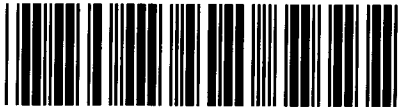


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SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-15-1589
P.U.C. DOCKET NO. 43599

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APPLICATION OF LCRA
TRANSMISSION SERVICES
CORPORATION TO AMEND ITS
CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND
NECESSITY FOR THE PROPOSED
BLUMENTHAL SUBSTATION AND 138-
KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT IN
BLANCO, GILLESPIE, AND KENDALL
COUNTIES

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BEFORE THE UTILITY COMMISSION
THE STATE OFFICE
FILING CLERK

OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

KRISTEN EDWARDS

ON BEHALF OF

THE JENSCHKE LANE PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

April 6, 2015

317

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IV.	Conclusion	8

EXHIBITS

Exhibit KE-1 Map of Parcel Nos. S-001, R2-010, and R2-011

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

2 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.**

3 **A. Kristen Edwards, 21 Edwards Lane, Fredericksburg, TX 78624.**

4 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED IN A COMMISSION PROCEEDING?**

5 **A. No, I have not.**

6 **Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING?**

7 **A. I am testifying on behalf of myself, my husband Judge Edwards, my mother-in-law**
8 Sheila Edwards, and family members KDawne Edwards Poston and Brandon Henslee. I
9 am also a member of the Jenschke Lane Preservation Alliance.

10 **Q. WHY DID YOU JOIN THE JENSCHKE LANE PRESERVATION ALLIANCE?**

11 **A. We have joined the Alliance to protect our property, our neighborhood and our Hill**
12 Country community.

13 **Q. ARE YOU INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY IN OTHER WAYS?**

14 **A. My husband, children, and I are members of St. Mary's Church. My husband and I are**
15 also members of the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce and the Stonewall Chamber
16 of Commerce.

17 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

18 **A. I am addressing LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's (LCRA) application to**
19 amend its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to construct a 138-kV
20 transmission line in Blanco, Gillespie, and Kendall Counties, with a proposed substation
21 in Gillespie County. Specifically, I address the impact that constructing the proposed line
22 and substation would have on my property and the community.

1 **Q. ARE YOU AN AFFECTED LANDOWNER?**

2 **A.** Yes. My homestead and business is on 21 Edwards Lane, which is impacted by
3 Segments R2, S, and Q. Members of my family own property that is adjacent to the
4 location of Substation 9. Both my house and my mother-in-law's house are habitable
5 structures located near the proposed transmission line. My house is within 300 feet of
6 Segment R2.

7 **Q. WHEN DID YOU FIRST LEARN OF THE PROPOSED LINKS THAT WOULD**
8 **IMPACT YOUR PROPERTY?**

9 **A.** I received notice from LCRA regarding the segments, but was never notified about
10 Substation 9. We were shocked that LCRA would add another substation location
11 without an additional open house or opportunity for public input. LCRA stated that due
12 to public input, they decided not to place the substation or transmission lines along
13 Highway 290 because of the tourists that frequent the area. However, LCRA never asked
14 for public input, at a hearing or otherwise, to determine what the public, businesses, or
15 homeowners thought about Substation 9, which is proposed to be placed right along side
16 Jenschke Lane. Jenschke Lane is the only entrance to one of the most popular vineyards
17 in the Hill Country, Becker Vineyard, so many tourists will see the substation and line if
18 the route chosen goes down Jenschke Lane.

19 **Q. DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY OPEN HOUSES OR TALK WITH LCRA**
20 **PRIOR TO RECEIVING NOTICE IN THE MAIL?**

21 **A.** No.

1 **Q. HOW IS YOUR PROPERTY USED?**

2 **A.** First and foremost, our 40 acre property is used as a homestead for my family and my
3 mother-in-law. Our property is also used in association with our specialty food store and
4 fruit stand. We also graze cattle in the pasture.

5 **Q. WHAT IMPROVEMENTS HAVE YOU MADE ON THE PROPERTY?**

6 **A.** Within the last two years, we have fully renovated the two homes on the property. We
7 also added yard fences. We have done extensive work and maintenance on the peach
8 orchard.

9 **Q. WHAT ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE?**

10 **A.** We will build a barn to store hay and farm equipment. We will also improve the existing
11 roads between our house and my mother's house, to make it an all-weather road.

12 **III. POSITION REGARDING PROPOSED ROUTES**

13 **Q. WHICH OF LCRA'S PROPOSED SEGMENTS AFFECT YOUR PROPERTY?**

14 **A.** S, Q1, and R2. My house is within 300 feet of Segment R2. My mother-in-law's home
15 is directly across from Substation 9, which is located on Dr. and Mrs. Fosbury's property.

16 **Q. WHICH OF LCRA'S PROPOSED ROUTES AFFECT YOUR PROPERTY?**

17 **A.** Routes 2, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 20.

18 **Q. WHAT WOULD BE THE IMPACT ON YOUR PROPERTY IF THE LINE IS**
19 **CONSTRUCTED ON SEGMENT S, Q, OR R2?**

20 **A.** Our business and home life will both be affected. First, our property has a peach orchard,
21 which is a source of our income. It would be impacted by the transmission line because
22 the peach orchard is pick-your-own, and the transmission line or Substation 9 will ruin
23 our scenery and make fewer people want to pick peaches at our orchard. We also have

1 concerns that pesticides used by LCRA could harm our peaches. Second, we are
2 concerned that the constant humming noise from the transmission lines and/or substation
3 would be disruptive to the peaceful atmosphere of our property.

4 **Q. HOW WILL THE PROPOSED ROUTES THAT IMPACT ON JENSCHKE LANE**
5 **AFFECT THE COMMUNITY?**

6 **A.** Jenschke Lane is not a county-maintained public road. Currently, we have an incredible
7 amount of traffic going to one of the most popular vineyards in Fredericksburg area,
8 Becker Vineyards. Jenschke Lane is the only entrance that tourists can use to enter
9 Becker Vineyards. There are numerous tour buses and shuttles, as well as bicyclists and
10 private vehicles using this road on a daily basis. The construction and maintenance
11 vehicles used by LCRA will add to the traffic significantly.

12 I am also concerned that fewer people will want to drive along Jenschke Lane
13 once there is a substation on it, which will harm businesses. LCRA stated that it did not
14 want to build the transmission lines or substation on Highway 290 because it wants to
15 avoid having the tourists to the vineyards and other local businesses see the substation.
16 However, tourists to Becker Vineyards and other businesses on Jenschke Lane will
17 definitely see the line and substation if it is built along Jenschke Lane. Some of the
18 businesses on Jenschke Lane are Jenschke Trophy Rams, Francesca's Bed and Breakfast,
19 Becker's Vineyard, Frasure International Arabians, Vinea cum Villa Vineyard, the
20 Homestead Farm and Market, our peach orchard, and the bed & breakfasts currently
21 being developed by the Parkers and Witchers. I believe Substation 9 or routes that use
22 the segments on Jenschke Lane would harm the businesses of our neighbors as well as
23 our own business.

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BLANCO, GILLESPIE, AND KENDALL	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
COUNTIES	§	

AFFIDAVIT OF JUDGE EDWARDS

STATE OF TEXAS)
)
COUNTY OF Gillespie)

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Kristen Edwards who states, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of her knowledge and belief, the following statements and information are true and correct:

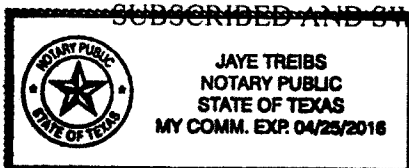
1. My name is Kristen Edwards. I am over eighteen years of age, am of sound mind and competent to make this Affidavit. I have personal knowledge of every statement contained in the Affidavit, and every statement contained herein is true and correct and based on my own personal knowledge.

2. I make this Affidavit in support of my testimony on behalf of myself, Judge Edwards, Sheila Edwards, KDawne Edwards Poston, Brandon Hensley, and the Jenschke Lane Preservation Alliance. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Direct Testimony and Exhibits, which have been prepared in written form for introduction into evidence in PUC Docket No. 43599.

3. I hereby swear and affirm that my answers contained in the testimony are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

K Edwards
Kristen Edwards

~~SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO~~ before me by Kristen Edwards, this 6 day of April, 2015.



My commission expires: 04/25/2016

Jaye Treibs
Notary Public

Location of Parcel Nos. S-001, R2-010, and R2-011



Detail from Map 1 of LCRA's Application