

Control Number: 38829



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Public Utility Commission of Texas Central Records Attn: Filing Clerk 1701 N. Congress Ave. P.O. Box 13326 Austin, TX 78711-3326



COMMENTS IN DOCKET NO 38829

SIRS:

WHILE WE DON'T OWN LAND ON ANY OF THE ROUTES PROPOSED BETWEEN WHITE DEER AND SILVERTON, WE SEE MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THE HISTORIC JA RANCH AS AN IMPORTANT COMMUNITY VALUE TO THE ENTIRE STATE OF TEXAS. EVERYONE IN TEXAS SHOULD KNOW THE STORY OF CHARLES GOODNIGHT—IT WAS THE BASIS FOR THE NOVEL LONESOME DOVE. THE JA IS THE RANCH HE FOUNDED. TODAY, WHEN WE DRIVE THROUGH THE JA ON THE COUNTY ROAD, WE CAN FEEL THE HISTORY OF THIS OLDEST RANCH IN THE TEXAS PANHANDLE. IN MANY WAYS, IT IS AS IT WAS WHEN FOUNDED IN 1876. WE KNOW THAT THE FIELD DAYS FOR RANCHERS AND SCHOOL CHILDREN THAT ARE HELD ON THIS RANCH ARE ENHANCED BY THE MAJESTY OF THE UNBLEMISHED VIEW. A TRANSMISSION LINE SUCH AS PROPOSED, WOULD MAR THIS HERITAGE OF OUR STATE.

IF YOU SAW THIS DRIVE, YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND. AS YOU COME OFF THE CAPROCK, YOU CAN SEE FOREVER AND THIS EXPANSE IS NOT SCAPED BY TRANSMISSION LINES, OIL WELLS OR OTHER SIGNS OF DEVELOPMENT. THERE ARE FEW VIEWS OF THIS QUALITY LEFT.

WE CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY THERE WAS NOT A LINE PROPOSED PARALLELING STATE HIGHWAY 207. WE KNOW THAT SHARYLAND PROPOSED SUCH A ROUTE BETWEEN HEREFORD AND WHITE DEER AND WE KNOW THAT THEY TESTIFIED THAT THE ROUTE WOULD NOT BE VISIBLE FROM MUCH OF 207.

IN ANY CASE ANY OF THE LINKS WEST OF II WOULD DAMAGE PART OF TEXAS'S GREAT CULTURAL HERITAGE.

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