

Control Number: 38577



Item Number: 104

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK
STATE OF TEXAS

PROCEEDING TO DETERMINE §
WHETHER TO MODIFY THE CREZ §
TRANSMISSION PLAN §

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

DAVID P. WILLIS

November 5, 2010

Q. Please state your name, address, and occupation.

A. My name is David P. Willis. My mailing address is 3605 Georgetown, Houston, Texas 77005. I am engaged in the practice of law.

Q. Do you have property that was affected by any of the alternative routes proposed by the LCRA in PUC Docket No. 37448 and that could be affected by this proceeding?

A. Yes. The Willis Ranch is my ranch that is situated in Lampasas and Burnet counties. Proposed Link C23, used in Route GN 1, would bisect my ranch in half.

Q. Were you a party to PUC Docket No. 37448?

A. Since November 12, 2002

Q. Did you participate in that proceeding?

A. Yes. I submitted direct testimony and was represented by counsel at the hearing on the merits the Commission's open meeting to consider the proposal for decision, and at the Commission's open meeting to deny the petition.

Q. Are you a party to the above-captioned proceeding?

A. Yes, I am an intervenor.

Q. Have you reviewed the analysis and findings of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas regarding the need for the proposed Kendall to Gillespie transmission lines?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you support the Commission adopting ERCOT's analysis and findings?

A. Yes.

1 **Q. Why?**

2 A. As I testified in Docket No. 37448, avoidance of constructing new power lines in
3 Lampasas and Burent counties would result in lower costs and less destruction of land
4 & natural habitat for local, indigenous flora and fauna; those lines would not cross into
5 the area of the Colorado River known as the Canyon of the Eagles where a large
6 number of Texas of Bald Eagles live, roost and other Bald Eagles winter; and would
7 preserve the beauty of Post Oak Falls along the banks of the Colorado River, an area
8 which is known for its remoteness and natural beauty and tranquility. Further, as I
9 testified in Docket No. 37448, most of the terrain over the C23 segment is very rough,
10 mostly tree covered hills & hills sides and consists of large areas of limestone
11 outcroppings, caves, huge & deep sinkholes and crosses two spring-fed year-round
12 creeks. Most of the C23 segment has no access roads. The value of the land stems from
13 its natural beauty and isolation. Further, due to the very rough area of the proposed line,
14 multiple access roads throughout the ranch would have to be built and maintained to
15 access many small segments of the line, as multiple canyons, cliffs would fragment the
16 line in multiple places. Such placement in the middle of the ranch would further destroy
17 the habitat and endanger a fragile ecosystem that our family has worked carefully to
18 manage. Photographs 1-30, annexed to and made a part of this testimony as
19 demonstrative evidence, show these features and conditions. ERCOT's
20 recommendation will preserve the land and respect private property rights in that land.

21 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

22 A. Yes.

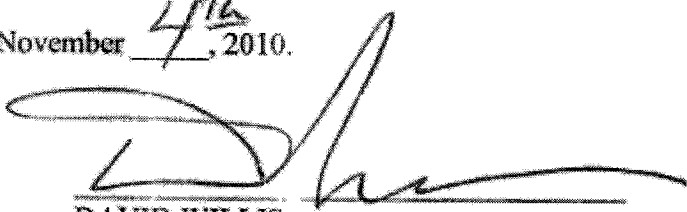
VERIFICATION

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF HARRIS §

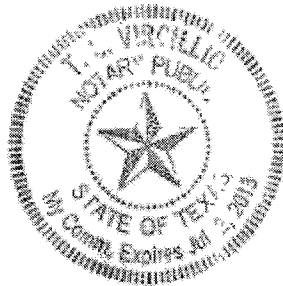
Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared DAVID WILLIS, the affiant, a person whose identity is known to me. After I administered an oath to affiant, affiant testified:


“My name is DAVID WILLIS. I am capable of making this verification. The foregoing direct testimony offered by me is true and correct and the opinions stated therein are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and correct.”

Sworn to and subscribed before me by on November 4th, 2010.



DAVID WILLIS




Notary Public in and for the State of Texas
My commission expires: 7-2-13