



Control Number: 38354



Item Number: 379

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Public Utility Commission of Texas

17 JUN 9:02

June 15, 2010

Ms. Martha H. Pollard
1013 High Pointe Dr.
Kerrville, Texas 78028

Dear Ms. Pollard:

Thank you for your letter raising your concerns about the proposed LCRA transmission line. I have filed a copy of your letter and my response in Docket No. 37049.

Texas is a leader in the development of renewable energy resources. Renewable energy reduces our dependence upon volatile commodities that raise the price of electricity. Our predominant renewable resource today is wind, and the best wind resources are located in West Texas and the Panhandle. Currently, there is insufficient transmission capacity to move wind-generated electricity out of West Texas, let alone increasing the amount of wind generation resources. Therefore, we must build high capacity transmission lines through parts of our state which before today may have had little to no transmission infrastructure. Building these lines will allow low-cost wind energy to flow more freely around the state, benefitting all customers, including customers in the Hill Country. Also, while wind is an intermittent resource, wind energy helps at all times of the day. In fact, Texas recently set a wind generation record on May 23 which occurred at around 5:00 P.M., in the middle of the afternoon "peak" when the most electricity is being used, providing a real benefit to the Texas electric market.

When LCRA files its application for the McCamey D to Kendall to Gillespie transmission line, the Commission, as required by statute, will consider various factors in its evaluation of the proposed routes, 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 avoid passing over habitable structures. The Commission can also evaluate different ways to construct the lines, such as the use of monopole or lattice structures, and will weigh the costs versus the benefits of different options in its decision. The Commission will weigh all these factors when deciding which of the proposed routes, if any, is the most appropriate.

I understand that this process can be difficult and emotional. Therefore, it very important that the Commission follow the criteria listed in both statute and Commission rules and seek 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



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RECEIVED

JUN 10, 2010

Chairman's Office

Martha H. Pollard
1013 High Pointe Dr.
Kerrville, TX 78028

June 8, 2010

Mr. Barry T. Smitherman, Chairman
Public Utility Commission
P. O. Box 13326
Austin, TX 78711-3326

Mr. Lance Wenmohs, Mgr.
Manager of Siting and Certification
LCRA
P. O. Box 220
Austin, TX 78767

Re: Opposition to 277/IH-10 Route for Transmission Lines

Dear Mr. Smitherman and Mr. Wenmohs:

The people of the cities "discovered" the pristine Texas Hill Country and have been rushing here for several decades, driving up our real estate prices. Now those same city people demand more energy and the "green" people pushed for those wind generators way, way out in West Texas. The problem is, of course, how to get that wind energy to the population centers that demand it. Despite the fact that the wind generates the energy during the day and that the energy arrives in the population centers way too late in the day to be of real benefit, the wind generators keep coming.

As if it were not bad enough that those wind generators have ruined the West Texas landscape, the people there put up with it because of the revenues it brings locally. The money is welcomed in their economically depressed area.

NO ONE HERE EVER DREAMED THAT AN I-10 ROUTE WOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR TRANSMISSION LINES. WHO ON EARTH WOULD DESTROY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL LIFELINE EVER SLICED THROUGH TEXAS? Those same city people, of course, who have no real investment in this area. Those are the same people that will go on to their next Santa Fe or Texas Hill Country-type environment, leaving us behind because their scenery was ruined. Figure out another route, please!

Sincerely,

Martha H. Pollard

Martha H. Pollard