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Public Utilities Commission of Texas Re: PUCT Project No. 40000 P.O. Box 13326 Austin, TX 78711

Dear Commissioner:

During these tough economic times throughout the United States, Texas has managed to be one of few economic bright spots. Texas has attracted new business and industry to the state despite the struggles of the rest of the country. Since 2009, 40 percent of all the jobs in America were created in Texas. This makes Texas one of the most desirable states to live and work in the country.

With a booming population and skyrocketing energy demand, the level of planning reserves forecasted by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) is projected to dwindle over coming years. The rise in population and demand for electricity in the state has drastically risen but yet little additional generation is being built.

In order for Texas to continue to grow energy reliability is imperative. If businesses cannot count on reliable and affordable energy they will not come to Texas. The threat of rolling brownouts and blackouts alone discourages new businesses and new industry from coming to Texas.

The Public Utility Council (PUCT) is currently considering reforms to the power market in order to avoid this impending energy shortage. The PUCT commissioned a comprehensive study that came to the conclusion that some form of a "capacity market" is needed in order to guarantee reliable energy. We must send the signal to businesses both in and out of Texas that the state is committed to maintaining electric reliability.

The use of capacity markets in other states has been largely successful and has led to long term reliability, encouraged consumers to conserve energy, and increased energy supplies. I strongly hope that Texas seizes this opportunity and continues to encourage the growth of new business and industry.

Sincerely,

Brenda Martinez Editor in Chief

CC: Governor Rick Perry