

Lightning Strikes – Twice!



- **Division 18 Night Crew Restores Power to Fuel Station**

By DANIELLE GROSSMAN

(Nov. 14, 2002) South Bay Division 18's night crew sprang into action November 7 when lightning struck two transformers, causing a power outage at its fuel station.

"There was a quick response," said Transportation Manager Ken Matsuno, "They got the fuel station up and running sooner than they expected."

The first transformer was hit at 11:55 p.m., creating an explosion of sparks. When emergency back-up systems failed, the night crew had to manually start the back-up system.

The division alerted the electric company, but was told it would take at least four hours to restore power. Equipment Maintenance Supervisors Matthew Dake and Miguel Valdivia went to work sending buses to be fueled at Arthur Winston Division 5.

Just as the South Bay crew got the fuel station's back-up systems started, lightning struck yet another transformer.

They got the fuel station running again shortly afterward, and were able to fuel buses. Only a few buses had to be fueled at Arthur Winston since the crew was able to get the fuel station running in just about three hours.

The electric company was able to get the power back on by about 4:30 a.m.

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