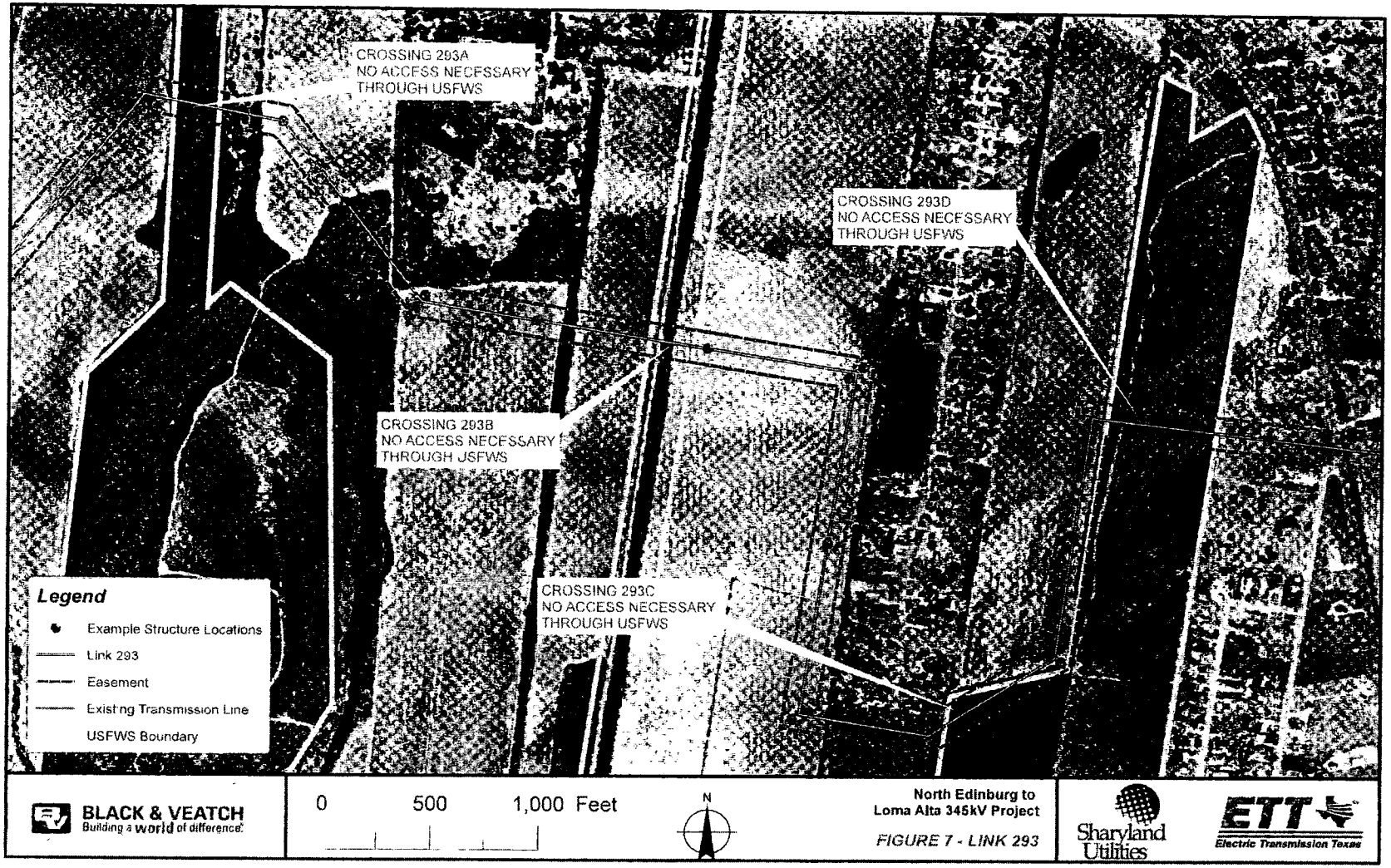
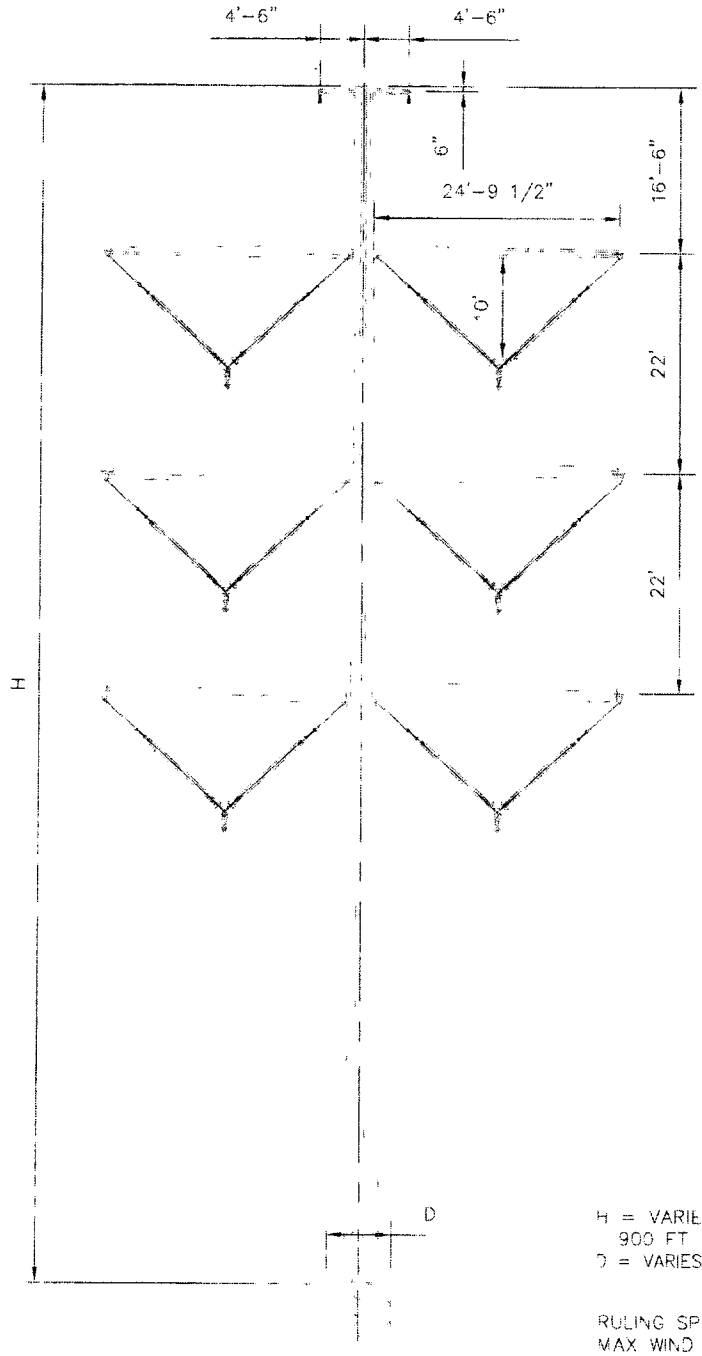

CROSSING 293A
NO ACCESS NECESSARY
THROUGH USFWS
CROSSING 293D
NO ACCESS NECESSARY
THROUGH USFWS
CROSSING 293B
NO ACCESS NECESSARY
THROUGH USFWS
CROSSING 293C
NO ACCESS NECESSARY
THROUGH USFWS
Legend
Example Structure Locations
Link 293
Easement
Existing Transmission Line
USFWS Boundary
BLACK & VEATCH
Building a world of difference!
0
500
1,000 Feet
N
North Edinburg to
Loma Alta 345kV Project
FIGURE 7 - LINK 293
Sharyland Utilities
ETT
Electric Transmission Texas

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

Attachment 2
Structure Typical Drawings



H = VARIES, AVERAGE 145 FT FOR 900 FT SPANS ON FLAT TERRAIN
D = VARIES, AVERAGE 8'-0" FOR TANGENT

RULING SPAN	900 FT
MAX WIND SPAN	1000 FT
MAX WEIGHT SPAN	1000 FT

PRELIMINARY
(NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION)

NOT TO SCALE
ISSUED FOR REVIEW 03/20/13

Sharyland Utilities

BLACK & VEATCH CORP
6500 S SYRACUSE WY
SUITE 300
CENTENNIAL CO. 80111

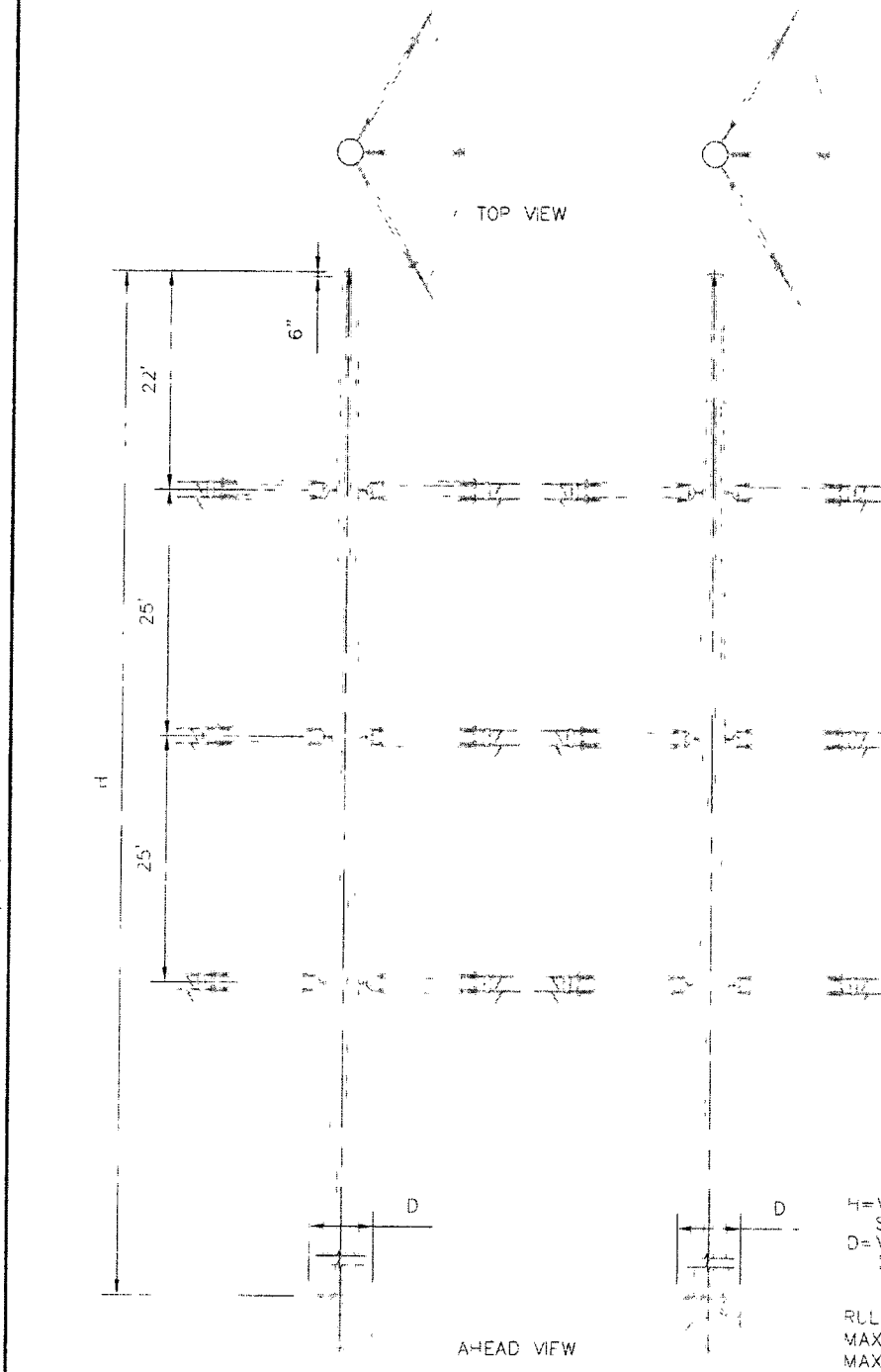
SHARYLAND
N. EDINBURG TO LOMA ALTA
345 KV

FIGURE 1
TANGENT V-STRING STR

DRAWING NUMBER
SK-TAN-VS

REV B

SCH60739 AUTOCAD 2008 FILE SK-TAN-VS.dwg 26/Feb/13 5:43:33 AM



H=VARIES, AVERAGE 145' FOR 900' SPANS IN FLAT TERRAIN.
D=VARIES, AVERAGE 11'-0" FOR LIGHT DEADEND

RULING SPAN 900 FT
MAX WIND SPAN 1000 FT
MAX WEIGHT SPAN 1000 FT

PRELIMINARY
(NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION)

NOT TO SCALE
ISSUED FOR REVIEW -- 3/20/13

Sharyland Utilities

BLACK & VEATCH CORP
6330 S SYRACUSE WY
SUITE 300
CENTENNIAL CO 80111

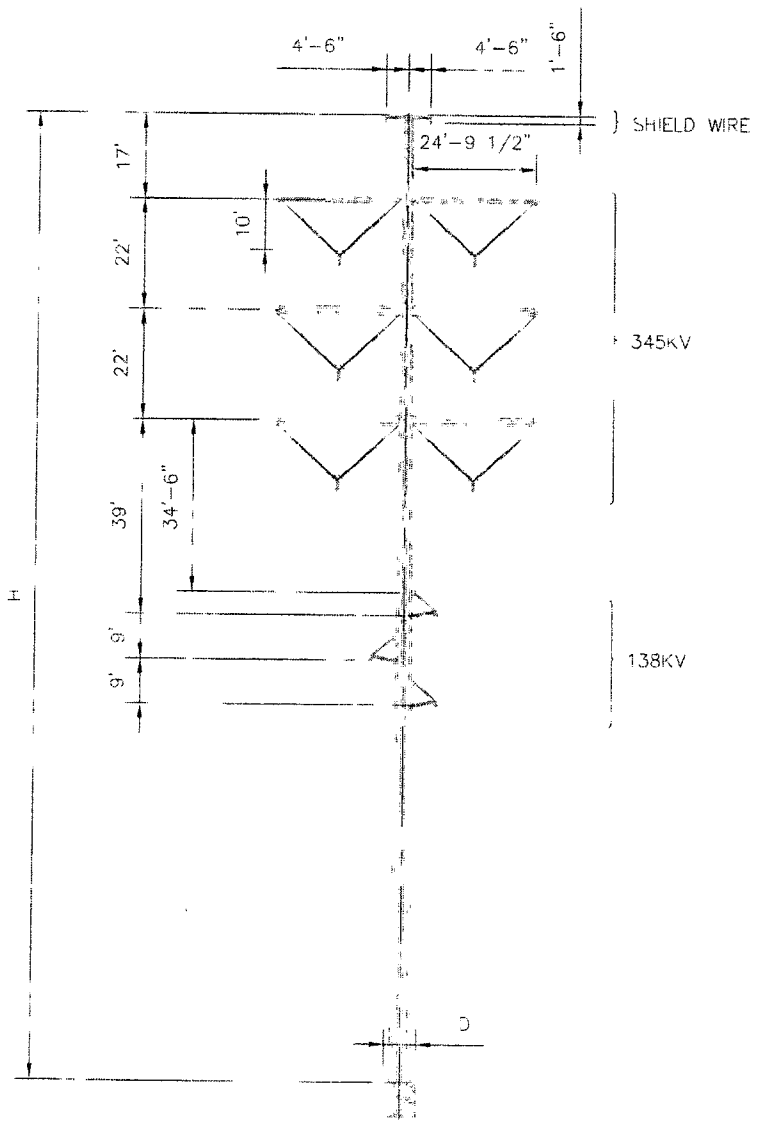
SHARYLAND
N. EDINBURG TO LOMA ALTA
345 KV

FIGURE 2
TWO POLE DEADEND

DRAWING NUMBER
SK-2P-DE

REV A

8/Mar/13 1:52:12 PM
FILE: SK-2P-DE.dwg
AUTOCAD 2008
SCH60739



H=VARIES, AVERAGE 165' FOR 675' SPANS ON FLAT TERRAIN
D=VARIES, AVERAGE 9'-0"FOR TANGENT

RULING SPAN	675 FT
MAX WIND SPAN	800 FT
MAX WEIGHT SPAN	800 FT

PRELIMINARY
(NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION)

NOT TO SCALE
ISSUED FOR REVIEW 03/20/13

Sharyland Utilities

BLACK & VEATCH CORP
6300 S SYRACUSE WY
SUITE 300
CENTENNIAL, CO. 80111

SHARYLAND
N. EDINBURG TO LOMA ALTA
345 KV AND 138KV

FIGURE 3
TANGENT V-STRING STR
W/BRACED POST UNDERBUILD

DRAWING NUMBER
SK-TAN VS-BP
REV B

SCH60739 AUTOCAD 2008 FILE SK TAN-VS-BP.dwg 26/Feb/13 5 4:33 AM

Attachment 3
Photographs

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

Photo #1 – Link 234. Moderate density brush viewing west from eastern property boundary.

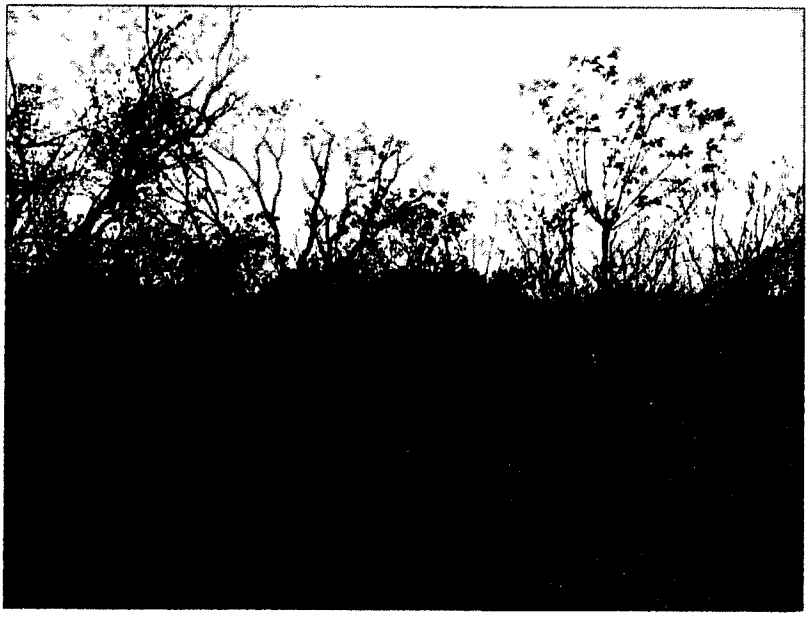


Photo #2 - Link 234. Moderate density brush viewing west from mid-property.

Photographs taken January 28 29, 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

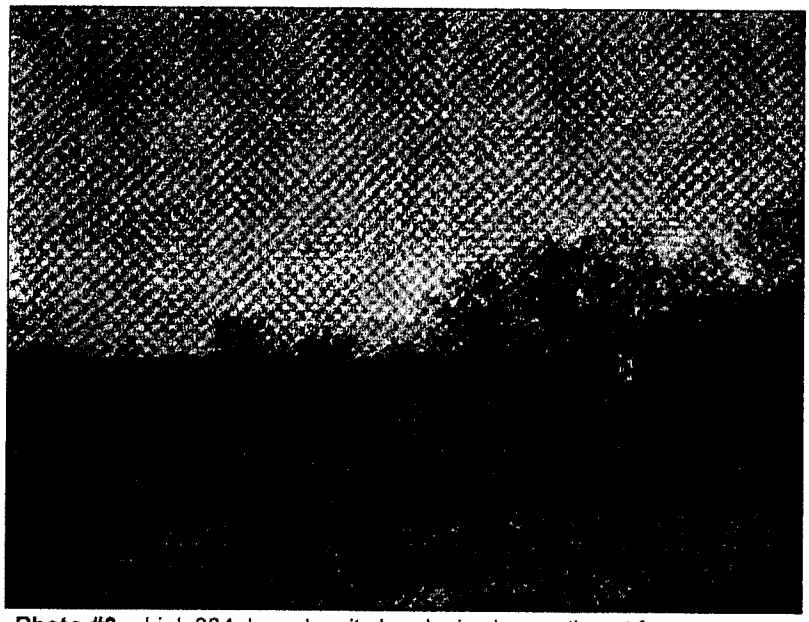


Photo #3 – Link 234. Low density brush viewing northeast from western portion of property boundary.

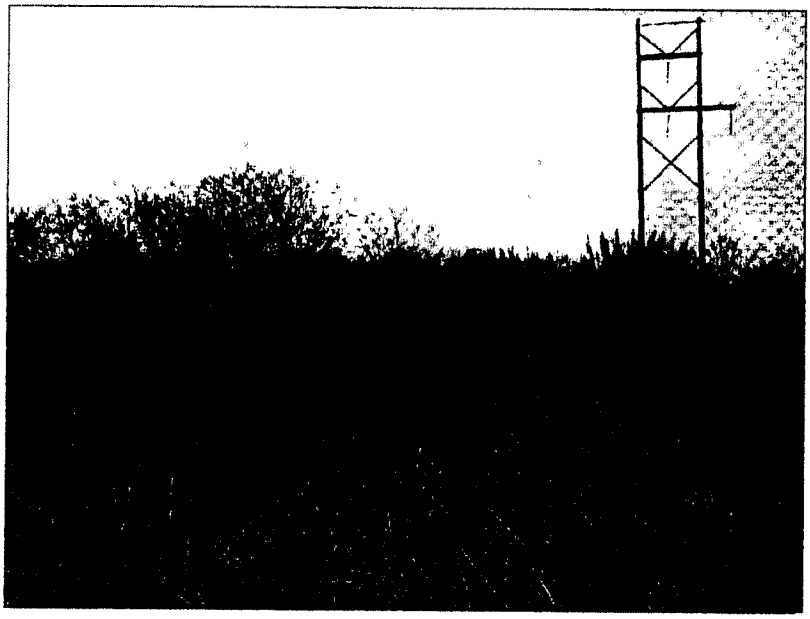


Photo #4 – Link 281. Fallow field re-growth viewing south from proposed ROW.

Photographs taken January 28 29, 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

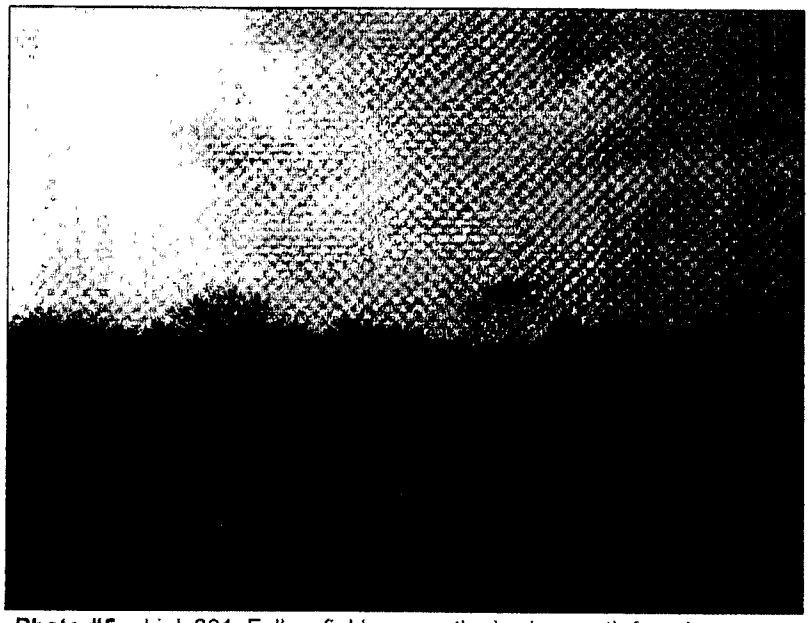


Photo #5 – Link 281. Fallow field re-growth viewing south from Lago road.

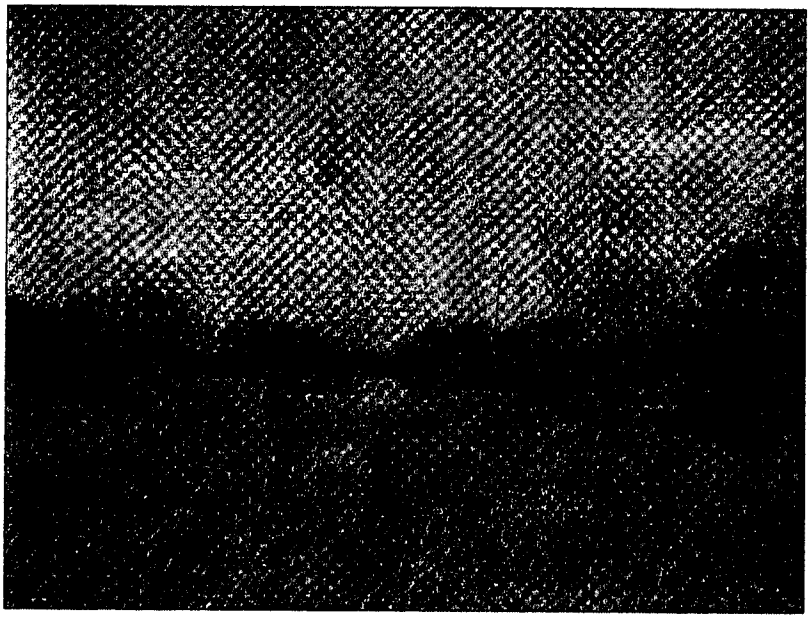


Photo #6 – Link 281. Fallow field re-growth viewing west from proposed ROW.

Photographs taken January 28 29, 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

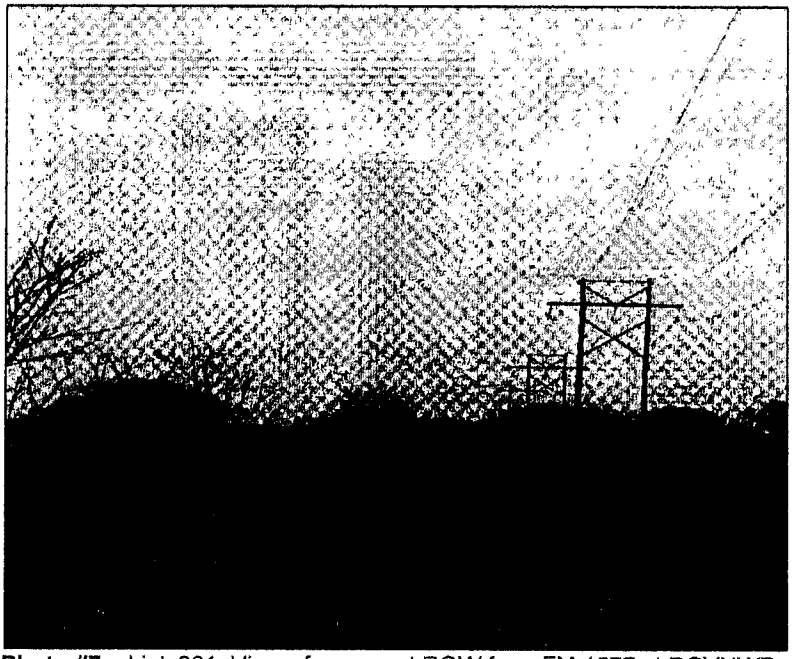


Photo #7 – Link 281. View of proposed ROW from FM 1577. LRGVNWR property begins at first structure. Viewing east.

Photo #8 – Link 281. Fallow field re-growth viewing south from proposed ROW.

Photographs taken January 28 29, 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

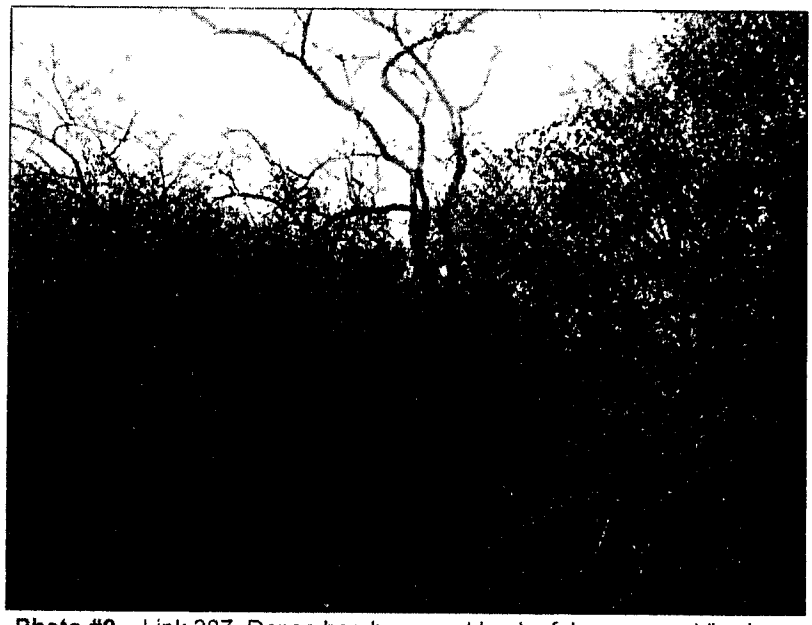


Photo #9 – Link 287. Dense brush on west bank of dry resaca. Viewing northeast.

Photo #10 – Link 287. Moderately dense brush west of resaca. Viewing west.

Photographs taken January 28 29, 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

Photo #11 – Link 287. Moderately dense brush within proposed ROW. Viewing west.

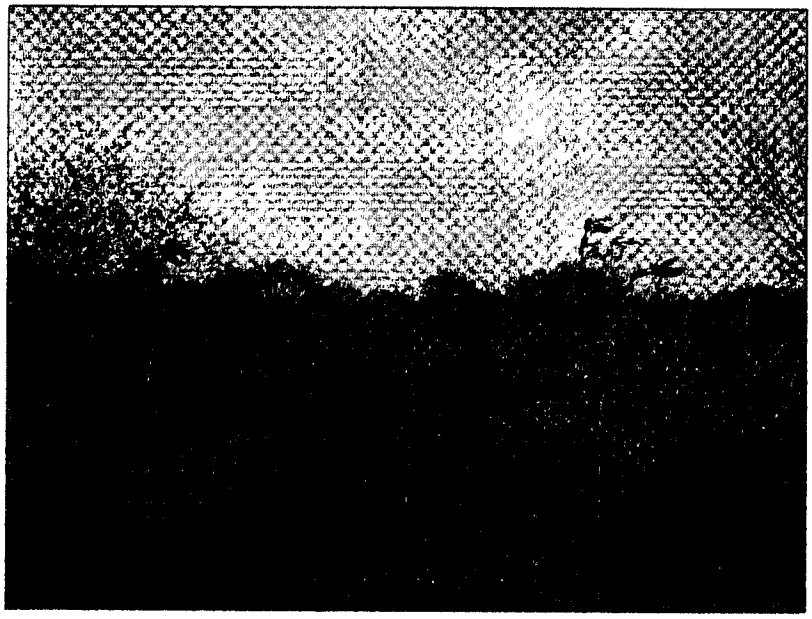


Photo #12 – Link 287. Low density brush within proposed ROW. Viewing west.

Photographs taken January 28 29 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

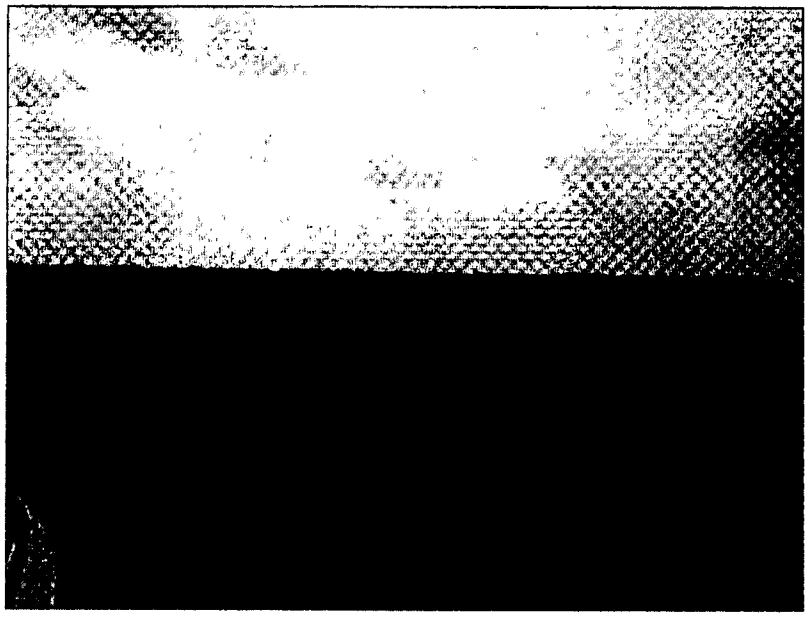


Photo #13 – Link 287. Agricultural land within ROW viewing east from western edge of cropland.

Photo #14 – Link 287 Mesquite brush bordering resaca on east bank.

Photographs taken January 28 29, 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

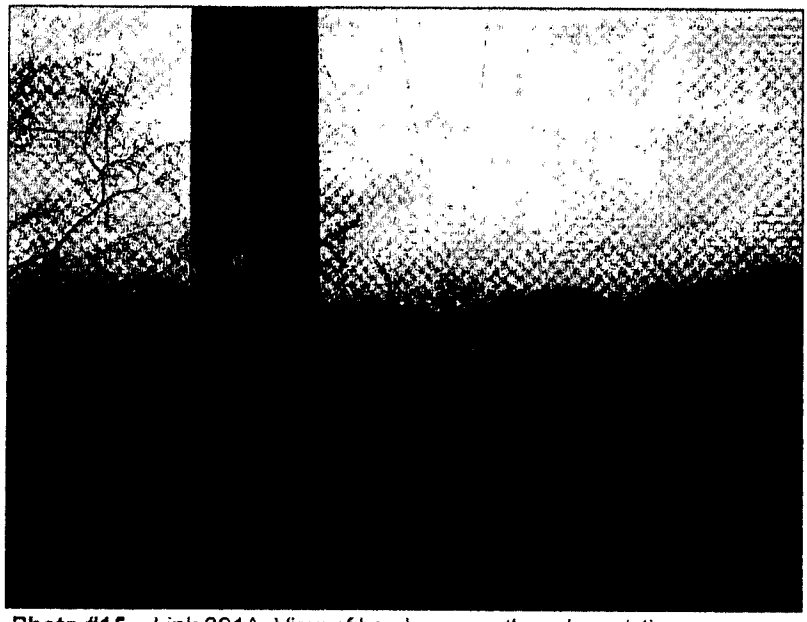


Photo #15 – Link 291A. View of brush re-growth under existing transmission line and proposed ROW north of existing line.

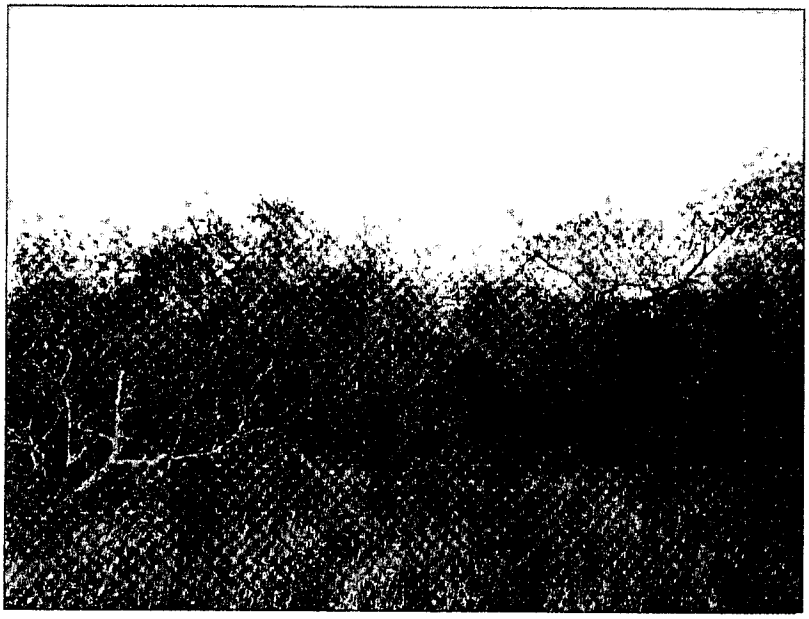


Photo #16 – Link 291A. Mesquite brush viewing west towards eastern edge of resaca.

Photographs taken January 28 29, 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

Photo #17 – Link 291A. Dense brush on both banks of dry resaca. Viewing north from middle of resaca.

Photo #18 – Link 293A. Dense brush located along border of cropland.

Photographs taken January 28 29 2013

LRGVNWR Preliminary Alternative Link Crossings
North Edinburg – Loma Alta 345 KV Transmission Project

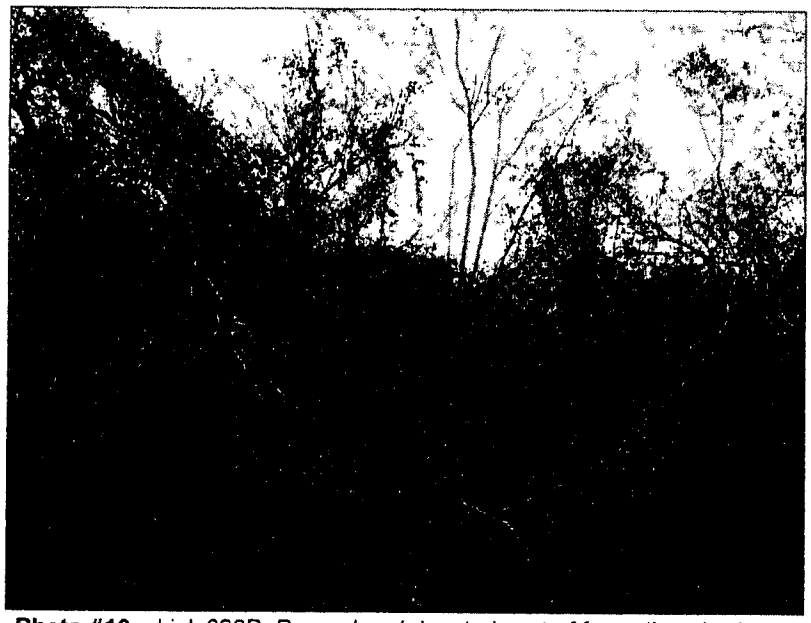


Photo #19 – Link 293D, Dense brush located east of fence line viewing west from access road.

Photo #20 – Link 293D. Mesquite brush viewing east from access road.

Photographs taken January 28 29, 2013

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

South Texas Refuge Complex
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road
Alamo, Texas 78516
(956) 784-7500

May 6, 2013

Anastacia Santos, Project Manager
POWER Engineers, Inc.
7600-B N. Capital of Texas Hwy., Suite 320
Austin, Texas 78731

Re: Proposed ETT and Sharyland 345 kV Electric Transmission Line Routes Across the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Dear Ms. Santos:

For the proposed ETT and Sharyland 345 kV Project, your company has provided five alternative routes crossing the Resaca del Rancho Viejo Tract and the Ranchito Tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). A single route has been proposed for the Resaca del Rancho Viejo Tract and four optional routes have been proposed for the Ranchito Tract.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and Refuge personnel have met with POWER Engineers, Inc. staff on multiple occasions over the previous year or so to discuss route-specific issues and concerns, and right-of-way requirements for routes crossing Refuge property. Refuge personnel have conducted preliminary Appropriate Use Findings for all proposed routes crossing Refuge property and collectively have the following recommendations.

The establishment of a new power line right-of-way across the Refuge is not an appropriate use as it would result in the direct loss of habitat for wildlife, limit our land management jurisdiction, cause forest fragmentation, and it would create an additional barrier for north-south terrestrial mammal movement. In addition, high-power electric lines create static electricity (increased wildfire risk during dusty wind events), make noise, and pose a hazard for a variety of avian species, especially raptors.

Despite these issues, one proposed route on the Ranchito Tract, which could potentially be accommodated, would be Link 281 Option 1 (as depicted in April 1, 2013 correspondence from

Steven D. Hicks, Wildlife Biologist) since it would be located within an existing power line right-of-way. A new or additional electric line located within an existing right-of-way/easement (i.e., utility corridor) could possibly be accommodated on the Refuge if the footprint remains the same or is only slightly increased and the subsequent habitat loss is avoided and/or restored in a manner creating vegetation conditions on the Refuge that are an improvement to the existing conditions. Temporary and permanent brush clearing impacts must be minimized or avoided to the maximum extent possible. The other four proposed routes on both Refuge tracts require a considerable amount of new right-of-way, which are mostly likely neither appropriate nor compatible with Refuge goals.

Although there will inevitably be adverse impacts associated with any additional power line routes across the Refuge, there may be a in seeking means of accommodating the route discussed above on the Ranchito Tract in lieu of recommending against them all because of the importance of co-locating these type of utilities rather than continuing to create additional new right-of-ways where vegetation losses and thus impacts to wildlife will increase.

We appreciate your pro-active coordination with the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge and the Service's Ecological Services Branch on this important project. However, we are optimistic that the project can still be accomplished without overly impacting the Refuge or natural resources found in the region.

Sincerely,

Robert Jess, Project Leader
South Texas Refuge Complex

cc: Bryan Winton, Refuge Manager, Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR
Ernesto Reyes, Wildlife Biologist, Ecological Services
John Wallace, Deputy Project Leader, South Texas Refuge Complex

From: Winton, Bryan
To: Anastacia Santos 6903
Cc: Rob Jess; John Wallace
Subject: Re: Checking In...
Date: Friday, May 10, 2013 4:10:06 PM

Ms. Santos:
Link 291 has high quality brush adjacent to the existing line and is closer to the river/south and HW281 (another barrier for north/south wildlife movement). The refuge is narrow in that area as well. It is a shorter distance across the refuge however. Therefore, there could be benefits of further consideration of this alternative.

The main point of our correspondence is that we cannot find a new or significantly-expanded right-of-way across the refuge appropriate or compatible. However, a co-located line within an existing right-of-way present on the refuge at time of purchase which would not result in an increase in habitat loss could most likely be found compatible. There are a lot of criteria for consideration however: temporary/permanent habitat loss, length of line on the refuge, right-of-way width, proximity to wetlands, etc. but whichever alignment is preferred/recommended will need to be co-located across our lands or it won't be found compatible. If a new right-of-way is required (on our land), there is a year or so processing/evaluation period in order to obtain a 50:50 chance a ROW will be issued (big risk). I suspect you don't want to wait for a year with the risk of being denied your ROW request across our property.

If you cannot or do not propose to avoid our property altogether (at both sites), then you will need to co-locate the line(s) within the existing easement widths (lines) already present in order for your project to proceed as planned.

Hope this adds some clarity to your question.

Sincerely,

bryan winton,refuge manager
Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR
(956) 784-7521

On Fri, May 10, 2013 at 3:34 PM, Anastacia Santos <anastacia.santos@powereng.com> wrote:

Bryan,

In reading your response letter, it seems the Link that USFWS might accommodate, Link 281 Option 1, was not presented in our letter as an overbuild but rather a paralleling situation. Link 291 Option 2 was the one that was proposed as an overbuild. Is this the one you meant that could possibly be accommodated? Could you please clarify?

Thanks,

Stacy

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

From: Winton, Bryan [mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 2:43 PM
To: Anastacia Santos 6903
Subject: Re: Checking In...

We mailed them off to you Tuesday I think. You should have already received them or get them today. Here is the electronic version of what was sent.

bryan

On Fri, May 10, 2013 at 9:55 AM, Anastacia Santos <anastacia.santos@powereng.com> wrote:

Bryan,

We are getting down to the wire to print.... Just checking to see where you are with your comments.

Stacy

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

--
Bryan R. Winton, Refuge Manager

Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge

3325 Green Jay Road

Alamo, Texas 78516

(956) 784-7521 office

(956) 874-4304 cell

(956) 787-8338 fax

--
Bryan R. Winton, Refuge Manager
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3325 Green Jay Road
Alamo, Texas 78516
(956) 784-7521 office
(956) 874-4304 cell

(956) 787-8338 fax

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

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

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

April 17, 2013
(Via Mail)

ENERGY
FACILITIES
COMMUNICATIONS
ENVIRONMENTAL

Ms. Marianna Trevino-Wright
Executive Director
National Butterfly Center
3333 Butterfly Park Dr.
Mission, TX 78572

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

Dear Ms. Trevino-Wright:

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 study area map. The enclosed aerial map shows the National Butterfly Center in relationship to the current proposed links.

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

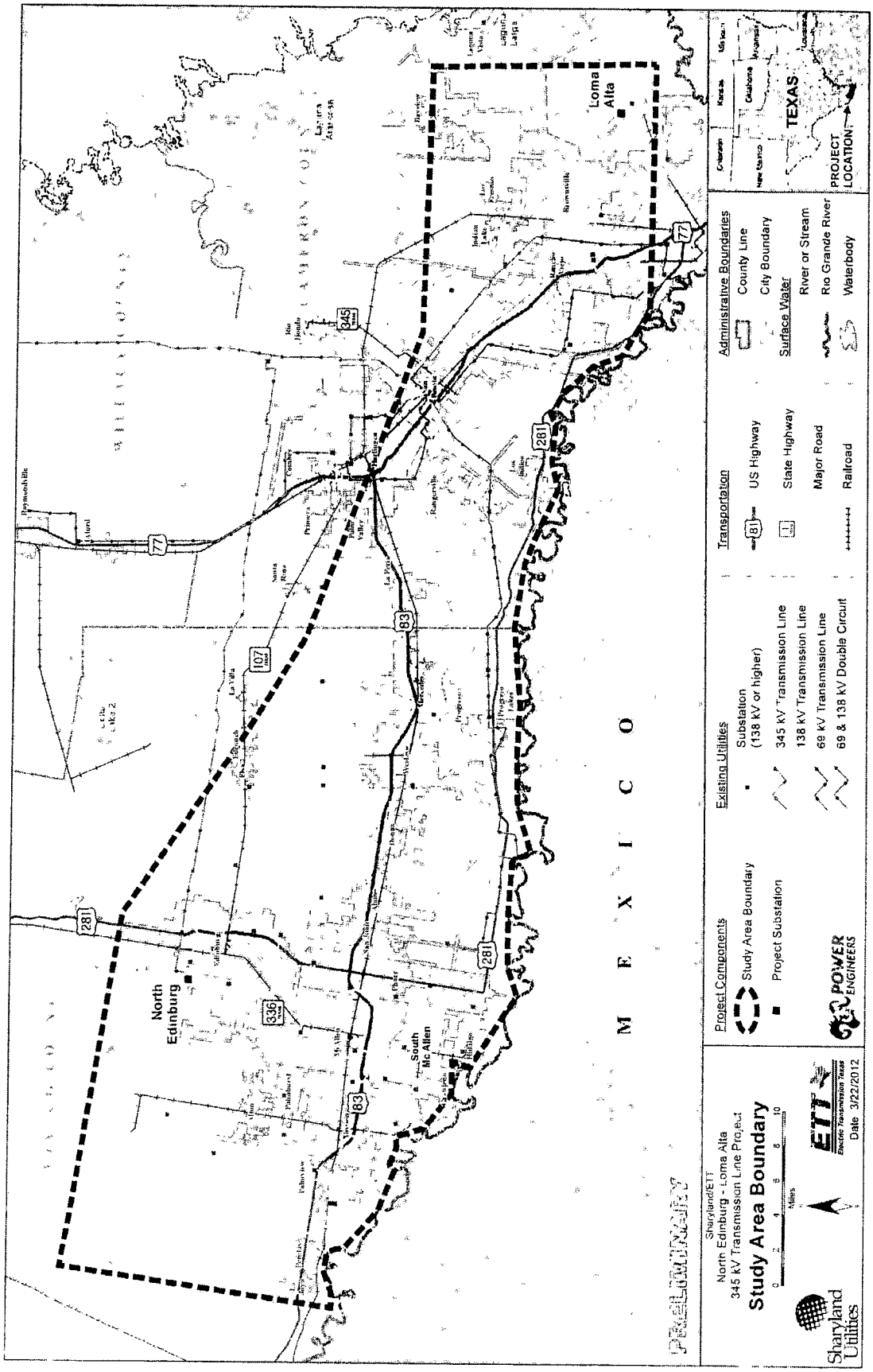
Thank you for your assistance with this proposed electric transmission line project. Please contact me by phone at 512-795-3700, extension 6903 or by e-mail at anastacia.santos@powereng.com if you have any questions or require additional information.

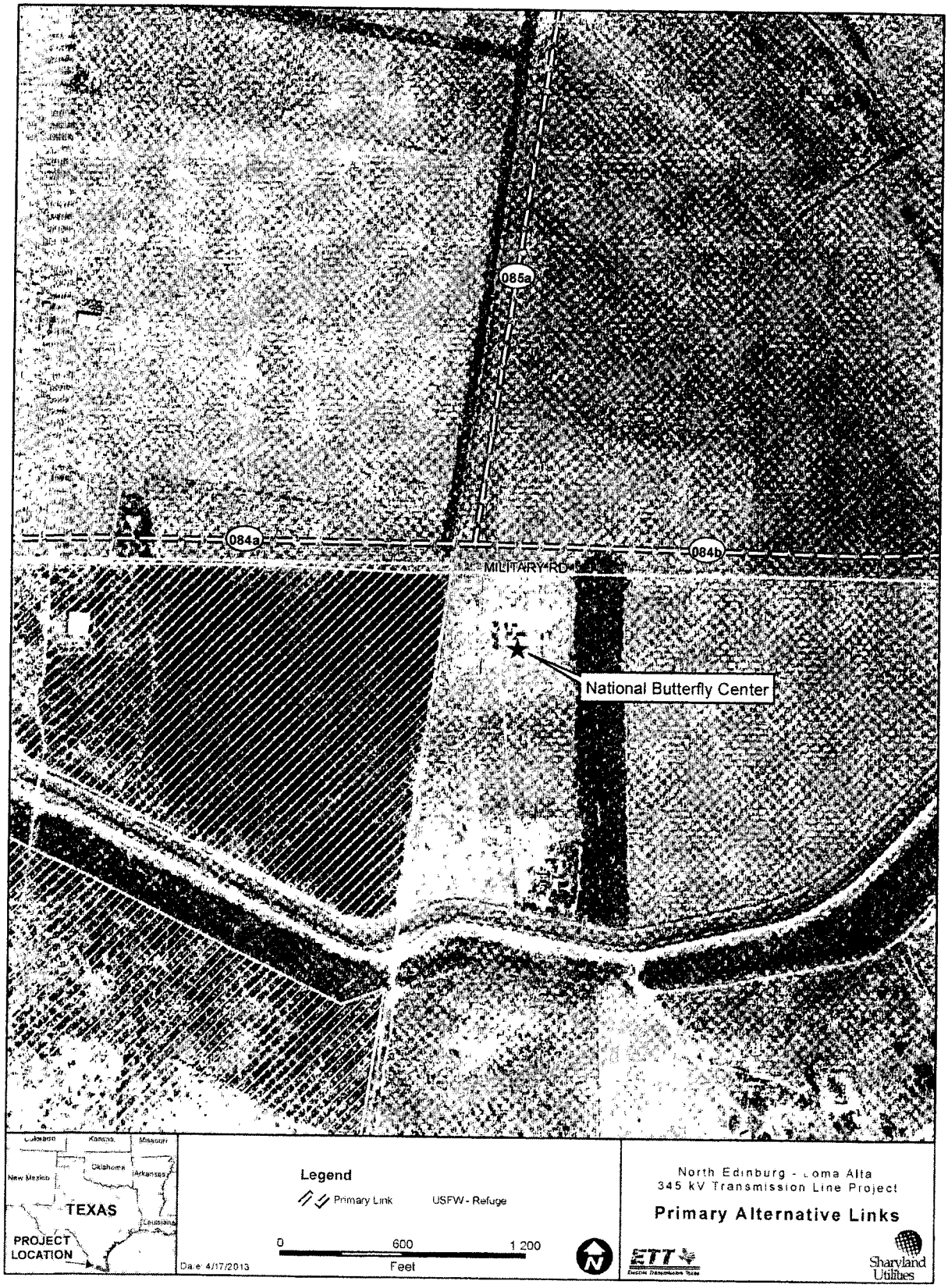
Sincerely,

Anastacia Santos
Project Manager

Enclosure(s):
Preliminary Study Area Map
Aerial Map

Sent Via Mail
DMS 126120
PER-01


Loma Alta
North Edinburg
South Mc Allen
M E X I C O
PRELIMINARY
Sharyland/ETT
North Edinburg - Loma Alta
345 kV Transmission Line Project
Study Area Boundary
Miles
Date 3/22/2012
Project Components
Study Area Boundary
Project Substation
Existing Utilities
Substation (138 kV or higher)
345 kV Transmission Line
138 kV Transmission Line
69 kV Transmission Line
69 & 138 kV Double Circuit
Transportation
US Highway
State Highway
Major Road
Railroad
Administrative Boundaries
County Line
City Boundary
Surface Water
River or Stream
Rio Grande River
Waterbody
TEXAS
PROJECT LOCATION


085a
084a
084b
MILITARY RD
National Butterfly Center
Colorado
Kansas
Missouri
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Arkansas
TEXAS
Louisiana
PROJECT LOCATION
Legend
Primary Link
USFW - Refuge
0
600
1,200
Feet
Date: 4/17/2013
North Edinburg - Loma Alta
345 kV Transmission Line Project
Primary Alternative Links
ETT
Sharyland Utilities

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

The Nature Conservancy of Texas
205 N. Carrizo St.
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

tel [361] 882-3584
fax [361] 882-8561
nature.org/texas

25 April 2013
(Via email)

Anastacia Santos
Power Engineers, Inc.
7600B N Capital of Texas HWY
Suite 320
Austin, TX 78731

Re: Proposed North Edinburg-Loma Alta 345 kV Transmission Line Project Hidalgo and Cameron Counties, TX – Project No. 126120

The Texas Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposal to design and construct a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Hidalgo and Cameron Counties, Texas. The proposed 072 and 073 preliminary-link near Chihuahua Road directly impacts the Conservancy's Chihuahua Woods Preserve. We propose the alternative route of 071a and 071b, as a preferred choice; reason being, there would be no clearing of rare Tamaulipan thornscrub and minimal loss of wildlife habitat, 072 and 073 routes already cross disturbed land (currently a row-crop agriculture field), agricultural practices could continue resulting in future savings towards maintaining constructed right-of-way within this stretch, in this section.

We are concerned that the proposed 072 and 073 preliminary-links will create irrevocable damage to the wildlife habitat on our Chihuahua Woods preserve that could detrimentally impact state and federally listed threatened and/or endangered species, increase trespass, and greatly diminish the conservation and land values of our property. Be aware that federal funds have also been invested in our property, so there are federal restricitons on this property and any new right-of-way that crosses our property may also require review and approval from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and/or Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

Chihuahua Woods Preserve is a 349-acre tract located in Hidalgo County within the Tamaulipan Thornscrub Ecoregion. The preserve protects more than 100 species of plants, including the rare plant, Runyon's huaco (*Manfreda longiflora*), rare dense Tamaulipan thornscrub, including Texas Ebony / Snake-eyes shrubland). A unique botanical feature on the preserve is the concentrated cacti communities. On a space of about a small back yard, a dozen different cacti species grow so thick it looks like a carpet of cactus. This unique assemblage is repeated throughout the preserve. Chihuahua Woods provides habitat for rare native species such as the State-listed threatened Texas tortoise (*Gopherus berlandieri*), Texas horned lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*), and western indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais*) and maintains a population of javalina and deer.

The rare Hook-billed Kite (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*) has been seen at Chihuahua Woods Preserve in recent years, attracted to the high concentration of tree snails that make up the bulk of its diet and thick brush habitat found on the preserve. The first documented nest of a Hook-billed Kite nesting in the United States since 2002, occurred at Chihuahua Woods Preserve in 2010 and 2011, where we know of at least one chick fledged in each years. Endangered vertebrate species of conservation concern, which may occur at the preserve are the endangered ocelot (Leopardus pardalis) and jaguarundi (Felis yagouaroundi). Ocelots, require large expanses of dense brush to den and hunt, and densely wooded corridors for safe travel passages and staging sites. Sites like those described are found at Chihuahua Woods Preserve.

The value of the preserve was used as match on a North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grant 98210-3-G588 and a Notice of Grant Agreement was filed in Hidalgo County in 2007. As a result, there are federal restricitons on this property and any new right-of-way that crosses our property may also require review and approval from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Additionally, TNC has entered into a Private Lands Owner Agreement (LOA) with TX Parks & Wildlife Department and US Fish & Wildlife Service in 2004 (USFWS/ TPWD Section 6 Govt. Grant - 105883). The LOA's primary purpose is to conserve South TX rare and endangered plants throughout their range on private land in Texas. The project's secondary purpose is to help ensure that rare plants which are currently unlisted will not need to be federally listed, and to help conserve and recover plants which are already on the Endangered Species list.

Prior to the Conservancy's ownership of the property, Chihuahua Woods was first put on the market in 1986. Local citizens concerned about the fate of the land and inspired by a desire to protect the Lower Rio Grande Valley's natural heritage founded the land trust, The Valley Land Fund (VLF) in 1988. Citing its high and unique ecological value, the group initiated an ambitious fundraising campaign aimed at purchasing the land. The Valley Land Fund raised enough money to acquire half the property, their first purchase as a landtrust. Afterwards they enlisted the assistance of the Conservancy to ensure preservation of the entire site. In 1991, the Conservancy purchased Chihuahua Woods. The property has long been part of the conservation wildlife corridor in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and is open to the public during daylight hours for bird watching.

Since its initial purchase, the area surrounding the preserve has become more urban with residential housing on the east side of the property. A problem with having an urban preserve is vandalism and illegal trespass and we are concerned that an additional right-of-way crossing our property will result in increased trespass and diminish the conservation and land value of the property. Examples that we've had to deal with include neighbors dumping household garbage, discarding tires, and illegal grazing with livestock. Boundary fences in these areas have been pushed down, cut and removed. Trespass from illegal immigrants as a pass-through area, resting area and or a pick-up location is very common. The preserve currently has a 138 kV line crossing the property that was cleared of native brush within its right-of-way in 2007. Once the native brush was removed, exotic grasses such as the invasive buffelgrass (*Pennisetum ciliare*) have become established and have penetrated deep into the preserve. The exotic grasses have expanded throughout the preserve and into the brush community. Grasses act as fire ladders by providing fine fuels to areas that would normally not carry fire. The cleared right-of-wayhas facilitated illegal trespass, dumping and has been the location of an arson attempt on the preserve

in recent years. In addition to providing good wildlife habitat, the thick native thornscrub and cacti community is a natural deterrent to people trespassing after hours.

All proposed construction anticipated with this project should avoid designated wildlife habitat sites and wildlife corridors. Transmission lines, whenever possible, should be constructed within existing ROW and follow established roads to minimize habitat fragmentation and impacts. ROW's should be constructed at the minimum width allowed and only native grasses and native brush should be used to restore sites disturbed to prevent soil erosion and exotic grasses from establishing. We suggest that you consult with South Texas Natives at Texas A&M University in Kingsville, TX http://ckwri.tamuk.edu/research-programs/south-texas-natives/ and http://ckwri.tamuk.edu/research-programs/texas-native-seeds/; or the NRCS - Kika de la Garza Plant Material Center also in Kingsville, for commercially available native grass seed mixes that will work within the proposed study area. The Nature Conservancy's Southmost Preserve is an excellent resource for woody plant species needs and restoration you can contact our office for more information.

Again we appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. Please contact me if you should have any questions or need additional information. I can be reached at the office (361)882-3584 or email at snajera@tnc.org.

Sincerely,

Sonia Najera

Grasslands Program Manager

CC: Robin Cobb, FWS – Ecological Services Office, Corpus Christi, TX Office – robin_Cobb@fws.gov

Jackie Poole – Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Austin TX – Jpoole@tpwd.tx.gov

From: Anastacia Santos 6903
To: "digital@rrc.state.tx.us"
Subject: Digital Data Request - POWER Engineers (Santos)
Date: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 10 41 00 AM
Attachments: POWER Engineers_Santos.pdf

Please see the attached request....

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

From: Digital
To: Anastacia Santos 6903
Subject: Re Digital Data Request POWER Engineers (Santos)
Date: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 3 24 01 PM
Attachments: How to access FTP site.doc
How to Access FTP Accounts.doc

Attn: Macy's Shopper, :)

Check the following ftp account tomorrow. Let me know if you have any questions.

For future requests, you will need to reference the following account information: **subpei**. Your password will be **blue21**. To retrieve completed requests from your FTP Account, you will go to ftp://subpei:blue21@ftp.rrc.state.tx.us/. The data will remain in this account for **30 days**.

If your account is not used after a twelve-month period it will become a delinquent account and will no longer be accessible to you. You will need to request reactivation of your account. Please note that all digital map requests must be submitted in writing either by e-mail at digital@rrc.state.tx.us or faxed to 512/463-7200.

Cordially,

Ernest Oviedo
Digital Data Coordinator
512-463-7254

>>> Anastacia Santos <anastacia.santos@powereng.com> 3/21/2012 10:41 AM >>>
Please see the attached request....

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

From: Darren Schubert 5523
To: jtarvis@mail.utexas.edu
Cc: Eugene Foster 6906, Anastacia Santos 6903
Subject: GIS Data Request
Date: Wednesday, April 04, 2012 2:58 41 PM
Attachments: NorthEdinburg_SA_11x17_Cultural_040212.pdf
Data Request.pdf

Jonathan,

Attached is a pdf of a letter requesting cultural resource GIS data to facilitate an Environmental Assesment and route analysis for a proposed transmission line in Cameron and Hidalgo Counties and a pdf map depicting the study area. You can send the data by quad (listed in the letter) or by county, whichever is easiest. Hard copies of the letter and map are in the mail headed your way, Thanks,

Darren Schubert

Power Engineers

509 North Sam Houston Parkway East

Suite 200

Houston, TX 77060

281-765-5500

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B North Capital of Texas Hwy
Suite 320
Austin TX 78731

PHONE 512.795.3700
FAX 512.795.3704

April 3, 2012
(Via Mail)

ENERGY
FACILITIES
COMMUNICATIONS
ENVIRONMENTAL

Jonathan Jarvis
Texas Archaeology Research Laboratory
10100 Burnet Road
J.J. Pickle Research Campus
Building 5, Room 4
Austin, TX 78758-4445

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

Dear Mr. Jarvis:

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 is 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, cultural and land use constraints within the study area. POWER will identify potential alternative route segments that consider these environmental, cultural and land use constraints.

We are requesting access to GIS data from the TexSite archaeological sites database maintained at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory. The data we are requesting from your office includes: shape files for previously documented archaeological sites and previously conducted cultural resource surveys. POWER will use the cultural resource data in the delineation and evaluation of alternative routes and in the assessment of potential impacts of those routes.

The USGS 7.5 minute quadrangles for which we are requesting GIS data are entirely within the boundaries of Cameron and Hidalgo counties. The specific USGS quadrangles include:

Alton	La Joya
Citrus City	La Paloma
Donna	Monte Christo
East Brownsville	Los Fresnos
Edcouch	Mc Cook
Edinburg	Mercedes
Faysville	Mission
Hargill	Olmito
Harlingen	Palmito Hill
Hidalgo	Pharr
Laguna Atascosa	Rio Hondo
Laguna Vista	San Juan SE
La Blanca	Progreso
La Coma	Santa Maria
Las Milpas	West Brownsville
La Feria	

I currently hold a THC Restricted Cultural Resources Information Access Card valid through September 30, 2012. Our GIS staff has extensive experience handling confidential information, including cultural resource data. Please forward the data to Katy Albano by e-mail at katy.albano@powereng.com. We can assure you that none of the date shared by the THC or TARL will be made available to the public.

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

Sincerely,

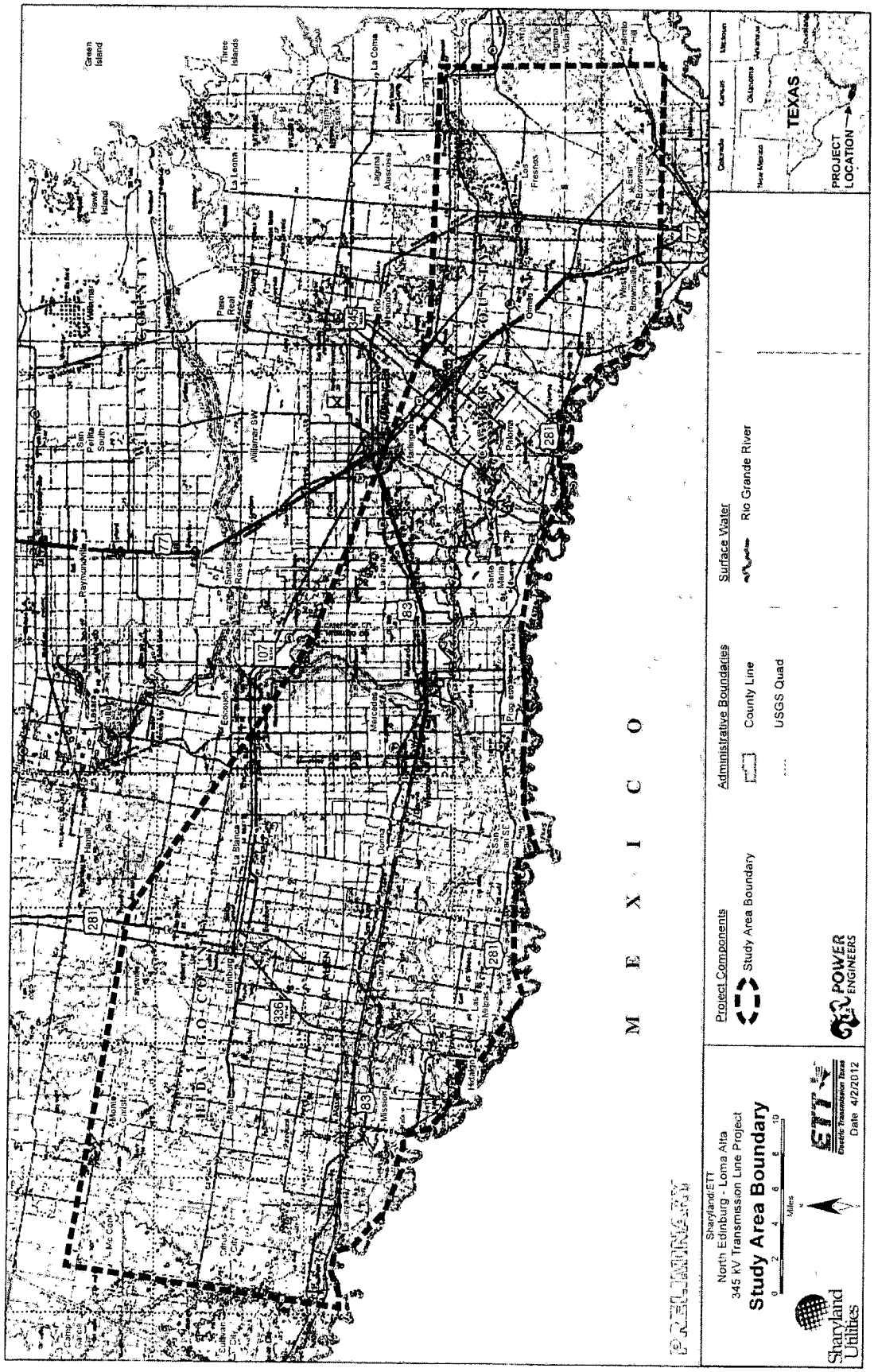
Darren Schubert
Archeologist

Enclosure(s):
Map

Sent Via Mail
DMS 126120
PER-01

cc: Anastacia Santos - PEI-Austin
Eugene Foster - PEI-Austin

AUS 146-048 (PER-01) SUBFT (04/02/2012) LD 126120


Sharyland Utilities
North Edinburg - Loma Alta
345 kV Transmission Line Project
Study Area Boundary
Miles
ETT
Electric Transmission Texas
Date 4/2/2012
Project Components
Study Area Boundary
Administrative Boundaries
County Line
USGS Quad
Surface Water
Rio Grande River
POWER ENGINEERS
PROJECT LOCATION
TEXAS
M E X I C O
HIDALGO CO.
WILLACY CO.

From:	Katy Albano 5531
To:	Anastacia Santos 6903
Subject:	FW GIS Data: North Edinburg - Loma Alta 345kV #126120
Date:	Tuesday, May 29, 2012 12:44 09 PM
Attachments:	TARL 4APR2012.zip

From: Jarvis, Jonathan H. [mailto:jonathan@austin.utexas.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2012 3:16 PM
To: Katy Albano 5531; Darren Schubert 5523
Subject: GIS Data: North Edinburg - Loma Alta 345kV #126120

Darren:

The shapefiles containing the archeological site location data for Cameron and Hidalgo Counties are attached in a zip file. The standard caveat applies: site location information is protected by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended), Title III §304 and by the Texas Antiquities Code §191.004, and is not intended for public distribution. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Cheers,
Jonathan

Jonathan H. Jarvis, RPA
Archeologist, etc.
Texas Archeological Research Laboratory
The University of Texas at Austin
Phone: 512/471-5959
www.utexas.edu/research/tarl/
www.texasbeyondhistory.net

Philosophia Krateito Photôn

From: Janie Roman
To: Anastacia Santos 6903
Subject: Response to your NEPA letter - Re ERCOT Endorsed North Edinburg-Loma Alta - Project NO 126120
Date: Thursday, April 05, 2012 1 17 48 PM
Attachments: 2012-163.pdf
2012-163.docx

Dear Ms. Santos,

Attached is the response to the NEPA letter request dated March 30, 2012. Re: - Project No. 126120

Please let us know if you need anything else.

Thank you,
Janie Roman
TCEQ/IGR Division
(512) 239-0604 Office
janie.roman@tceq.texas.gov

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

April 5, 2012

Ms. Anastacia Santos
Project Manager
Power Engineers
7600B North Capital of Texas Hwy
Suite 320
Austin, TX 78731

Re: TCEQ Grant and Texas Review and Comment System (TRACS) #2012-163, City of Edinburg, McAllen and Loma Alta, Hidalgo and Cameron Counties - Project No. 126120

Dear Ms. Santos:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has reviewed the above-referenced project and offers following comments:

A review of the project for General Conformity impact in accordance with 40 CFR Part 93 and Title 30, Texas Administrative Code § 101.30 indicates that the proposed action is located in the City of Edinburg, McAllen and Loma Alta, Hidalgo and Cameron Counties, which is currently unclassified or in attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for all six criteria air pollutants. Therefore, General Conformity does not apply.

Although any demolition, construction, rehabilitation or repair project will produce dust and particulate emissions, these actions should pose no significant impact upon air quality standards. Any minimal dust and particulate emissions should be easily controlled by the construction contractors using standard dust mitigation techniques.

We recommend the environmental assessment address actions that will be taken to prevent surface and groundwater contamination.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Janie Roman at (512) 239-0604 or Janie.roman@tceq.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Jim Harrison, Director
Intergovernmental Relations Division

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

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

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

POWER ENGINEERS

March 14, 2013
(Via Mail)

ENERGY
FACILITIES
COMMUNICATIONS
ENVIRONMENTAL

Mr. Erasmo Yarrito, Jr.
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
1804 West Jefferson Avenue
Harlingen, TX 78550-5247

Re: 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 (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 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.

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

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 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 (ALP)
Saul Barrera (IBWC)


North Edinburg -
Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with
Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 1 of 9
POWER ENGINEERS

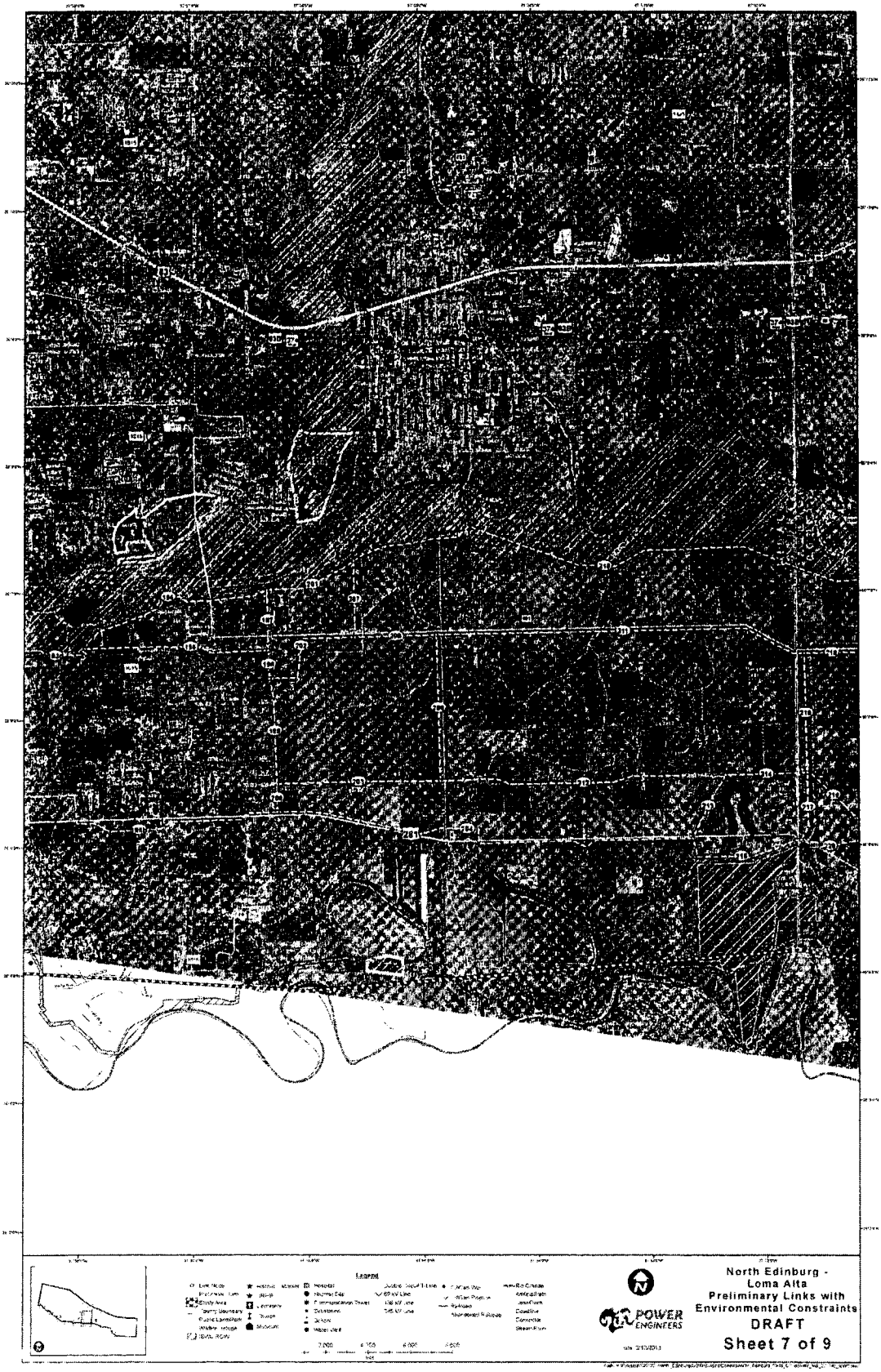

North Edinburg -
Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with
Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 2 of 9

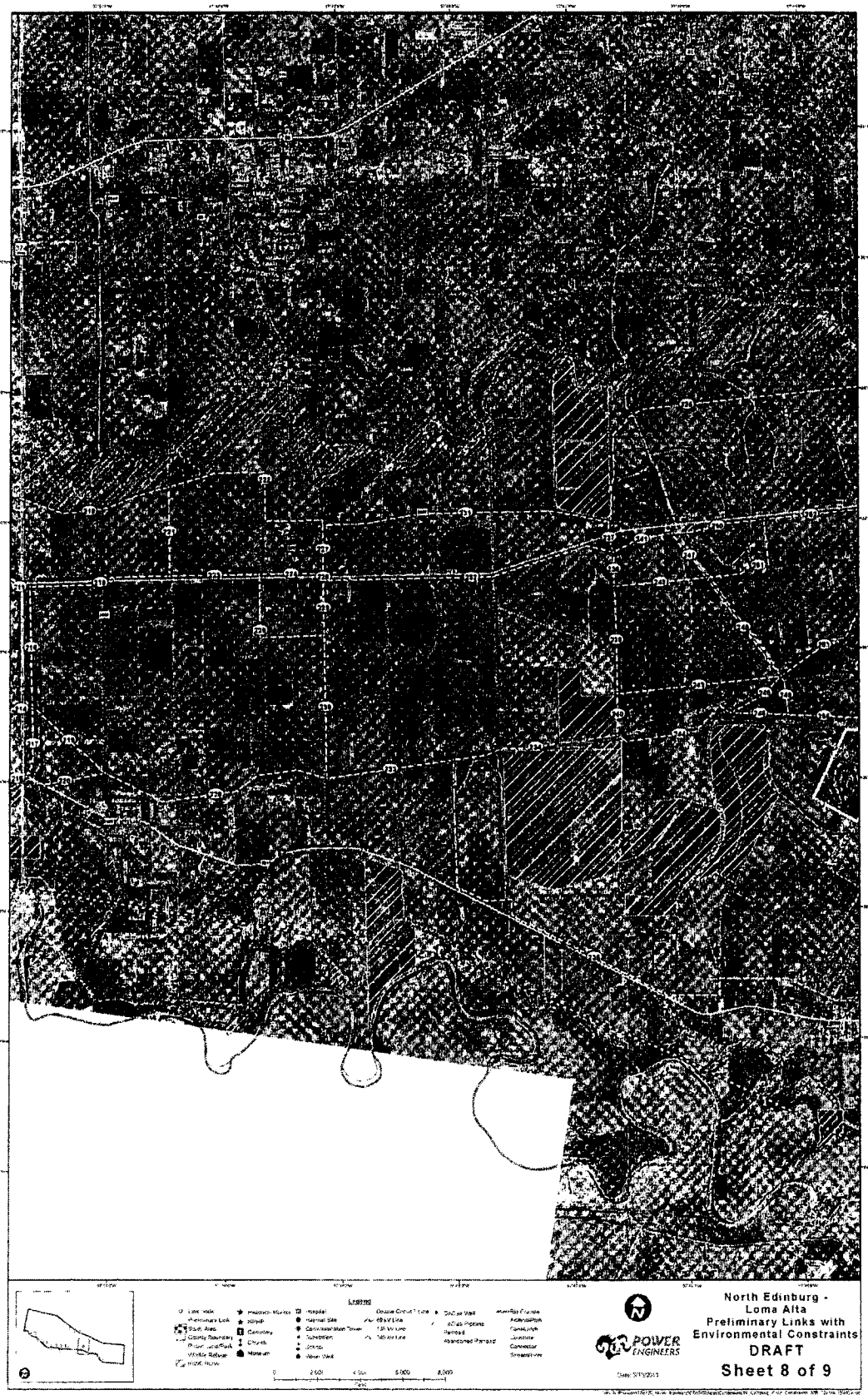

Legend
POWER ENGINEERS
North Edinburg -
Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with
Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 3 of 9


Legend
POWER ENGINEERS
North Edinburg -
Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with
Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 4 of 9


Legend
POWER ENGINEERS
North Edinburg - Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 5 of 9


Legend
POWER ENGINEERS
North Edinburg -
Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with
Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 6 of 9


North Edinburg -
Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with
Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 7 of 9


North Edinburg -
Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with
Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 8 of 9


Legend
POWER ENGINEERS
North Edinburg -
Loma Alta
Preliminary Links with
Environmental Constraints
DRAFT
Sheet 9 of 9