



Control Number: 41606



Item Number: 162

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Comments in Docket No. 41606

If you want to be a PROTESTOR only, please complete this form. Although public comments are not treated as evidence, they help inform the PUC and its staff of the public concerns and identify issues to be explored. The PUC welcomes such participation in its proceedings.

Mail this completed form and 10 copies to:

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

2013 AUG -5 AM 9:53
PUC Public Comment

First Name: SANTANA/ESTELLA Last Name: GUTIERREZ

Phone Number: 956-585-4650 Fax Number: _____

Address, City, State: 649 S. BENTSEN PALM DR.
MISSION, TEXAS 78572

I am NOT requesting to intervene in this proceeding. As a PROTESTOR, I understand the following:

- I am NOT a party to this case;
- My comments are not considered evidence in this case; and
- I have no further obligation to participate in the proceeding.

Please check one of the following:

- ☐ I own property with a habitable structure located near one or more of the utility's proposed routes for a transmission line.
- ☒ One or more of the utility's proposed routes would cross my property.
- ☐ Other. Please describe and provide comments. You may attach a separate page, if necessary. _____

We "PROTEST" the construction of Link 62b of the 345 KV transmission line through
the center of the City of Palmview, Texas. Please see the attached letter with a partial
plan of the City showing the route of Link 62b parallel to and over Bentsen Palm Dr.

Signature of person submitting comments:

Santana Gutierrez / Estella F. Gutierrez Date: 8-01-2013

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

July 28, 2013

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO PROTEST, PUC Docket No. 41606:
"CITIZENS AGAINST Link 62b OF THE TWO CIRCUIT
345,000 VOLT TRANSMISSION LINE THROUGH THE
CENTER OF THE CITY OF PALMVIEW, TEXAS"

Dear Sirs,

We, citizens and owners of properties in the City of Palmview, Texas, are adamantly opposed to the construction of Link 62b of the two circuit 345,000 volt transmission line that would run parallel to and over Bentsen Palm Dr. Bentsen Palm Dr is the main street that runs north to south right through the heart of the City.

There are already two existing 138,000 volt transmission lines that run north to south about 1,425 feet to the west and east sides of Bentsen Palm Dr. Link 62b of the proposed 345,000 volt transmission line would run parallel to the existing west transmission line, then run east to Bentsen Palm Dr, then turn south behind existing houses on the east side of the road. There are residential subdivisions, houses, and commercial buildings located all along the route of proposed Link 62b of the 345 KV transmission line. Construction of Link 62b would mean that there would be three high voltage transmission lines running parallel to each other a mere 1/4 mile apart.

From Veteran's Blvd (Mile 1 Rd) to the HCID#1 Canal, about 4,000 ft (0.75 mile), there are eight 75-80 ft poles on the west 138 KV line and nine 75-80 ft poles on the east 138 KV line. The new section of 345 KV line would need to zig-zag around existing residential subdivisions, individual houses and commercial buildings, and jump over the two existing 138 KV lines: this would require about 21-23 poles 145-150 feet tall. This would result in a virtual forest of 75' to 150' tall steel poles right in the center of town. Not only would this present an unsightly and unhealthy environment, it would seriously depress residential and commercial property values in this important part of the City.

Link 62b would also effectively stop new residential and commercial development on about 80 acres of prime land on both sides of Bentsen Palm Dr from Expressway 83 to the HCID #1 Canal. All this would critically erode the residential and commercial tax base of Palmview, Texas. See the attached partial plan of the City showing the location of existing 138 KV transmission lines and the proposed Link 62b 345 KV transmission line from Veteran's Blvd (Mile 1 Rd) south to HCID #1 Canal.

At a glance you can see that there are already 17 transmission line poles: and 23 new huge 150 ft poles would mean that in an area $1/2 \times 3/4$ miles, with Bentsen Palm Dr in the middle, there would be 40 transmission line poles in the center of town. That would just devastate the part of town where there is already a bank, federal credit union, several residential and commercial subdivisions, homes & restaurants all along Bentsen Palm Dr.

Bentsen Palm Dr is not only the main street north to south through Palmview, it is also the main access from Expressway 83 to Bentsen State Park, the World Birding Center, and the National Butterfly Center south of Palmview. These three entities are the principal areas for camping, nature hiking, and bird & butterfly watching in the Rio Grande Valley area of South Texas. It is just inconceivable that you would even contemplate constructing a section of a two circuit 345 KV transmission line along such a critical and vital piece of road.

Construction of Link 62b through the center of town is unthinkable. Why should the City of Palmview and its citizens suffer the ruin of the City skyline and loss of property values, especially when the new transmission line is intended to only benefit other cities and the customers of Sharyland Utilities? How can you even contemplate doing that? We simply cannot allow that to happen. You must choose a route that does not run through such an important and growing urban area of Palmview.

My wife and I own part of Lot 55, Bentsen Groves Subdivision, Addition "D" and Link 62b is projected to run through our property right behind our house along the east side of Bentsen Palm Dr. We have plans to open a residential subdivision to the back of our property. Now that plans are underway for the installation of a sewer line on the east side of the road we can start planning development of our property. Construction of Link 62b of the 345 KV transmission line through our property would just ruin us. We simply cannot accept that.

Sincerely,


Santana Gutierrez


Estella F. Gutierrez

1 Attachment – Partial Area, City of Palmview, Texas

OVERSIZED MAP(S)

TO VIEW OVERSIZED MAP(S)
PLEASE GO TO
CENTRAL RECORDS

FOR ANY QUESTIONS
PLEASE CALL **CR** MAIN LINE
(512) 936-7180