



Control Number: 37049



Item Number: 191

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Public Utility Commission of Texas

December 28, 2009

Dalton Stephens
P.O. Box 366
Mason, Texas 76856

Dear Mr. Stephens;

Thank you for your letter raising your concerns about the proposed LCRA line. Because the application for a CCN by the LCRA to build transmission lines will be filed here at the Commission, I have filed a copy of your letter and my response in Docket No. 37049.

LCRA originally developed several routes for the proposed transmission line in a study area within a narrow corridor from south of San Angelo to a location between Kerrville and Fredericksburg. Based on comments received during public meetings in the area, LCRA requested that it delay the application to expand the study area to include areas both north and south of the original study area to evaluate new potential routes. At an open meeting on September 24, the Commission approved this request, allowing LCRA to file its application by July 6, 2010. The expanded study area now includes larger parts of Menard and Mason Counties and areas along I-10. However, at this time, LCRA has not filed its application with the Commission, and has not indicated what routes, if any, it will propose within the expanded study area. LCRA will conduct more public meetings on the revised proposal in early 2010.

When LCRA files its application for the transmission line, the Commission, as required by statute, must consider various factors in its evaluation, such as the community, historical, and aesthetic values, and the environmental integrity associated with the transmission line. Commission rules also include other factors for consideration, such as whether the proposed routes utilize or parallel existing compatible rights-of-way, property lines or other features, and whether the routes conform to the policy of prudent avoidance. The Commission can also evaluate different ways to construct the lines, such as the use of monopole structures or lattice structures, regardless of what is proposed by the applicant, and weigh the costs versus the benefits in its decision.

I understand that this process can be difficult and emotional for landowners. That is why it is important that we follow the criteria listed in both statute and Commission rule. When making its decision, the Commission will evaluate the proposed routes based on these factors, and attempt to minimize the impact of the line on landowners and the cost of the line to ratepayers.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Barry T. Smitherman



Dec. 8, 2009

RECEIVED

DEC 11 2009

Chairman's Office

Dalton Stephens
P.O. Box 1366
Mason, Texas 76856

Mr. Barry Smitherman
Chairman, Public Utilities Commission of Texas
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

RE. Docket No. 37049

Dear Mr. Smitherman,

I live in Mason, Texas; I seerily hope that the power line will not be built through Mason Coent; and most of all not around the City of Mason. I am refering to CREZ power line to be ~~to~~ built by LCRA.

I hope that a route other than the one coming through Mason County and around the City of Mason will be chosen.

Do what you can to keep the line out of Mason, County and Around the City of Mason, Tx. .
Thanks.

Sincerely
Dalton Stephens