

Agency Correspondence Table					
Agency Contact Information	Consultation Type (Issued/Received)	Date Consultation Issued	Date Consultation Received	Comments	
<b>City of McAllen - Mayor</b> The Honorable Richard Cortez P.O. Box 220 McAllen, TX 78505-0220	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Mercedes - City Manager</b> Mr. Ricardo Garcia P.O. Drawer 837 Mercedes, TX 78570-0837	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Mercedes - Mayor</b> The Honorable Henry Hinojosa P.O. Drawer 837 Mercedes, TX 78570-0837	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Mission - City Manager</b> Mr. Julio Cerda 1201 E. 8th Street Mission, TX 78572	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Mission - Mayor</b> The Honorable Norberto Salinas 1201 E. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street Mission, TX 78572	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Palmhurst - City Manager</b> Ms. Lori A. Lopez 4417 N. Shary Rd. Palmhurst, TX 78753	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Palmhurst - Mayor</b> The Honorable Ramiro J. Rodriguez, Jr. 4417 N. Shary Rd. Palmhurst, TX 78753	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	

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Agency Contact Information	Consultation Type (Issued/Received)	Date Consultation Issued	Date Consultation Received	Comments	
<b>City of Palmview - City Manager</b> Mr. John V. Alaniz 400 W. Veterans Blvd. Palmview, TX 78572	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Palmview - Mayor</b> The Honorable Jorge G. Garcia 400 W. Veterans Blvd. Palmview, TX 78572	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Penitas - City Administrator</b> Mr. Noe H. Cavazos P.O. Box 204 Penitas, TX 78576	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Penitas - Mayor</b> The Honorable Marcos Ochoa P.O. Box 204 Penitas, TX 78576	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Pharr - City Manager</b> Mr. Fred Sandoval P.O. Box 1729 Pharr, TX 78577-1729	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Pharr - Mayor</b> The Honorable Leopoldo Palacios P.O. Box 1729 Pharr, TX 78577-1729	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Progreso - City Administrator</b> Mr. Alfredo Espinosa P.O. Box 699 Progreso, TX 78579	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	

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Agency Contact Information	Consultation Type (Issued/Received)	Date Consultation Issued	Date Consultation Received	Comments	
<b>City of Progreso - Mayor</b> The Honorable Omar Vela P.O. Box 699 Progreso, TX 78579	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Progreso Lakes - Mayor</b> The Honorable O. D. "Butch" Emery P.O. Box 760 Progreso Lakes, TX 78579	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of San Juan - City Manager</b> Mr. J.J. Rodriguez 709 S Nebraska San Juan, TX 78589	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of San Juan - Mayor</b> The Honorable San Juanita Sanchez 709 S. Nebraska San Juan, TX 78589	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Weslaco - City Manager</b> Mr. Leonardo Olivares 255 S. Kansas Ave. Weslaco, TX 78596	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>City of Weslaco - Mayor</b> The Honorable Miquel D. Wise 255 S. Kansas Ave. Weslaco, TX 78596	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>County Agencies - Hidalgo County Irrigation/Drainage Districts</b>					
<b>Red Sands Groundwater Conservation District</b> Mr. Armando Vela President P.O. Box 229 Linn, TX 78563	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	

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Agency Contact Information	Consultation Type (Issued/Received)	Date Consultation Issued	Date Consultation Received	Comments	
<b>Delta Lake Irrigation District</b> Mr. Troy Allen	Phone memo	-----	05-03-12	Requested additional information before the district could provide input.	
<b>Donna Irrigation District Hidalgo Co. #1</b> Ms. Nora R. Zapata General Manager P.O. Box 775 Donna, TX 78537-0775	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Hidalgo County Drainage District #1</b> Mr. Godfrey Garza General Manager 902 N. Doolittle Edinburg, TX 78540	Letter/Email/ Email	03-20-12	03-27-13/ 04-5-13	Received the system map and shapefiles for the Hidalgo County Drainage District #1.	
<b>Hidalgo County Irrigation District #1</b> Mr. Bobby R. McDaniel General Manager P.O. Box 870 Edinburg, TX 78540-0870	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Hidalgo County Irrigation District #13</b> Mr. Jim Hoffman General Manager 1601 Westway Ave. McAllen, TX 78501-4254	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Hidalgo County Irrigation District #16</b> Mr. Tito Nieto General Manager P.O. Box 1044 Mission, TX 78573-0017	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	

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Agency Correspondence Table					
Agency Contact Information	Consultation Type (Issued/Received)	Date Consultation Issued	Date Consultation Received	Comments	
<b>Hidalgo County Irrigation District #2</b> Mr. Sonny Hinojosa General Manager P.O. Box 6 San Juan, TX 78589-0006	Letter/Email	03-20-12	04-03-12	Included a map of district. Indicated a utility crossing permit (form located on website HCID2.org) is needed to cross any of their easements or ROW.	
<b>Hidalgo County Irrigation District #5</b> Mr. Archie Miles General Manager 1414 Woodland Dr. Weslaco, TX 78596-3445	Letter/Phone memo	03-20-12		Indicated the agency could not comment on the project without routes. Expressed concern about the impacts of the project on irrigation district.	
<b>Hidalgo County Irrigation District #6</b> Mr. Cornelio Morales General Manager P.O. Box 786 Mission, TX 78573-0013	Letter/Phone memo	03-20-12		Indicated the project would need to avoid irrigation canal ROWs. Requested detailed maps with routes to provide additional comments.	
<b>Hidalgo County MUD 1</b> Mr. Jeremiah Martin Operator 7400 W. Expressway 83 Mission, TX 78572-9527	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Hidalgo County WID #3</b> Mr. Leo Montalvo Director 900 N. Main St. McAllen, TX 78501-3856	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Hidalgo County WCID #18</b> Mr. Ken Dejarnett General Manager 2500 S. Bentsen Palm Dr. Ste 267B Mission, TX 78572-4850	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	

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Agency Contact Information	Consultation Type (Issued/Received)	Date Consultation Issued	Date Consultation Received	Comments	
<b>Hidalgo County WCID #19</b> Mr. Oscar Gonzalez Director P.O. Box 1043 Mission, TX 78573-0017	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>County Agencies - Hidalgo County School Districts</b>					
<b>Donna ISD</b> Mr. Roberto Lorendo Superintendent 116 N 10 <sup>th</sup> St Donna, TX 78537	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Edinburg CISD</b> Dr. Rene Gutierrez Superintendent 411 N. 8 <sup>th</sup> St. Edinburg, TX 78541	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Hidalgo ISD</b> Mr. Librado S. De Hoyos Superintendent 324 E. Flora St. Hidalgo, TX 78557	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>La Joya ISD</b> Dr. Alda T. Benavides Superintendent 201 E. Expy 83 La Joya, TX 78560	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>McAllen ISD</b> Dr. James J. Ponce Superintendent 2000 N 23 <sup>rd</sup> St. McAllen, TX 78501	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	

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<b>Mercedes ISD</b> Mr. Daniel Trevino, Jr. Superintendent 206 W. 6 <sup>th</sup> St. Mercedes, TX 78570	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Mission ISD</b> Mr. Cornelio Gonzalez Superintendent 1201 Bryce Dr. Mission, TX 78572	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Progreso ISD</b> Mr. Fernando Castillo Superintendent P.O. Box 610 Progreso, TX 78579	Letter	03-20-12		Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>PSJA ISD</b> Dr. Daniel P. King Superintendent 601 E. Kelly Pharr, TX 78577	Letter/Email Email	03-20-12 05-25-12	05-22-12	Requested a detailed map of the routes. Clarified that routes are still under development and the public open house meetings would display proposed routes in August/September.	
<b>Sharyland ISD</b> Mr. Scott B. Owings Superintendent 1106 N. Shary Rd. Mission, TX 78572	Letter			Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	
<b>Valley View ISD</b> Mr. Leonel Galviz Superintendent 9701 S. Jackson Rd. Pharr, TX 78577	Letter			Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.	

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Agency Contact Information	Consultation Type (Issued/Received)	Date Consultation Issued	Date Consultation Received	Comments
Weslaco ISD Dr. Ruben Alejandro Interim Superintendent 319 W. 4 <sup>th</sup> St. Weslaco, TX 78596	Letter			Sent initial consultation letter requesting input on the project study area.

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POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY  
SUITE 320  
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-795-3700  
FAX 512-795-3704

March 30, 2012

(Via Mail)



«Name»  
«Title»  
«Agency»  
«Street Address»  
«City», «State» «Zip»

Re: ERCOT Endorsed North Edinburg-Loma Alta 345 kV Transmission Line Project  
Hidalgo and Cameron Counties, Texas  
POWER Engineers, Inc. Project No. 126120

Dear «Name»:

Sharyland Utilities, L.P. (Sharyland) and Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) will be filing for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in a study area that includes portions of Hidalgo and Cameron counties, Texas. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) has determined that this project is needed and is critical to the reliability of the electric system in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

The new transmission line will traverse from the existing North Edinburg Substation, which is located approximately 3.3 miles northwest of Edinburg and west of U.S. Highway 281, to the existing Loma Alta Substation located approximately 6.8 miles northeast of Brownsville and northeast of U.S. Highway 77 via the existing South McAllen Substation vicinity located approximately 3.0 miles southwest of McAllen and south of U.S. Highway 83. The location of the study area, existing transmission lines and relevant project substations (North Edinburg, South McAllen and Loma Alta) are shown on the enclosed map.

POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Alternative Route Analysis for Sharyland and ETT to support their CCN applications for the PUCT. POWER is gathering data on the existing environment and identifying environmental and land use constraints within the study area that will be used in the creation of an environmental and land use constraints map. POWER will identify potential alternative route segments that consider these environmental and land use constraints.

We are requesting that your agency/office provide information concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest to your agency/office within the study area. Your input will be an important consideration in the delineation and evaluation of alternative routes and in the assessment of potential impacts of those routes. In addition, we would appreciate receiving information about any permits, easements, or other approvals by your agency/office that you believe could affect this project, or if you are aware of any major proposed development or construction in the study area. Upon

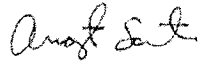
POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 30, 2012  
Page 2

certification of a final route for the proposed project, Sharyland and ETT will identify and obtain necessary permits, if required, from your agency/office.

Thank you for your assistance with this proposed electric transmission line project. Please contact me by phone at 512-795-3700, extension 6903 or by e-mail at [anastacia.santos@powereng.com](mailto:anastacia.santos@powereng.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

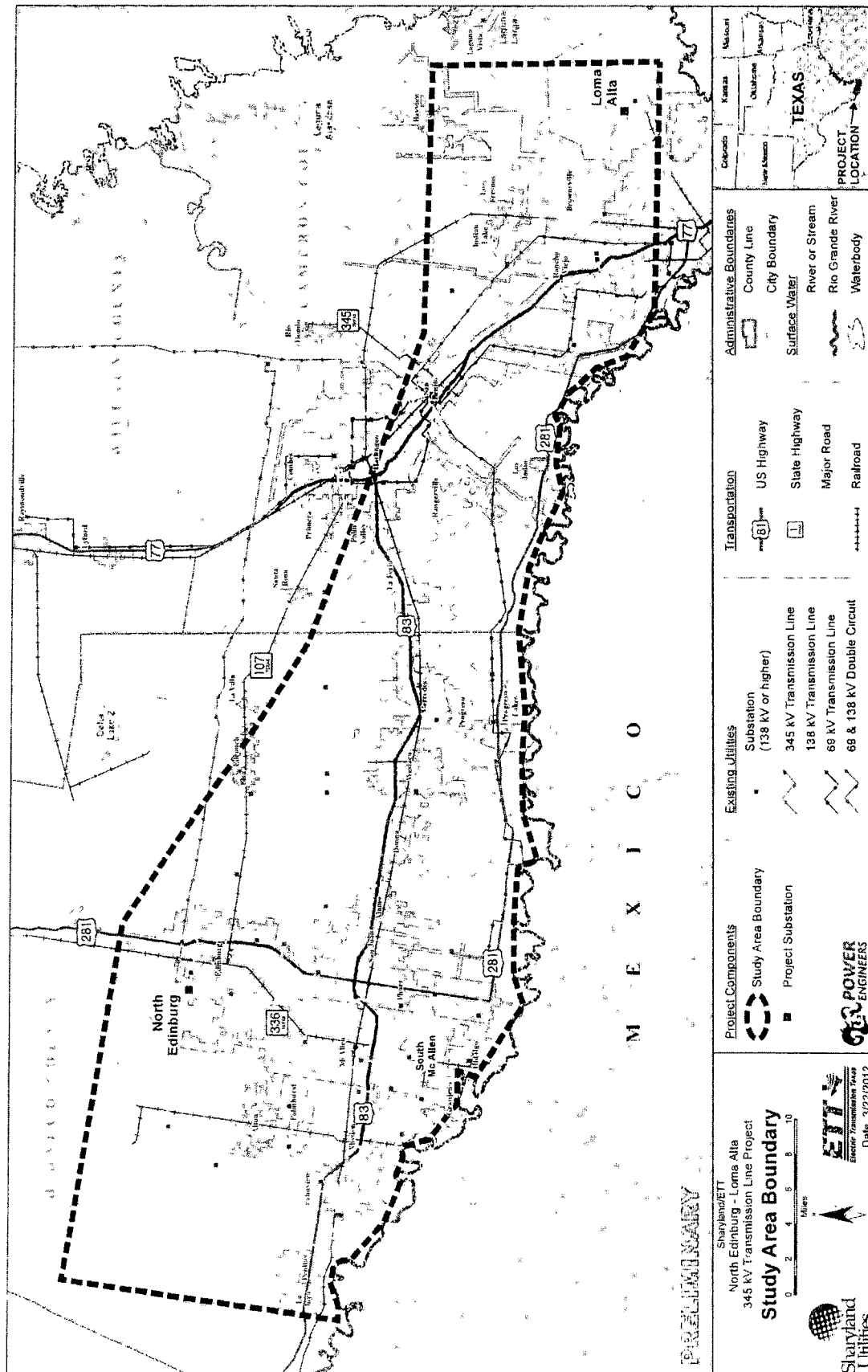
Sincerely,



Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager

Enclosure(s):  
Preliminary Study Area Map

Sent Via Mail  
DMS 126120  
PER-01



**From:** [Dean.McMath@faa.gov](mailto:Dean.McMath@faa.gov)  
**To:** [Anastacia Santos 6903](#)  
**Subject:** ERCOT Endorsed North Edinburg-Loma AltaTransmission Line Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 10, 2012 7:26:24 AM  
**Attachments:** [ASW600 Power Lines \(Power Engineers\).doc](#)

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Ms. Santos,

Attached is a previous letter sent to your company for a similar project.  
The details still apply.

Thanks,

Dean McMath

(See attached file: ASW600 Power Lines (Power Engineers).doc)

Ms. Lisa Barko Meaux  
Project Manager  
Power Engineers, Inc.  
509 N. San Houston Pkwy East, Suite 200  
Houston, TX 77060

Dear Ms. Meaux:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has received numerous letters from consultants on behalf of Xcel Energy requesting comments on various proposed electric transmission lines in the state of Texas. We have responded to past letters with the same basic responses. Please accept this letter as our position on all proposed transmission lines you are currently working on as well as any future proposals.

FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 70/7460.2 (AC 7460), *Proposed Construction or Alteration of Objects That May Affect the Navigable Airspace*, provides information to anyone proposing to erect or alter an object that may affect the navigable airspace. To comment adequately on a proposed transmission line we need the following information:

1. The specific routing of the proposed transmission line.
2. A graphic depicting transmission line's closest point of approach (CPA) to public and private use airports within the study area.
3. The elevation of the tallest structure at CPA to airport.
4. An application of AC 7460 criteria to the transmission line. Information about submission of Form 7460 is found at <https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/portal.jsp>.
5. A request from a Federal agency project manager for FAA review of the proposed project. None of your previous correspondence cited the Federal agency that will be making the environmental determination for any of the proposed projects. Please provide the agency and Federal project manager's telephone number and address when you submit Form 7460.

2

When we receive information and coordination from a Federal agency having the authority to make the environmental determination on the transmission lines, we will provide appropriate comments.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:**

Kelvin L. Solco  
Manager, Airports Division



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
UNITED STATES SECTION

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

May 9, 2012

Ms. Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager  
POWER Engineers, Inc.  
7600B N Capital of Texas Hwy  
Austin, TX 78731

Dear Ms. Santos:

I refer to your letter dated March 30, 2012, regarding the project "ERCOT Endorsed North Edinburg-Loma Alta 345 kV Transmission Line Project Hidalgo and Cameron Counties, Texas", and the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) by POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line within portions of Hidalgo and Cameron counties. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) has determined that this project is critical to the reliability of the electric system in the region and Sharyland Utilities, L.P. and Electric Transmission Texas; LLC will be filing a Certificate of Convenience for this project. POWER requests information from the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) concerning environmental and land use constraints, licenses, leases or other issues of interest within the study area.

With regard to the above, a license or easement will be required from the USIBWC for any proposed activities on government property and crossing or encroaching upon the United States portion of the Rio Grande and its interior floodway system. To obtain a license from the USIBWC, we will require complete compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (P.L. 91-190, as amended), the Endangered Species Act (P.L. 93-205, as amended), the National Historic Preservation Act (P.L. 89-665, as amended), and the Clean Water Act (Federal Water Pollution Control Act) (P.L. 92-500, P.L. 93-243, and P.L. 95-217; 33 U.S.C. Sec. 1251, et seq.). The EA and FONSI for the proposed project should be sufficient support for any request for license or easement. Further information regarding license requests can be obtained at: [http://www.ibwc.gov/Permits\\_Licenses/boundary\\_realty.html](http://www.ibwc.gov/Permits_Licenses/boundary_realty.html). The USIBWC also requires that final engineering drawings, to include plan and profile drawings, be submitted to the USIBWC for review and approval before beginning construction of the proposed project infrastructure on USIBWC property. The drawings must show the location of each component in relation to government property and the Rio Grande.

Compliance with Article IV-B of the 1970 Boundary Treaty, requires that both the United States and Mexican Sections of the IBWC review the plans and specifications for any proposed constructed works within the Rio Grande floodplain to determine whether the proposed work will cause an obstruction or deflection of the flood flows of the Rio Grande. If either country finds the proposed constructed works do not comply with the treaty requirements then the project cannot proceed as designed.

The Commons, Building C, Suite 310 • 4171 N. Mesa Street • El Paso, Texas 79902  
(915) 832-4100 • (FAX) (915) 832-4190 • <http://www.ibwc.state.gov>



Upon completion of your EA and selection of final routes, please coordinate with Mr. Duane Price at (915) 832-4139 of our Boundary and Realty Office should this project require further coordination with the USIBWC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John L. Merino".A small, stylized handwritten mark or initial, possibly "JL", located to the left of the typed name.

John L. Merino  
Principal Engineer



## TELEPHONE RECORD

**DATE:** 2012-06-22 **TIME OF CALL:** 3:00 p.m.  
**TO:** Gilbert Anaya, Supervisory  
Environmental Engineer,  
Environmental Management  
Division **PHONE NUMBER:** (915) 832-4702  
**FROM:** Brian Macik **C.:**  
**TYPED BY:** Brian Macik **PROJECT NUMBER:** 126120  
**CLIENT:** ETT/Sharyland  
**PROJECT NAME:** N. Edinburg to Loma Alta  
**SUBJECT:** Agency Contact Letter

## MESSAGE

Below is a summary of our conversation:

- There is nothing explicitly prohibiting the crossing of the floodways or placement of poles within the floodways. However, these actions are subject to licensing process.
- The issue with placing poles in the floodway is that the floodway is designed for a specific water surface level, and the project could not increase that level.
- The realty section of the IBWC website contains the list of requirements for submitting a request for a license: 1) Project info; 2) Environmental clearance documents (NEPA?); and 3) Designs – diameter, height, number, anchoring system, etc.
  - [http://ibwc.gov/Permits\\_Licenses/boundary\\_realty.html](http://ibwc.gov/Permits_Licenses/boundary_realty.html)
- We would submit the request for a license to the Realty department (contact info below), and they would distribute it to the Environmental, Operations & Maintenance, and Engineering Services departments.
- After reviewing the request for a license, the IBWC would either clear the project to proceed or they would require additional information.

Since we don't have an approved route yet, I asked if there is an informal process we could go through to make sure the routes would work, and he said there is.

- Informally, we can submit our project through the engineering department (contact info below), not requesting a license.
- They will review the project, and we can ask for a letter response, conference call, or an in-person meeting to discuss the project.
- Through the informal process, we could ensure that our routes are feasible (but not licensed) prior to submitting them to the PUC.

Mr. Anaya was very helpful. He also provided the following two contacts:

## TELEPHONE RECORD

- Duane Price, Realty Specialist – (915) 832-4139
- Jose Nunez, Engineering Services – (915) 832-4710

**From:** Saul Barrera  
**To:** Anastacia Santos 6903  
**Cc:** Francisco Martinez, Rodolfo Montero  
**Subject:** Re: North Edinburg-Loma Alta Project - Longest Route in IBWC floodway  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 11, 2012 11:44:59 AM

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Anastacia

IBWC Staff has reviewed Sharyland Utilities, L.P. and Electric Transmission Texas, LLC request to use IBWC right-of-way to install a new 345 kVolt (kV) transmission line from North Edinburg Substation located 3.3 miles northwest of Edinburg and west of U.S. Highway 281 to the existing Loma Alta Substation located northeast of Brownsville. The usage of 34.05 miles of IBWC right-of-way, that parallels the levees, are not allowed, perpendicular crossings are. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank You,

Saul Barrera  
Realty Specialist  
IBWC, US Section  
Mercedes Field Office  
956-565-3159 ext. 235

>>> Anastacia Santos <anastacia.santos@powereng.com> 12/4/2012 8:46 AM >>>

Saul,

Don asked me to review the links proposed in the floodway and estimate the longest distance possible that our links would affect the floodway. If we use the maximum distance within the floodway for a route, the distance is 34.05 miles. You can see the 34.05 miles on the attached map. The links used to create the 34.05 miles is shown in black and the floodway is shown in purple. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager  
7600-B N. Capital of Texas Hwy., Suite 320  
Austin, Texas 78731  
(512) 795-3700 ext. 6903 office  
(512) 585-3202 cell

**POWER Engineers, Inc.**

Energy • Facilities • Communications • Environmental  
[www.powereng.com](http://www.powereng.com)

**From:** [Saul Barrera](#)  
**To:** [Anastacia Santos 6903](#)  
**Cc:** [Francisco Martinez](#); [Rodolfo Montero](#)  
**Subject:** Letters of Compliance  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 22, 2013 4:23:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letters Of Compliance.PDF](#)  
[Steps to a License.pdf](#)  
[IPWD & TCEQ.PDF](#)

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Anastacia,

Please see attachments for information on obtaining a license through the IBWC. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank You,

Saul Barrera  
Realty Specialist  
IBWC, US Section  
Mercedes Field Office  
956-565-3159 ext. 235

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO  
UNITED STATES SECTION

INSTRUCTIONS ON REQUESTS FOR LICENSES  
TO CONSTRUCT FACILITIES ON  
INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
RIGHTS-OF-WAY

INSTRUCTIONS

The purpose of this pamphlet is to help you in applying for authority to perform work or place structures on or across rights-of-way of projects under the jurisdiction of the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC), and to describe briefly such jurisdiction and your responsibility under the Federal laws and the method of compliance therewith. The United States Section is responsible for the construction, operation and maintenance of all United States properties under its jurisdiction and, the administration of laws for the protection and preservation of these properties. Licenses for all work to be performed on rights-of-way must be approved by the Commissioner for the United States Section before such work is begun. The authorization is ordinarily granted in the form of a revocable license. The license does not authorize any trespassing upon or injury to private property, or the invasion of private rights, nor does it affect water rights or concede that the licensee has any water rights.

FEE - Generally, in the Upper Rio Grande Canalization Project, an administrative fee of \$150.00 is charged for each license issued. No fee will be charged to Cities, States or political subdivisions thereto, or to owners of lands over which the Government has an easement only, and to others where the purpose of the license is for the direct benefit of such landowners.

If licensed works will cause additional cost to the United States a special fee for such license will be assessed in an amount determined appropriate in the circumstances by the United States Commissioner.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE - An application for a license shall consist of a letter, in duplicate, requesting the license and accompanied by four copies each of a location map, vicinity map, and plan of the proposed work. The letter of application will be addressed to the Engineer in Charge of the Commission activities of the locality in which the proposed work lies. The letter will bear the date, the applicant's address and telephone number and, the location and description of work. It will give an explanation of the plans in sufficient details to enable the Commission to determine exactly what work is proposed and, to show that the structure or other works will not create a hazard or interfere with any project operations. The letter will be signed by the owner or proprietor of the proposed work, or his duly authorized agent, but not by the contractor who it is proposed to be employed to do the work. In case the application is from a corporation, the letter will give the name and location of principal office, telephone number, State in which incorporated and, title and name of official who will sign the license.

If the proposed work requires clearing, excavation or any other form of ground disturbance on government property, the applicant must first contact the following agencies for the state where the works will be performed:

- a. The Historical Preservation Commission
- b. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- c. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

Letters from these state and federal agencies, concurring with the proposed work, must be obtained and provided with the application, as required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4321 et. seq.). Where a major adverse impact will result, the applicant may also be required to furnish a detailed Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as is further required by said National Environmental Policy Act.

Since all of the lands administered by the United States Section are within floodplain areas, no permanent improvements will be licensed except those that are not subject to flood damages and are floodproofed in accordance with the Unified National Program for Flood Plain Management of the Water Resources Council.

In the event a license is requested for the purpose of constructing facilities to convey water diverted from the Rio Grande, independent of, or in connection with any project works of the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, or for the purpose of enlarging or expanding facilities to increase the conveyance of such diversions, the applicant must submit a copy of his Water Rights Certificate with his application or, if he has a riparian right, state by affidavit under what authority or law the water has been, or is to be diverted.

The vicinity map will show the location of the proposed work with reference to a town, highway, or some major topographical feature. The location map will show the specific location of the proposed work with reference to some established monument on the Commission's project. Ideally, each map will be on an 8-1/2" x 11" sheet, or if practical, the vicinity map may be shown as an inset on the location map.

The location of the work will be outlined in red on each map. All drawings and maps should be drawn to scale and the scale shown graphically. Maps must have the usual meridian arrow. In general, the meridian arrow should be parallel with the 10-1/2" dimension of the drawing.

If, upon examination of the application, it is found that the proposed work or its operation and maintenance will not interfere with the operation and maintenance of any project works of the United States Section, and is consistent with permissible flood plain uses defined in the Unified National Program for Flood Plain Management of the United States Water Resources Council, a license will be prepared by the Commission and transmitted to the applicant, in duplicate, for his signature and return to the office from which it was received. The applicant shall send, if applicable, a postal money order or certified check, made out to the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States Section, in the amount of the appropriate fee for each license. Upon final execution of the license, a duplicate-original copy will be sent to the licensee for his files.

Applicants desiring to make application for authority to perform work or plan structures on or across right-of-way of projects under the jurisdiction of the United States Section of the Commission will often find it in the interest of economy and convenience to write or visit the nearest office of the Commission relative to their desires before incurring any expense in connection with the preparation of maps and plans.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS** - For the information of the applicant, the general conditions established by this Commission, relative to licensing, are given below. Special conditions may be added if it is determined that the interests of the United States so require:

1. The work shall be subject to the inspection and approval of the Engineer in Charge of the area in which the proposed work is to be done, to determine if the work is being performed in conformance with the plans, as approved. The Engineer in Charge may temporarily suspend the work at any time if, in his judgment, the interests of the Commission so require.
2. The United States will not be held liable for any damage or injury to the structure or work herein authorized which may be caused by, or result from, the future operations of Government-operated and maintained properties under the jurisdiction of the Commission, and no claim or right to compensation shall accrue from any such damage.
3. The licensee is required to operate and maintain the facilities for which the license is requested and such operation and maintenance shall be performed in such manner as not to interfere with the construction or operation of project works. The license granted is personal and shall not be assigned without the written permission of the Commissioner of the United States Section or his duly authorized representative.
4. The license will continue so long as, in the opinion of the Commissioner, it is considered to be expedient and not detrimental to the public interests, and shall be revocable by said Commissioner upon 90 days written notice to the licensee. Upon such revocation, or if the project is abandoned, the structure or other works shall be removed by licensee without delay and at his sole expense.



**PERMITS AND LICENSE CHECKLIST**

1. **LETTER OF APPLICATION - 3 copies**
  - a. Identify your organization and state what is requested: Permit or License.
  - b. List the type of structure, improvement, or work that is to be constructed.
  - c. Statement of reason for said work, i.e., commercial, public, or private venture.
2. **MAPS AND DRAWINGS - General**
  - a. Letter-size drawings are the minimum acceptable.
  - b. Meridian or north arrow shown.
  - c. Drawn to scale with scale stated and shown graphically.
3. **VICINITY MAP - 3 copies**
  - a. Show a town, highway, bridge, or major identifiable feature.
  - b. General location of work outlined should be circled in red.
4. **LOCATION MAP - 3 copies**
  - a. Area where facilities are to be constructed should be outlined in red.
  - b. Show property lines (metes and bounds, if possible) and/or location of property line markers, such as steel pipes driven into the ground with permanent identification data.
5. **PLANS AND SPECIFICATION - 3 copies**
  - a. Drawings of sufficient details to determine exactly what is proposed, how it is to be constructed, and by whom.
  - b. In any operation involving earthwork, such as an excavation, drilling or boring, a cross sections and profile of the proposed works must be furnished. See examples in Attachments I-IV at [http://www.ibwc.state.gov/Files/construction\\_criteria.pdf](http://www.ibwc.state.gov/Files/construction_criteria.pdf)
6. If the construction is also on land owned by personnel other than the government, the applicant must include a statement in triplicate from the owners giving permission for such construction on their property and access thereto.
7. If the proposed work requires clearing, excavation, or dredging on government property, you must first contact the following agencies:
  - a. Appropriate Historic Preservation Officer(s), to find out if you need a cultural resources survey of the area.
  - b. U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, to determine the impact of the project on threatened and endangered species, both animal and plant life.
  - c. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to determine the effects of the proposed project on the waters of the U.S., (wetlands, streams, and rivers) in the area.
  - d. The Texas Parks & Wildlife and TCEQ, if applicable, for projects along the Rio Grande.
8. The letters from these various state and federal agencies, concurring with the proposed work, must be obtained by the requestor before the International Boundary and Water Commission will issue the requested permit.
9. A permit from the State Water Commissions, to divert waters from rivers or reservoirs, is necessary before a permit for pumps and water lines can be issued.
10. **LICENSE FEES, (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1977) ARE AS FOLLOWS:**
  - a. Commercial License - \$150 per year plus \$28 per year per acre or part thereof.
  - b. Permanent Commercial Utilities - \$115 per year

## STEPS TO OBTAINING A USIBWC LICENSE

1. Initiate coordination of the proposed project with the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office.
  - location of project
  - special requirements of USIBWC
  - typical drawings
  - proof of land ownership or written letter from land owner giving licensee permission to perform work which license is requested for.
2. Obtain clearance letters from the governmental agencies giving clearance and/or special conditions for the proposed project (see attached sheet). Letters of compliance shall stipulate specific works to encroachment to USIBWC Right-of-Way.
3. Submit to the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office:
  - To Coordinator:
    - letter from responsible entity to USIBWC requesting license (this letter must contain the address and phone number of the responsible party/proponent) and a contact person;
    - copies of the letters from each one of the governmental agencies; and
    - 3 sets of the proposed plans.
4. The USIBWC Mercedes Field Office will then review the letters and proposed plans, and write the draft license.
5. The draft license is then transmitted to the USIBWC Headquarters Office located in El Paso.
  - There it will be reviewed by the following divisions:
    - Realty Division
    - Operations and Maintenance Division;
    - Engineering Division; and
    - Environmental Management Division.
6. Review comments, if any, will be gathered from each division and the draft license will be transmitted to the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office. Comments will be forwarded to the project proponent by the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office, and changes made accordingly. If necessary, the proposed plans will be revised by the proponent and 3 sets of the final plans sent to the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office.
7. If the project involves work to be performed within the Rio Grande Floodway the proposed plans will be formally transmitted to the Mexican Section of the IBWC for review and approval.

8. After final plans are approved by both sections of the IBWC, the draft license is formalized by the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office and sent to the proponent for signature, in triplicate.
9. The signed license, in triplicate, is then returned to the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office.
10. The license is then sent to the USIBWC Headquarters Office in El Paso and signed on behalf of the USIBWC, in triplicate, and returned to the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office.
11. The final license document is then distributed accordingly:
  - one copy is kept at the USIBWC Headquarters Office;
  - one copy is kept at the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office; and
  - one copy is sent to the Licensee.
12. After the proponent receives the final license, work may commence according to plans and specifications.

Please note:

  - the USIBWC Mercedes Field Office must be informed one (1) week prior to the start of construction;
  - the USIBWC reserves the right to inspect the construction at any time; and
  - any changes or modifications of the licensed plans must be approved by the USIBWC.
13. The process of the license commences from the time all of the letters of compliance and plans are received at the Mercedes Office (See step # 4), the license is then sent to Headquarters for review. A minimum of 4-6 months is usually the time it takes for the four divisions to review and approve the license. If comments from one of the divisions requires revision of plans (See step # 6), license will elongate until the revised plans are reviewed and approved by Headquarters.

**FOR THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES**

**TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT**

Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program  
Threatened and Endangered Species  
3000 S. IH-35, Suite 100  
Austin, Texas 78704  
Office Phone No.: 512-912-7011  
Fax No.: 512-912-7058  
Ms. Celeste Brancel  
Environmental Review Coordinator Wildlife Division  
E-mail: [celeste.brancel@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:celeste.brancel@tpwd.state.tx.us)

For Information <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>

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**FOR CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER PERMIT**

Clean Water Act Section 402(p)(6)

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

1804 W. Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, Texas 78550

Office Phone No.: 956-425-6010  
Fax No.: 956-412-5059

TCEQ Region 15  
Ms. Irene Casares, Water Section Manager  
Ms. Elda Espinoza  
Mr. Joe Reyna

Web Site: <http://www.tnrc.state.tx.us/permitting/waterperm/constrect.html>

Note: Look at the General Permit TXR150000

**LOWER RIO GRANDE FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT**

325 Golf Course Road  
Mercedes, Texas 78586-9706

The International Boundary & Water Commission must have a letter of compliance from the following agencies before action can be taken on your request for a license (permit) to construct works on the Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project Right-of-Way:

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

Mr. Lloyd Mullins  
5151 Flynn Parkway Suite 306  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411-4318  
Mr. John Wong (361-814-5847x26)  
Phone: (361) 814-5847

Clearance for 404 Permit

**U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE**

Ecological Services  
Mr. Ernesto Reyes  
Route 2, Box 202A  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
Phone: (956) 787-3079

Compliance with the  
Endanger Species Act

**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION & DEPARTMENT  
OF ANTIQUITIES PROTECTION**

Dr. James E. Bruseth, Deputy State Historical  
Preservation Officer

Attn: Debra Beene - 106 Review  
P.O. Box 12276-108 West 16th Street  
Austin, Texas 78711  
Phone: (512) 463-6069  
(512) 463-5865

Compliance with  
National Historic  
Preservation Act

In addition, please submit: a) a 7.5 USGS map showing the location, b) a description of the work to be done, including depth if the project includes excavation of material, and c) a statement specifying whether the land was previously disturbed.

LOWER RIO GRANDE FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT  
325 Golf Course Road  
Mercedes, Texas 78570-9706

The International Boundary & Water Commission must have a letter of compliance from the following agencies before action can be taken on your request for a license (permit) to construct works on the Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project Right-of-Way.

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Ecological Services-LRGV SubOffice  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
Ernesto Reyes, Jr.  
Senior Fish & Wildlife Biologist  
Office: (956)784-7560  
Fax: (956) 787-8338

Compliance with Endanger  
Species Act

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Galveston District, Corps of Engineers  
Corpus Christi Regulatory Field Office  
5151 Flynn Parkway, Suite 306  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411  
Lloyd Mullins, Supervisor

Clearance for 404 Permit

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION & DEPARTMENT  
OF ANTIQUITIES PROTECTION  
P.O. Box 12276-108 West 16th Street  
Austin, Texas 78711  
Attn: Mrs. Debra Beene.

Compliance with National  
Historic Preservation Act

In addition, please submit: a) a 7.5 USGS map showing the location, b) a description of the work to be done including depth of the project includes excavation of material, and c) a statement specify whether the land was previously disturbed.

FOR THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Ms Kathy Boydston  
Program Leader  
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, Texas 78744

For Information: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>

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FOR CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER PERMIT  
Clean Water Act Section 402 (p) (6)

TEXAS COMMISSION ENVIRONMENT QUALITY  
1804 W. Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, Texas 78550-5259

Office Phone No.: 956-425-6010  
Fax No.: 956-412-5059

TCEQ Region 15  
Jaime Garza, Section Manager Air, Water and Waste Programs  
Mr. Eduardo Cruz (956-) 389-7421

Web Site: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/waterperm/constret.html>

Note: Look at the General Permit TXR150000



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY  
SUITE 320  
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-795-3700

FAX 512-795-3704

March 19, 2013

(Via Mail)

Mr. Saul Barrera  
Realty Specialist  
International Boundary and Water Commission  
325 Golf Course Road  
Mercedes, TX 78570Re: North Edinburg-Loma Alta 345-kV Transmission Line Project  
**Summary of Consultations**

Dear Mr. Barrera:

As you know, Electric Transmission Texas, L.L.C. (ETT) and Sharyland Utilities, L.P. (Sharyland) will be filing an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to amend their Certificates of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Hidalgo and Cameron counties, Texas. POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) is assisting ETT and Sharyland during the application process by analyzing alternative routes for the transmission line and obtaining all necessary permits and licenses required for the project. The purpose of this letter is to summarize our consultations with your office over the last several months.

ETT and Sharyland appreciate the assistance that the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) staff in your office has provided in our meetings (October 29, 2012, January 22, 2013 and February 13, 2013) to develop potentially acceptable routing links across and within the IBWC Lower Rio Grande Valley Flood Control Project Right of Way (ROW). As discussed during those meetings, several proposed alternative routes would cross portions of the IBWC ROW. The PUCT will ultimately approve only one route for the transmission line, and if that route crosses IBWC ROW, then ETT and/or Sharyland will be required to obtain a license from the IBWC.

Your office suggested ETT and Sharyland avoid any long crossings or paralleling within the IBWC ROW. In an effort to follow these recommendations, ETT and Sharyland presented revised routing links to your office at our last meeting (February 13, 2013). The majority of the IBWC ROW crossings were revised to be short and direct and avoid paralleling within the floodway. The original links from October 2012 that paralleled within the floodway have been moved outside the floodway. Per your office's suggestion, if there were habitable structures and communication towers outside of the floodway, the proposed link was moved inside the floodway for a short distance, until the habitable structure or communication tower could be passed.

In certain areas, the structures supporting the transmission line might need to be placed near and/or within the floodway. These structures would be primarily single-shaft steel poles (monopole) of double-circuit capable design, with use of lattice steel towers where



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 19, 2013

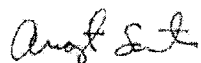
Page 2

appropriate or necessary. ETT and Sharyland believe these structures will perform as well as the transmission structures (used by American Electric Power (AEP)) that are already within the IBWC ROW, which to ETT's and Sharyland's knowledge have not fallen or impeded flow by catching debris during flooding occurrences.

In addition to complying with the IBWC's construction guidelines, prior to applying for a license ETT and/or Sharyland will contact and request letters of compliance from the Texas Historic Commission (THC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). We understand these letters must concur with the proposed work and give clearance under the appropriate statutory provisions while noting any special conditions for the project. As an initial step in this process, ETT and Sharyland have notified THC, USFWS, USACE, TPWD, and TCEQ of the potentially acceptable routing options resulting from consultations with IBWC staff in your office and asked them to offer informal evaluations of those routes. ETT and Sharyland have attached copies of the letters and information sent to those agencies.

Thank you for your assistance with this proposed electric transmission line project. Please contact me by phone at 512-795-3700, extension 6903 or by e-mail at [anastacia.santos@powereng.com](mailto:anastacia.santos@powereng.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager

Enclosure(s):  
Letters to THC, USFWS, USACE, TPWD, and TCEQ  
Map Set, Sheets 1-9

c: Don DeWolfe (Sharyland)  
Teresa Trotman (AEP)  
Randy Roper (AEP)



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY  
SUITE 320  
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USAPHONE 512-795-3700  
FAX 512-795-3704

March 14, 2013

(Via Mail)

Mr. Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
1804 West Jefferson Avenue  
Harlingen, TX 78550-5247Re: North Edinburg to Loma Alta 345 kV Transmission Line Project  
**Request for Preliminary Comments on Proposed Alternative Links for  
Transmission Line**

Dear Mr. Yarrito:

Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) and Sharyland Utilities, L.P. (Sharyland) will be filing an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC1) to amend their Certificates of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Hidalgo and Cameron counties, Texas. POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) is assisting ETT and Sharyland during the application process by analyzing alternative routes for the transmission line and obtaining all necessary permits and licenses required for the project.

The new transmission line will run from the existing North Edinburg Substation, which is located approximately 3.3 miles northwest of Edinburg and west of U.S. Highway 281, to the existing Loma Alta Substation located approximately 6.8 miles northeast of Brownsville and northeast of U.S. Highway 77. Between these endpoints, the new transmission line will be routed in the vicinity of the existing South McAllen Substation, located approximately 3.0 miles southwest of McAllen and south of U.S. Highway 83.

POWER sent a consultation letter to your office dated March 30, 2012 during the initial routing process to gather information about the project study area in order to develop alternative links. (A reply has not been received to date). Several proposed alternative links that will be included in the CCN application cross portions of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Lower Rio Grande Valley Flood Control Project Right of Way (ROW). The PUCT will ultimately approve one route for the transmission line, and if the PUCT selects one of the routes crossing the IBWC ROW, then ETT and/or Sharyland will be required to obtain a license from the IBWC.

ETT, Sharyland, and POWER have met several times with personnel from the IBWC Mercedes Field Office in an effort to ensure the proposed floodway crossings by the new transmission line are consistent with the IBWC's guidelines. In certain areas, the structures supporting the transmission line might need to be placed near and/or within the floodway. These structures would be primarily single shaft steel poles (monopole) of double-circuit capable design, with use of lattice steel towers where appropriate or necessary.

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 14, 2013  
Page 2

In addition to complying with the IBWC's guidelines, IBWC has stated that before it will issue a license, ETT and Sharyland must also contact and obtain letters of compliance from the Texas Historic Commission (THC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). These letters must concur with the proposed work and give clearance under the appropriate statutory provisions while noting any special conditions on the project. For the TCEQ, this includes clearance for a construction stormwater permit under the Clean Water Act, Section 402, as needed.

ETT and Sharyland are not requesting any formal determination at this time. But as a preliminary step to aide in this process, POWER is requesting that TCEQ review the attached map sheets 1-9 showing the proposed alternative links that cross IBWC ROW and notify POWER of any preliminary comments or potential concerns with the proposed crossings. A table of each link with the corresponding sheet number that crosses the IBWC ROW is included below. If the PUCT approves a route that requires an IBWC license, ETT and Sharyland will send your agency additional information related to the IBWC ROW crossing(s) and formally request a letter of compliance from your agency.

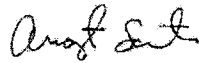
LINKS WITHIN THE IBWC ROW	
Sheet Number	Link Numbers
1	70, 84a, 84b, 84c, 85b
2	84a, 84b, 84c, 86, 88, 97, 98, 100, 101a, 104, 105
3	104, 105, 108, 116, 118a, 118c, 125a, 352
4	166, 184, 185, 187, 349a, 349b
5	187, 193b, 193c, 194, 195
6	None
7	193c, 194, 195, 197, 201, 210, 215, 217, 220
8	210, 220, 221, 222
9	290

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 14, 2013  
Page 3

Thank you for your assistance with this proposed electric transmission line project. Please contact me by phone at 512-795-3700, extension 6903 or by e-mail at [anastacia.santos@powereng.com](mailto:anastacia.santos@powereng.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager

Enclosure(s): Map Set. Sheets 1-9

- c. Don DeWolfe (Sharyland)
- Teresa Trotman (AEP)
- Randy Roper (AFP)
- Saul Barrera (IBWC)



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY  
SUITE 320  
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-795-3700  
FAX 512-795-3704

March 14, 2013  
(Via Mail)



Mr. Mark Wolfe  
Texas Historical Commission  
Executive Director  
P.O. Box 12276  
Austin, TX 78711

Re: North Edinburg to Loma Alta 345 kV Transmission Line Project  
**Request for Preliminary Comments on Proposed Alternative Links for  
Transmission Line**

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) and Sharyland Utilities, L.P. (Sharyland) will be filing an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to amend their Certificates of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Hidalgo and Cameron counties, Texas. POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) is assisting ETT and Sharyland during the application process by analyzing alternative routes for the transmission line and obtaining all necessary permits and licenses required for the project.

The new transmission line will run from the existing North Edinburg Substation, which is located approximately 3.3 miles northwest of Edinburg and west of U.S. Highway 281, to the existing Loma Alta Substation located approximately 6.8 miles northeast of Brownsville and northeast of U.S. Highway 77. Between these endpoints, the new transmission line will be routed in the vicinity of the existing South McAllen Substation, located approximately 3.0 miles southwest of McAllen and south of U.S. Highway 83.

POWER sent a consultation letter to your office dated March 30, 2012 during the initial routing process to gather information about the project study area in order to develop alternative links. (A reply was received, dated April 4, 2012). Several proposed alternative links that will be included in the CCN application cross portions of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Lower Rio Grande Valley Flood Control Project Right of Way (ROW). The PUCT will ultimately approve one route for the transmission line, and if the PUCT selects one of the routes crossing the IBWC ROW, then ETT and/or Sharyland will be required to obtain a license from the IBWC.

ETT, Sharyland, and POWER have met several times with personnel from the IBWC Mercedes Field Office in an effort to ensure the proposed floodway crossings by the new transmission line are consistent with the IBWC's guidelines. In certain areas, the structures supporting the transmission line might need to be placed near and/or within the floodway. These structures would be primarily single shaft steel poles (monopole) of double-circuit capable design, with use of lattice steel towers where appropriate or necessary.

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 14, 2013  
Page 2

In addition to complying with the IBWC's guidelines, IBWC has stated that before it will issue a license, ETT and Sharyland must also contact and obtain letters of compliance from the Texas Historic Commission (THC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). These letters must concur with the proposed work and give clearance under the appropriate statutory provisions while noting any special conditions on the project. For the THC, this includes a determination that the proposed project complies with the National Historic Preservation Act, as needed.

ETT and Sharyland are not requesting any formal determination at this time. But as a preliminary step to aide in this process, POWER is requesting that THC review the attached map sheets 1-9 showing the proposed alternative links that cross IBWC ROW and notify POWER of any preliminary comments or potential concerns with the proposed crossings. A table of each link with the corresponding sheet number that crosses the IBWC ROW is included below. If the PUCT approves a route that requires an IBWC license, ETT and Sharyland will send your agency additional information related to the IBWC ROW crossing(s) and formally request a letter of compliance from your agency.

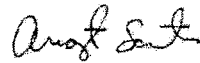
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Sheet Number	Link Numbers
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3	104, 105, 108, 116, 118a, 118c, 125a, 352
4	166, 184, 185, 187, 349a, 349b
5	187, 193b, 193c, 194, 195
6	None
7	193c, 194, 195, 197, 201, 210, 215, 217, 220
8	210, 220, 221, 222
9	290

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 14, 2013  
Page 3

I thank you for your assistance with this proposed electric transmission line project. Please contact me by phone at 512-795-3700, extension 6903 or by e-mail at [anastacia.santos@powereng.com](mailto:anastacia.santos@powereng.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager

Enclosure(s). Map Set. Sheets 1-9

c Don DeWolfe (Sharyland)  
Teresa Troutman (AEP)  
Randy Roper (AEP)  
Saul Barrera (IBWC)



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY  
SUITE 320  
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-795-3700

FAX 512-795-3704

March 14, 2013

(Via Mail)



Ms. Kathy Boydston  
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department  
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, TX 78744

Re: North Edinburg to Loma Alta 345 kV Transmission Line Project  
**Request for Preliminary Comments on Proposed Alternative Links for  
Transmission Line**

Dear Ms. Boydston:

Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) and Sharyland Utilities, L.P. (Sharyland) will be filing an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to amend their Certificates of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Hidalgo and Cameron counties, Texas. POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) is assisting ETT and Sharyland during the application process by analyzing alternative routes for the transmission line and obtaining all necessary permits and licenses required for the project.

The new transmission line will run from the existing North Edinburg Substation, which is located approximately 3.3 miles northwest of Edinburg and west of U.S. Highway 281, to the existing Loma Alta Substation located approximately 6.8 miles northeast of Brownsville and northeast of U.S. Highway 77. Between these endpoints, the new transmission line will be routed in the vicinity of the existing South McAllen Substation, located approximately 3.0 miles southwest of McAllen and south of U.S. Highway 83.

POWER sent a consultation letter to your office dated March 30, 2012 during the initial routing process to gather information about the project study area in order to develop alternative links. (A reply was received, dated May 31, 2012). Several proposed alternative links that will be included in the CCN application cross portions of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Lower Rio Grande Valley Flood Control Project Right of Way (ROW). The PUCT will ultimately approve one route for the transmission line, and if the PUCT selects one of the routes crossing the IBWC ROW, then ETT and/or Sharyland will be required to obtain a license from the IBWC.

ETT, Sharyland, and POWER have met several times with personnel from the IBWC Mercedes Field Office in an effort to ensure the proposed floodway crossings by the new transmission line are consistent with the IBWC's guidelines. In certain areas, the structures supporting the transmission line might need to be placed near and/or within the floodway. These structures would be primarily single shaft steel poles (monopole) of double-circuit capable design, with use of lattice steel towers where appropriate or necessary.



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

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In addition to complying with the IBWC's guidelines, IBWC has stated that before it will issue a license, ETT and Sharyland must also contact and obtain letters of compliance from the Texas Historic Commission (THC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). These letters must concur with the proposed work and give clearance under the appropriate statutory provisions while noting any special conditions on the project.

ETT and Sharyland are not requesting any formal determination at this time. But as a preliminary step to aide in this process, POWER is requesting that TPWD review the attached map sheets 1-9 showing the proposed alternative links that cross IBWC ROW and notify POWER of any preliminary comments or potential concerns with the proposed crossings. A table of each link with the corresponding sheet number that crosses the IBWC ROW is included below. If the PUCT approves a route that requires an IBWC license, ETT and Sharyland will send your agency additional information related to the IBWC ROW crossing(s) and formally request a letter of compliance from your agency.

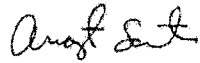
LINKS WITHIN THE IBWC ROW	
Sheet Number	Link Numbers
1	70, 84a, 84b, 84c, 85b
2	84a, 84b, 84c, 86, 88, 97, 98, 100, 101a, 104, 105
3	104, 105, 108, 116, 118a, 118c, 125a, 352
4	166, 184, 185, 187, 349a, 349b
5	187, 193b, 193c, 194, 195
6	None
7	193c, 194, 195, 197, 201, 210, 215, 217, 220
8	210, 220, 221, 222
9	290

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

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Page 3

Thank you for your assistance with this proposed electric transmission line project. Please contact me by phone at 512-795-3700, extension 6903 or by e-mail at [anastacia.santos@powereng.com](mailto:anastacia.santos@powereng.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager

Enclosure(s): Map Set, Sheets 1-9

- c. Don DeWolfe (Sharyland)
- Teresa Trotman (AEP)
- Randy Roper (AEP)
- Saul Barrera (IBWC)



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY  
SUITE 320  
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-795-3700

FAX 512-795-3704

March 14, 2013

(Via Mail)

Colonel Christopher W. Sallèse  
Commander  
US Army Corps of Engineers - Galveston District  
P.O. Box 1229  
Galveston, Texas 77553-1229Re: North Edinburg to Loma Alta 345 kV Transmission Line Project  
**Request for Preliminary Comments on Proposed Alternative Links for  
Transmission Line**  
SWG-2012-00347

Dear Colonel Sallèse:

Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) and Sharyland Utilities, L.P. (Sharyland) will be filing an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to amend their Certificates of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Hidalgo and Cameron counties, Texas. POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) is assisting ETT and Sharyland during the application process by analyzing alternative routes for the transmission line and obtaining all necessary permits and licenses required for the project.

The new transmission line will run from the existing North Edinburg Substation, which is located approximately 3.3 miles northwest of Edinburg and west of U.S. Highway 281, to the existing Loma Alta Substation located approximately 6.8 miles northeast of Brownsville and northeast of U.S. Highway 77. Between these endpoints, the new transmission line will be routed in the vicinity of the existing South McAllen Substation, located approximately 3.0 miles southwest of McAllen and south of U.S. Highway 83.

POWER sent a consultation letter to your office dated March 30, 2012 during the initial routing process to gather information about the project study area in order to develop alternative links. (A reply was received, dated April 23, 2012). Several proposed alternative links that will be included in the CCN application cross portions of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Lower Rio Grande Valley Flood Control Project Right of Way (ROW). The PUCT will ultimately approve one route for the transmission line, and if the PUCT selects one of the routes crossing the IBWC ROW, then ETT and/or Sharyland will be required to obtain a license from the IBWC.

ETT, Sharyland, and POWER have met several times with personnel from the IBWC Mercedes Field Office in an effort to ensure the proposed floodway crossings by the new transmission line are consistent with the IBWC's guidelines. In certain areas, the structures supporting the transmission line might need to be placed near and/or within the floodway. These structures would be primarily single shaft steel poles (monopole) of double-circuit capable design, with use of lattice steel towers where appropriate or necessary.

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

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In addition to complying with the IBWC's guidelines, IBWC has stated that before it will issue a license, ETT and Sharyland must also contact and obtain letters of compliance from the Texas Historic Commission (THC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). These letters must concur with the proposed work and give clearance under the appropriate statutory provisions while noting any special conditions on the project. For the USACE, this includes clearance for a 404 permit, as needed.

ETT and Sharyland are not requesting any formal determination at this time. But as a preliminary step to aide in this process, POWER is requesting that USACE review the attached map sheets 1-9 showing the proposed alternative links that cross IBWC ROW and notify POWER of any preliminary comments or potential concerns with the proposed crossings. A table of each link with the corresponding sheet number that crosses the IBWC ROW is included below. If the PUCT approves a route that requires an IBWC license, ETT and Sharyland will send your agency additional information related to the IBWC ROW crossing(s) and formally request a letter of compliance from your agency.

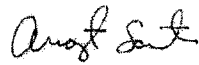
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6	None
7	193c, 194, 195, 197, 201, 210, 215, 217, 220
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POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 14, 2013  
Page 3

Thank you for your assistance with this proposed electric transmission line project. Please contact me by phone at 512-795-3700, extension 6903 or by e-mail at [anastacia.santos@powereng.com](mailto:anastacia.santos@powereng.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager

Enclosure(s): Map Set, Sheets 1-9

c: Don DeWolfe (Sharyland)  
Teresa Trotman (AEP)  
Randy Roper (AEP)  
Saul Barrera (IBWC)



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY  
SUITE 320  
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-795-3700  
FAX 512-795-3704

March 14, 2013  
(Via Mail)



Ernesto Reyes  
US Fish and Wildlife Service - Alamo Field Office  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516

Re: North Edinburg to Loma Alta 345 kV Transmission Line Project  
**Request for Preliminary Comments on Proposed Alternative Links for  
Transmission Line**

Dear Mr. Reyes:

Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) and Sharyland Utilities, L.P. (Sharyland) will be filing an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to amend their Certificates of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Hidalgo and Cameron counties, Texas. POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) is assisting ETT and Sharyland during the application process by analyzing alternative routes for the transmission line and obtaining all necessary permits and licenses required for the project.

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POWER sent a consultation letter to your office dated March 30, 2012 during the initial routing process to gather information about the project study area in order to develop alternative links. (A reply was received, dated September 10, 2012). In addition to the initial response, Sharyland, ETT and POWER have visited your office several times to discuss this project. Several proposed alternative links that will be included in the CCN application cross portions of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Lower Rio Grande Valley Flood Control Project Right of Way (ROW). The PUCT will ultimately approve one route for the transmission line, and if the PUCT selects one of the routes crossing the IBWC ROW, then ETT and/or Sharyland will be required to obtain a license from the IBWC.

ETT, Sharyland, and POWER have met several times with personnel from the IBWC Mercedes Field Office in an effort to ensure the proposed floodway crossings by the new transmission line are consistent with the IBWC's guidelines. In certain areas, the structures supporting the transmission line might need to be placed near and/or within the floodway.

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 14, 2013

Page 2

These structures would be primarily single shaft steel poles (monopole) of double-circuit capable design, with use of lattice steel towers where appropriate or necessary.

In addition to complying with the IBWC's guidelines, IBWC has stated that before it will issue a license, ETT and Sharyland must also contact and obtain letters of compliance from the Texas Historic Commission (THC), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). These letters must concur with the proposed work and give clearance under the appropriate statutory provisions while noting any special conditions on the project. For the USFWS, this includes a determination that the proposed project complies with the Endangered Species Act, as needed.

ETT and Sharyland are not requesting any formal determination at this time. But as a preliminary step to aide in this process, POWER is requesting that USFWS review the attached map sheets 1-9 showing the proposed alternative links that cross IBWC ROW and notify POWER of any preliminary comments or potential concerns with the proposed crossings. A table of each link with the corresponding sheet number that crosses the IBWC ROW is included below. If the PUCT approves a route that requires an IBWC license, ETT and Sharyland will send your agency additional information related to the IBWC ROW crossing(s) and formally request a letter of compliance from your agency.

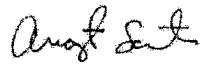
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POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

March 14, 2013  
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Sincerely,



Anastacia Santos  
Project Manager

Enclosure(s): Map Set, Sheets 1-9

c: Don DeWolfe (Sharyland)  
Teresa Trotman (AEP)  
Randy Roper (AEP)  
Saul Barrera (IBWC)



**From:** Paul Kersey 6252  
**To:** [padmareunnikrishna@ibwc.gov](mailto:padmareunnikrishna@ibwc.gov)  
**Cc:** Don DeWolfe ([ddewolfe@sharyland.com](mailto:ddewolfe@sharyland.com)), Teresa Trotman ([trotman@aep.com](mailto:trotman@aep.com)), Randy Roper ([rroper@aep.com](mailto:rroper@aep.com)), Anastacia Santos 6903  
**Subject:** Hydraulic Model of the Rio Grande and Floodways within the Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2013 5:24:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [Link Numbers 2013-01-18.kmz](#)  
[Links 2013-01-18.kmz](#)  
[Nodes 2013-01-09.kmz](#)  
[IBWC ROW.KMZ](#)

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Mr. Unnikrishna,

Per our phone conversation today, I have attached the Google Earth .kmz files showing the locations of the proposed transmission lines. The final alignment has not been selected yet. These lines show all of the possible routes. The transmission line is shown as links. The actual locations of the transmission structures are not shown. As we discussed, the structures will consist of steel monopoles with an approximate foundation diameter of 6 feet.

I am interested in the hydraulic model data for the Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project essentially between Penitas to the west and La Feria to the east. We discussed the 2003 report prepared by the IBWC and you indicated that you would check to see if a more recent model is available. I appreciate your assistance. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Paul Kersey, P.E., LEED AP BD+C  
Civil Engineer  
208-288-6252

**POWER Engineers, Inc.**

Energy • Facilities • Communications • Environmental  
[www.powereng.com](http://www.powereng.com)

From: [Paul.Kersey@powereng.com](mailto:Paul.Kersey@powereng.com)  
To: [Paul.Kersey@powereng.com](mailto:Paul.Kersey@powereng.com); [Teresa.Torres@univision.com](mailto:Teresa.Torres@univision.com); [Barbara.Rivera@univision.com](mailto:Barbara.Rivera@univision.com); [Aracelis.Santos@univision.com](mailto:Aracelis.Santos@univision.com)  
Subject: F99 Hydraulic Model of the Rio Grande and Floodways within the Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project  
Date: Thursday, March 21, 2013 11:29 AM  
Attachments: [USBRWC\\_PowerEngModel.pdf](#)

Dr. Unnikrishna's response to my request.

Regards,

Paul Kersey, P.E., LEED AP BD+C  
Civil Engineer  
202-288-6252 (direct)  
202-288-6100

**POWER Engineers, Inc.**  
Energy • Facilities • Communications • Environmental  
[www.powereng.com](http://www.powereng.com)

From: Padmare Unnikrishna [<mailto:Padmare.Unnikrishna@bwr.gov>]  
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2013 11:53 AM  
To: Paul Kersey 6252  
Cc: Jose Nunez  
Subject: Re: Hydraulic Model of the Rio Grande and Floodways within the Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project

Mr. Kersey,

This is related to your request for hydraulic models to study the impact of the proposed transmission towers in the Lower Rio Grande. I am attaching a copy of the Google Earth image showing the possible transmission line alignments. This image was prepared from the knowledge provided by you in your email.

I have created the 003 HEC-RAS model and report in the folder: LowerRioGrande\003Model in our ftp site. (37.83 MB)

The other 008 HEC-RAS models and report prepared by S&B are in folder: LowerRioGrande\008Model (761.0 MB)

For projects along the main stem of the Rio Grande, please use the 003 HEC-RAS.  
For projects along the interior floodways, use the 008 HEC-RAS model.

Instructions for downloading the files from the ftp site are provided below.

We require an evaluation of hydraulic impacts for projects proposed in the Rio Grande floodplain. These may be evaluated for the design flow in a spreadsheet as defined below. The hydraulic model for the proposed condition needs to include sufficient cross sections and geometry features to clearly represent the project details. Additional cross-sections need to be inserted in the existing condition model so that they correspond to the proposed condition cross-section locations. This allows a detailed comparison of hydraulic results at similar locations. The models are then run to evaluate the hydraulic impacts. I have attached a pdf file listing the Technical Drainage Report Requirements for USBR/C. This is also listed in our web site at: [http://river.state.nv/pdms/licenses/technical\\_drainage\\_report.html](http://river.state.nv/pdms/licenses/technical_drainage_report.html)

The hydraulic impact due to water surface elevation (WSEL) increases are calculated as the proposed condition WSEL minus the existing condition WSEL. A table showing the HEC-RAS river station numbers, proposed condition WSEL, existing condition WSEL, and the difference should be included in the report.

The hydraulic impact due to increases in deflection of flows are calculated in the following manner. In HEC-RAS, the Standard Table 1 is modified using 'Options' 'Define Table' to include variables 'Q Left', 'Q Channel' and 'Q Right'. These variables represent, respectively, flow in left overbank, flow in main channel and flow in right overbank. For each cross section, the discharge on the Mexico side is calculated as half the flow in the main channel plus flow in right overbank. Similarly, for each cross section, the discharge on the United States side is calculated as half the flow in the main channel plus flow in left overbank. These calculations are made for both the existing condition and the proposed condition. Finally, the increase in percent deflection is calculated for each cross section for Mexico and for the United States. Recommended table columns would be: 'Q Left', 'Q Channel', 'Q Right', 'Q Mexico' and 'Q United States' for existing condition, 'Q Left', 'Q Channel', 'Q Right', 'Q Mexico', and 'Q United States' for proposed condition, 'Q increase in Mexico', 'Q increase in United States', 'Percent deflection to Mexico', 'Percent deflection to United States.'

Thanks

Padmare Unnikrishna, Ph.D., P.E., CFM  
Hydraulic Engineer  
IBWC, U.S. Section  
Headquarters, ESD  
WY (915) 832-4742

*Excellence Through Teamwork*

#### STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

The information contained in this electronic message and any attachments(s) to this message are intended for the exclusive use of the addressee(s), and may contain confidential or privileged information. You are hereby notified that any unauthorized use, disclosure, and/or distribution of the information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender immediately via e-mail, and destroy all copies of this message and any attachments.

The files have been placed in the LowerRioGrande folder under C:\F\716&E.  
To access the files, please use the following information (note that it is case sensitive):

P Address: 6396 218.8

User ID: PowerEng  
Password: P17@u@C3a

Port: 2900