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SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-10-1097 DOCKET NO. 37448



APPLICATION OF LCRA TRANSMISSION SERVICES CORPORATION TO AMEND ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR THE GILLESPIE TO NEWTON 345-KV CREZ TRANSMISSION LINE IN GILLESPIE, LLANO, SAN SABA, BURNET AND LAMPASAS COUNTIES	<i></i>	PUBLIC UTILITY COMP	MISSION SOURCE TO AM	
COUNTIES, TEXAS	§		H 9: 34 LUMPHISSIUM LERK	ก ว

YATES AND BOUTLINTHOUSE'S RESPONSES TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST SET OF REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION TO ALL INTERVENORS

NOW COMES Jan Yates Boultinghouse, as the Independent Executrix of the Mack Yates Estate; Margie Ann Yates Estate; Jan Yates Boultinghouse, Individually, and Kenneth R. Boultinghouse (collectively referred to herein as "Yates and Boultinghouse") and files this, their Responses to Commission Staff's First Set of Requests for Information to All Intervenors. This Response is timely filed. Yates and Boultinghouse agree and stipulate that all parties may treat these responses as if the answers were filed under oath.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Boultinghouse

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Thomas M. Murray, hereby certify that a copy of this document was served on the propounding party (pursuant to Order No. 1) on this <u>i the</u> day of December, 2009, by electronic mail, facsimile and/or First Class U.S. Mail.

Thomas M. Murray

RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST SET OF REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION TO ALL INTERVENORS

Question BA-1-1:

Do you have a habitable structure (According to Subst. Rule 25.101, a habitable structure is a structure that is normally inhabited by humans or intended to be inhabited by humans on a daily or regular basis.) Near one or more of the links of the proposed transmission line? If so, describe the structure, identify the link(s) and estimate how far the proposed line is from the habitable structure?

Response: Yes. The primary residence of Intervenors, Jan Yates Boultinghouse and Kenneth R. Boultinghouse, is located near Link C-15. The primary residence is an approximate 10,000 square foot two-story stone ranch house, the original part of which was built in approximately 1850. The residence has 4 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms. The residence home which serves as the ranch headquarters and several related outlying structures, including two bunkhouses, a stone barn, corrals, pens and other similar improvements. The stone barn was constructed in the 1930's by the Works Progress Administration. The primary residence and related improvements are approximately 500 yards from proposed alternate route Link C-15 and approximately 1000 yards from the preferred route Link C-16 on the adjoining property.

Name of witness who will sponsor this answer and guarantee the truth of this answer: Jan Yates Boultinghouse.

Question BA-1-2:

Will one or more of the links of the proposed transmission line cross your property? If so, identify the links and any features like a property line, pipe line, power line or road that the proposed transmission line will follow through your property?

Response: Link C-15 will cross Intervenors' real property (hereinafter referred to as "Property"). The proposed link C-15 does not appear to follow any property line, fence, road, or pipe line as it traverses the Property. Although it cannot be discerned from LCRA's current maps, it is believed that Link C-15 may follow an existing electric distribution line which services the primary residence and improvements identified in Response fo BA-1-1 for a short distance. Accordingly, the majority of Link C-15 crossing the Property crosses pristine Hill Country environment, previously undisturbed by man-made obstructions.

Name of witness who will sponsor this answer and guarantee the truth of this answer: Jan Yates Boultinghouse.

Questions BA-1-3: Have you discussed any modifications to the proposed transmission line route on your property with a representative of LCRA TSC? If so, what were the modifications to the proposed route that you suggested and what was the response of the LCRA TSC?

Response: No. LCRA staff failed to return Intervenor, Jan Yates Boultinghouse's, phone calls.

Name of witness who will sponsor this answer and guarantee the truth of this answer: Jan Yates Boultinghouse.

Question BA-1-4: What are your specific concerns about the proposed transmission line?

Link C-15 crosses what is considered to be the most scenic and most highly valued Response: areas of the Property. The proposed Link C-15 crosses the best grazing lands located on the Property. Further, the proposed route of Link C-15 would destroy numerous ancient oak trees, virgin cedar motts, Indian mounds and the headwaters of Fall Creek. The ranch is home to an abundance of native wildlife, including white-tailed deer, Rio Grande turkey, coyote, both red and grey fox, bobcat, mountain lion, porcupine, and numerous species of raptors including hawks, owls and bald eagles. The construction of the proposed transmission line in the critical habitat of these animals will be Further, because the ranch is used to raise competition rodeo horses, the electromagnetic frequency poses significant danger to these horses. In sum, the transmission lines and supporting structures would destroy the pristine environment that has been so meticulously preserved by Intervenors. Intervenors have not had time to catalog, nor have they attempted to determine all of the various ways that the proposed transmission line will damage Intervenors' Property if it is located on Link C-15. Accordingly, this response is not intended to, nor should it be construed as an exhaustive list of the concerns raised by the proposed transmission line. Accordingly, Intervenors reserve the right to supplement this response at a later date.

Name of witness who will sponsor this answer and guarantee the truth of this answer: Jan Yates Boultinghouse.

Question BA-1-5: Did you attend any open houses represented by the utility concerning this proposed transmission line? If so, when and where? Did you provide written

comments to LCRA TSC at or after the open house?

Response: No.

Name of witness who will sponsor this answer and guarantee the truth of this answer: Jan Yates Boultinghouse.

Question BA-1-6: Are your property boundaries represented accurately on the maps provided by the utility? If not, please explain any discrepancies and provide a modified LCRA TSC map or drawing to indicate the discrepancies.

Response: No. The property is identified as two tracts (Tracts C15-047 and C15-049) by LCRA. Both Tracts C15-047 and C15-049 are affected by proposed Link C-15. The primary residence identified in Response BA-1-1 is located on Tract C15-049. The eastern boundary of the tract identified as C15-049 is incorrectly located on the LCRA TSC map. LCRA's maps reflect that Intervenors' property (C15-049) extends eastward to intersect with what is identified as Tract C16-040, near proposed location of Link C-16 on the preferred route. Intervenors' property does not extend to Tract C16-040. Please see the attached map marked as Exhibit A reflecting the boundaries of the Property.

Name of witness who will sponsor this answer and guarantee the truth of this answer: Jan Yates Boultinghouse.

Question BA-1-7: What is the primary use for your property and, in your opinion, will this use be impacted by the proposed transmission line?

Response: The primary use of the Property is as a working cattle ranch. The Property is also used to breed and raise competition rodeo horses. Additional uses of the Property include the enjoyment of and preservation of unique Hill Country ecosystems, including rare panoramic views uncluttered by man-made obstructions. The Property is used for bird-watching, fishing, hiking, horseback riding and other recreational activities. Hunting, in season, is also a frequent use, and a potential significant source of income. As noted in response to Questions BA-1-4, above, this unique environment will be severely damaged by Link C-15 of the proposed transmission line.

Name of witness who will sponsor this answer and guarantee the truth of this answer: Jan Yates Boultinghouse.

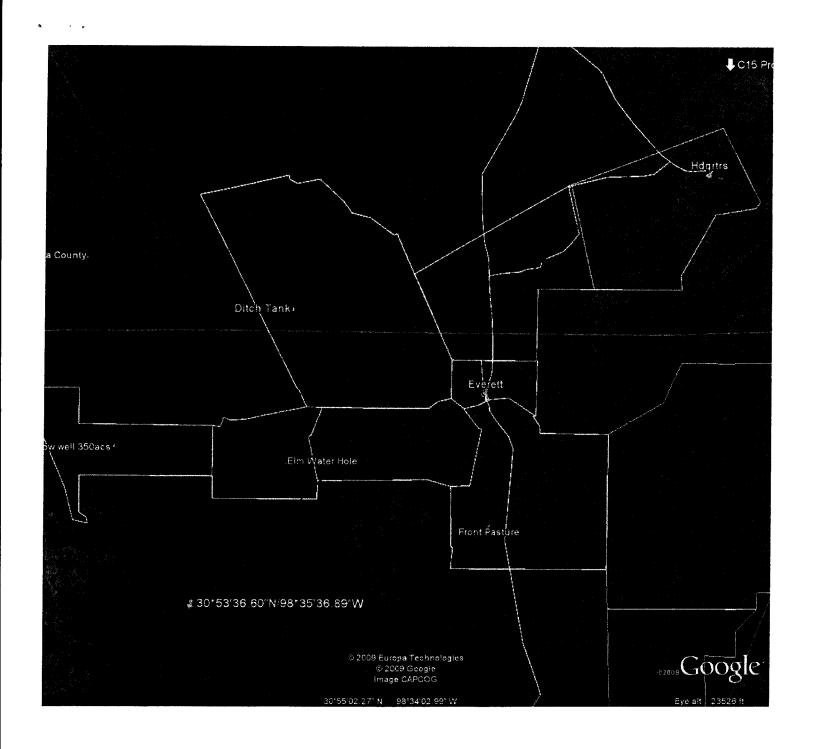
Question BA-1-9

[Sic out of sequential order]: In your opinion, is there any feature about your land that you believe should be considered when routing a transmission line on your property? If so, please explain.

Response: This land represents our family heritage and legacy. As mentioned in Response to Question BA-1-1, the ranch has important historical significance both to our family and the region. A portion of the ranch headquarters was constructed in approximately 1850 by some of the original settlers of San Saba County. The main ranch barn was built in the 1930s by the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression. The ranch is the primary location of many of the last cattle drives to leave Central Texas. Artifacts from these cattle drives are found throughout the ranch, including numerous findings from a blacksmith shop and camping area. Area families have

ancestors who recall working on this ranch and who can recall the stories of the cattle drives leaving this area. Accordingly, this ranch is a vital part of the local history and tradition of this area. Additionally, numerous Indian mounds and campgrounds have been located on the ranch. The ranch is located in a remote, isolated and untouched part of the state which has remained largely unspoiled by development of any kind. Rather than give in to the easy money of development, the owners of property in this area have instead vigorously defended this land from development. The property is one of the few remaining areas of the state with "natural darkness" and is free of both noise and light pollution. The topography of the ranch is both varied and beautiful. Our family has for generations taken a special sense of pride and responsibility in maintaining the integrity and character of the Property. As good stewards of the land, we are the original conservationists of this unique Property. This land should be preserved and protected rather than damaged, degraded and devalued by the proposed transmission line.

Name of witness who will sponsor this answer and guarantee the truth of this answer: Jan Yates Boultinghouse.



EXHIBIT_A_