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Barry T. Smitherman
Commissioner



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Public Utility Commission of Texas

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June 5, 2006

Will and Debbie Burgess
101 Landmark
Kerrville, TX 78028

Re: Your Letter of May 31, 2006

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Burgess:

Thank you for your letter. I have also received lots of other correspondence from your part of the state related to this project. As yet, no proposal has reached my desk regarding this project. When it does, I will be unable to communicate, as a result of ex parte rules, with anyone other than in a publicly posted open meeting of the PUCT.

It is the rare transmission line project that is without opposition. While everyone wants low-cost, reliable electricity, no one wants a transmission line coming through their property or neighborhood. I expect that the Commission will tackle this project in a similar fashion to other such projects by analyzing all the various alternative routes presented. Historically, this Commission has focused on low costs (since transmission upgrades are paid for by all ratepayers), but we also look at other factors as well. I look forward to seeing the routes presented and the pluses and minuses of each when it comes to my desk. Thanks for your input.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry T. Smitherman".

Barry T. Smitherman
Commissioner



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