and gather information in the following areas:
  - ◆ NESC, FED-OSHA, CAL-OSHA (Title 8), General Orders 95, 128, 165 and 174, and other, state, and local rules and regulations
  - ◆ Field investigations
- Involvement in trials, depositions and arbitrations
- Investigate and consult regarding accidents involving electrical utility systems:
  - ◆ Injuries and property damage
  - ◆ Personal Protective Grounding
  - ◆ Electric utility work methods
  - ◆ MAD (Minimum Approach Distance) violations
  - ◆ Underground Cable Identification violations
  - ◆ Product Liability
  - ◆ Insurance claims
  - ◆ Electrical contacts and electrocutions
  - ◆ Electrical contact by telecommunications workers

### **West Coast Utility Solutions - North**

#### **Owner, 2015 - Present**

- Represent various manufacturers who provide tools, equipment, and other products for the high voltage utility industry
- Territory includes Northern California, Western Nevada and Arizona.

### **Sacramento Municipal Utility District**

#### **Grid Assets Transmission & Distribution Line Supervisor – Business Operations**

##### **2002-2015 (retired)**

- **SMUD Power Academy** - Developed the business case and plan for SMUD's power line technical training business
- **Asset Management division** - Direct overhead and underground Line Maintenance crews
- Developed methods for and directed the maintenance of all SMUD's 69kV switches, distribution automated capacitor banks and reclosers
- Supervised business units within transmission & distribution services, meter and service, timekeeping, safety and training and crew scheduling

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- Maintained emergency on-call schedule for entire Line department and provided input on employee leadership and development plans and reports
- Managed, led and assisted Grid Assets T&D Engineering in the development of work procedures for the entire Grid Assets T&D Line Department
- Managed G.O. 165 implementation and maintenance work
- Managed line crews in completion of asset management work
- Developed line and system operations distribution automation procedures for smart grid implementation
- Prepared budgets and provided forecasting for business units
- Directed field forces and administrative personnel
- Developed pole climbing, rigging, Personal Protective Grounding, and transformer training manuals and curriculum
- Designed a portfolio of classes for pole climbing, live-line work, rigging, high-voltage line equipment and other T&D crafts related skills development
- Developed and implemented apprentice crew training curriculum and scheduling
- Served as lead developer of DS Line work procedures, including development, implementation, and distribution
- Managed subject matter experts and gathered their input for procedural development
- As a Maintenance Planner, field checked jobs prior to releasing for field crews to perform work
- As a Line Inspector, oversaw work performed by contractors installing and maintaining overhead and underground infrastructure
- Performed all Journeyman Lineman tasks in the field

### **Frontline Training – Technical Vocational Training -President**

**2000-2001**

- Developed business plan and financials for the development of training for telecommunications crafts workers

### **Trade Tech – Technical Vocational Training -President**

**1999-2000**

- Managed all aspects of day-to-day operations as multi-site owner
- Performed all aspects of business planning, forecasting, budgeting and marketing of business
- Developed written curriculum for crafts training including, pole climbing, rigging, basic electrical theory, transformer training, and so forth
- Managed finances: accounts payable/receivable, invoicing, insurance billing, and budgeting

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- Accredited by the Department of Consumer Affairs as an instructor and administrator of a post-secondary vocational school for the State of California

### **Northwest Linemans College - Vice-President**

**1997-1998**

- Managed day-to-day field training operations
- Taught field and academic courses
- Assisted in development of budget

### **H&H Utility contractors - Lineman**

**1996-1997**

- Performed duties as a high voltage lineman

### **Sacramento Municipal Utility District - Line foreman**

**1990-1996**

- Directed a 4-man line crew that installed and maintained the District's overhead and underground transmission, sub-transmission and distribution power line infrastructure
- Responded to emergency outage restoration calls
- Taught after hours' apprentice lineman night school:
  - ◆ Basic electricity
  - ◆ Transformer theory and applications
  - ◆ Design construction standards
  - ◆ Rigging
  - ◆ Design construction standards
  - ◆ General Orders 95 and 128
  - ◆ Map reading
  - ◆ Communications
  - ◆ Clearance and Authorizations
  - ◆ Safety procedures
  - ◆ Line work procedures
  - ◆ Basic math
  - ◆ Field application scenarios
  - ◆ High-voltage equipment and devices
  - ◆ High and low-voltage meters
- Provided training at SMUD's skills training facility for apprentice and pre-apprentice linemen to include:
  - ◆ Pole climbing
  - ◆ Framing and setting poles

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- ◆ Live-line work, rubber glove and hot sticks
- ◆ Transformer connections
- ◆ Rigging
- ◆ Field application scenarios
- ◆ High-voltage equipment and devices
- ◆ Terminating, splicing and fabricating medium voltage underground cable
- Performed wire stringing operations, as well as transmission work and tower and steel pole erection
- Accolades:
  - ◆ 3x International Lineman's Rodeo Municipal Champions
  - ◆ 2x International Lineman's Rodeo Top Contractor Champions
  - ◆ Multiple National Championships in Rubber Gloving and Hot Stick events.
  - ◆ 2x International Champion Pole Top Rescue

### **Sacramento Municipal Utility District - Lineman**

#### **1984-1990**

- Construct, install and maintain utility's electric power grid infrastructure\
- Performed all facets of construction for overhead and underground electric system
- Completed SMUD's 4-year IBEW-certified line apprenticeship program
- Performed essential job functions:
  - ◆ Climbing and working on wood and steel structures from 35' to 200'
  - ◆ Utilized aerial lift equipment
  - ◆ Installed and maintained utility's transmission and distribution electric power infrastructure
  - ◆ Performed overhead wire stringing operations and underground cable pulling
  - ◆ Dead-ended and clipped-in overhead power lines
  - ◆ Fabricated terminations, elbows and splices in underground equipment

### **Associations**

- ASSP (American Society of Safety Professionals)
- NFPA (National Fire Protection Association)
- Member of the IEEE – Consultants Network
- Member of the TDMMA steering committee 2013-2015 (Transmission Distribution Maintenance Management Association)

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### Presentations, Publications, and Videos

1. *“Crafting Local Hazard and Wildfire Mitigation Plans”*; T&D World Magazine - March 2019
2. *“Best Practices for Writing Safety Procedures”*; <https://www.tdworld.com/safety-and-training/best-practices-writing-safety-procedures>. August 2018
3. *“Leadership on the Ground – Essential Leadership Skills for Frontline Supervisors”*; November 2018, Idaho Power.
4. *“Leadership on the Ground – How to create a Professional Standard”*; Hold the Pull Summit, IBEW Local 1245 June 2018.
5. *“Protecting workers with personal grounds”*; T&D World Magazine April 2018
6. *“Essential Leadership Skills for Powerline Foremen and Frontline Supervisors”*; 2016 Incident Prevention Conference.  
<https://vimeo.com/user26980063/review/169283116/36c0ea93a9>
7. *“Essential Leadership Skills for Powerline Foremen and Frontline Supervisors”*; April 2016, City of College Station, Texas.
8. *“Succession Planning”*; TDMM conference 2015. Vancouver British Columbia.
9. *“We Want You to Be a Lineworker”*; From the March-April 2015 issue (Vol. 73, No. 2) of *Public Power* Originally published March 10, 2015. YouTube - <https://youtu.be/vpZabjTuMs4>
10. Presentation – *“Organizational and Cultural Change”*; *“Utility Managers Confront Challenges and Share Strategies at 2014 TDMM Conference”* T&D World Magazine, Oct 7, 2014.
11. *“Six Keys to Recruiting and Retaining Lineworkers”*; T&D World Magazine, Sept. 1, 2014.
12. *“SMUD Trains Linemen of the Next Generation”*; T&D World Magazine, Jul 28, 2014
13. *“Essential Leadership Skills for Line Foremen”*; 2013
14. *“The Complete Guide to Pole Climbing”*; 2006

### Education

- University of Phoenix–Sacramento, CA 2003 - 2005  
Bachelor of Science-Business Management
- California State University Sacramento–Sacramento, CA 1980 - 1981
- American River Community College–Sacramento, CA 1978 - 1980

### Certifications

- IBEW Journeyman Lineman
- Certified by BST (Behavior Science Technology) as a Behavior-based safety observer and steering committee facilitator.
- Certified High school athletic coach State of California

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