



Control Number: 38230



Item Number: 788

Addendum StartPage: 0

PUC DOCKET NO. 38230
SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-10-4398

APPLICATION OF LONE STAR §
TRANSMISSION, LLC FOR A §
CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE §
AND NECESSITY FOR THE CENTRAL §
A TO CENTRAL C TO SAM SWITCH/ §
NAVARRO PROPOSED 345-KV CREZ §
TRANSMISSION LINE §

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS

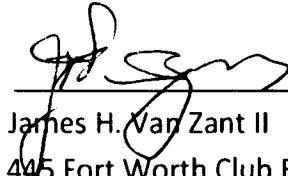
VAN ZANT FAMILY PARTNERSHIP'S ANSWERS TO COMMISSION
STAFF'S FIRST SET OF REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND ADMISSION
TO ALL INTERVENORS

James H. Van Zant II and James H. Van Zant III now file Van Zant Family Partnership's Answers and Responses to Commission Staff's First Set of Requests for Information to All Intervenor which filed with the Public Utility Commission on June 25, 2010 and hereby answers the Commission Staff's First Set of Requests for Information to All Intervenor as set forth herein and attached hereto and incorporated herein as if fully copied and set forth at length.

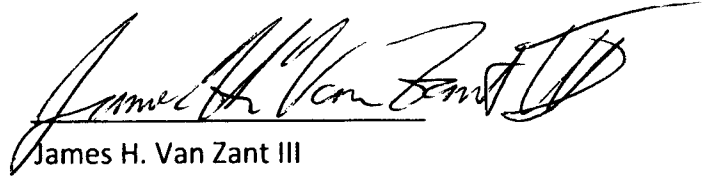
The answers and responses to Staff-1-1 through Staff-1-14 set forth below and contained herein were prepared by James H. Van Zant II and James H. Van Zant III

788

Respectfully submitted,



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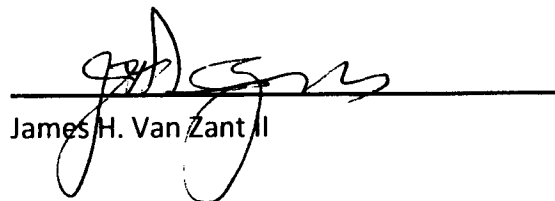


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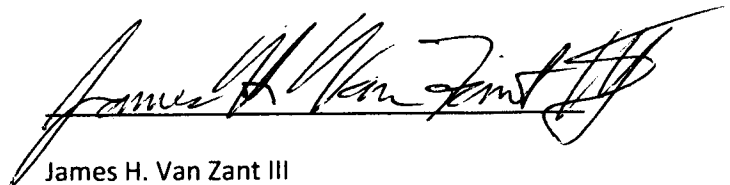
Stipulation under Oath pursuant to the P.U.C. PROC. R. Subchapter H § 22.144©,(2),(F). James H. Van Zant II and James H. Van Zant III as the responding parties and witnesses, hereby and they do stipulate and agree in writing that the Responses to the Commission's First Set of Requests for Information can and shall be treated by all parties as if the answers were filed under oath by them.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 29th day of June, 2010, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document is being served via U.S. mail or fax to all parties of record.



James H. Van Zant II



James H. Van Zant III

SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-10-4398

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COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST SET OF REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Staff-1-1 Do you have a habitable structure, as defined by P.U.C. SUBST. R. 25.101(a)(3), near one or more of the segments of the proposed transmission line? If so, describe the structure, identify the segment(s) and estimate how far the segments are from the habitable structure. P.U.C. SUBST. R. 25.101(a)(3) defines "habitable structures" as follows: "Structures normally inhabited by humans or intended to be inhabited by humans on a daily or regular basis. Habitable structures include, but are not limited to, single-family and multi-family dwellings and related structures, mobile homes, apartment buildings, commercial structures, industrial structures, business structures, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, and schools."

Response to Staff-1-1

Yes there are multiple habitable structures. There are 3 houses and 4 barns which are in use. These structures are directly north of tract 4-106A.001 on Link CC.

Staff-1-2 Does one or more of the segments of the proposed transmission line cross your property? If so, identify the segments and any features including but not limited to a property line, pipeline, power line or road that the segments follow through your property.

Response to Staff-1-2

Yes, the Link CC crosses the southern edge of the property, entering in tract 4-106A.005. It proceeds eastward through tracts 4-106A.002, 4-106A.004, 4-106A.003, and exits out the east side of tract 4-106A.001

Staff-1-3 Do any existing transmission or distribution lines cross your property? If so, please describe how and where they cross your property.

Response to Staff-1-3

An existing supply line brings electricity to the houses. It enters from the N/NE and dead ends on the north side of the houses.

Staff-1-4 Are any existing transmission or distribution lines visible from your property? If so, please describe from where the lines are visible, approximately how far away the lines are located and how the current lines affect your property, if at all.

Response to Staff-1-4

An existing supply line brings electricity to the houses. It enters from the N/NE and dead ends on the north side of the houses.

Staff-1-5 Do you currently have any windmills located on your property? If so, please describe the location of the windmills and how many are located on your property.

Response to Staff-1-5

NO

Staff-1-6 Are you aware of any directly affected landowner that did not receive notice of the proposed transmission line project from Lone Star? If so, please identify the landowner and describe as best possible the location of the property affected. A directly affected landowner is any landowner from which Lone Star would need to obtain an easement or other property interest if it built the transmission line using one or more of the segments of the proposed transmission line, or whose land contains a habitable structure that is within 500 feet of the centerline of one or more of the segments of the proposed transmission line.

Response to Staff-1-6

NO

Staff-1-7 Have you discussed any modifications to the proposed transmission line route on your property with a representative of Lone Star? If so, what were the modifications to the proposed route that you suggested and what was the response of Lone Star?

Response to Staff-1-7

NO

Staff-1-8 What are your specific concerns about the proposed transmission line?

Response to Staff-1-8

The Link CC crosses over property that is unspoiled and sheltered from any easements or development. The steep and rugged hills are very sensitive to erosion. Once started, it is very difficult to stop due to the shallow top soil depth. Any additional corrective action that would be required in the future would be expensive, technically demanding, and temporary. The route crosses at least ten of these fragile hillsides. The route passes through prime wildlife habitat that would prove difficult if not impossible to restore. This habitat is a sanctuary for much of the wildlife on the property. Trophy whitetails use the cover year round and will leave the area should it be compromised. Due to the fragile nature of the soil, any activity would create permanent damage to this habitat. With few areas that still exist in the unspoiled state, care must be taken to protect the few large tracts of land that remain. Areas that have already been exposed to development and modification along with less rugged terrain can be found to the south. Existing right-of-ways should be used to minimize the damage to the environment and property value. There is also an airstrip north of Link CC near the ranch house. The approach is perpendicular to the proposed power line making a hazard for any pilot using the airstrip. This strip has been in use for over fifty years. The form "5010 airport master record" has been filed with the FAA.

Staff-1-9 Did you attend any open houses presented by Lone Star concerning this proposed transmission line? If so, when and where? Did you provide written comments to Lone Star at or after the open house? If so, please provide them.

Response to Staff-1-9

Yes the open house held at the Old Jail Art Museum in Albany Texas in the fall of 2009. Lone Star requested a questionnaire be filled out and returned. It was returned on 10/21/09. Please refer to attachment #1.

Staff-1-10 Are your property boundaries for the property you own represented accurately on the maps provided by the Lone Star in its Application? If not, please explain any discrepancies and provide a modified Lone Star map or drawing to indicate the discrepancies. Online versions of the maps can be viewed at <http://www.lonestar-transmission.bgtpartners.com/open-house-materials.html>. In addition, Lone Star will provide hard copies of these maps at each location where its Application is available for public review (such locations are listed in Lone Star's notice) and will provide a hard copy to any party upon request.

Response to Staff-1-10

The map #18 on Lone Star's web site is an aerial map without any property boundaries displayed. Link CC crosses the southern edge of the property, entering in tract 4-106A.005. It proceeds eastward through tracts 4-106A.002, 4-106A.004, 4-106A.003, and exits out the

east side of tract 4-106A.001 The map has an illustration of a pipeline right-of-way crossing the property. That is our personal line and there are NO EASEMENTS on this property.

Staff-1-11 What is the primary use for your property and, in your opinion, will this use be impacted by the proposed transmission line?

Response to Staff-1-11

This property is an operating cow/calf ranch with supplemental income from wildlife. The damage to the natural habitat will cause permanent harm to the wildlife population. The ensuing erosion will prove to be a constant battle and expense for my family. The unspoiled condition of this ranch and my neighbor will be permanently and irreversibly harmed. With fewer large and undeveloped areas, care must be taken to preserve these treasures for our future generations.

Staff-1-12 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 to Staff-1-12

The rugged terrain in Shackelford county will increase the cost of construction of the transmission line. It will continue to prove costly through the years trying to minimize erosion. The steep hillsides with shallow soil are unstable and the damage is permanent. Fewer and fewer large areas of undeveloped land exists in its natural state. The increase demands society places on our natural resources makes these treasures more important every day. Regardless how unpopular it is to protect these areas, we need to do so for the generations that follow us.

Staff-1-13 Please identify all persons with an ownership interest in your property.

Response to Staff-1-13

The ownership of Van Zant Family Ptr. is: James H. Van Zant II, Carolan R. Van Zant, Elizabeth Van Zant Conner, Martha L. Van Zant, James H. Van Zant III, Robert R. Van Zant.

Staff-1-14 If the transmission line is routed on your property, please identify specifically the location that you would prefer for the right-of-way of the line. Use a map to show the location. Online versions of the maps can be viewed at <http://www.lonestar-transmission.bgtpartners.com/open-house-materials.html>. In addition, Lone Star will provide hard copies of these maps at each location where its Application is available for public review

(such locations are listed in Lone Star's notice) and will provide a hard copy to any party upon request.

Response to Staff-1-14

Due to the fragile nature of the terrain, the limited amount of large undeveloped and unspoiled acreage, there is no route across this property that would prove acceptable.

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**COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST SET OF REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS
TO ALL INTERVENORS**

Staff RFA 1-1: Admit or deny that you do not own or reside in a habitable structure within 500 feet of the centerline of any proposed transmission line route in this docket.

Admission to Staff RFA 1-1

Van Zant Family Ptr. does not own in a habitable structure within 500 feet of the centerline of any proposed transmission line route in this docket.

Staff RFA 1-2: Admit or deny that the property boundaries for the property(ies) you own are accurately represented on the maps provided by the Lone Star.

Admission to Staff RFA 1-2

The property boundaries represented on the map 18 provided by Lone Star are accurate for the edge of the property that is effected by Link CC only.