REVISED ORDER CREATING AND SCOPING PROJECT

This Order addresses directives to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) arising out of the final order on rehearing in Docket No. 45624. In that docket, the Commission approved, as statutorily required, the City of Garland’s application for a certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) to build a new 38-mile-long, 345-kilovolt transmission line connecting ERCOT to a direct-current converter station (the Southern Cross DC tie) in Louisiana. In order to accommodate this new DC tie, which will have a capacity of approximately 2,100 MW, the Commission directs ERCOT to complete the tasks listed below. This revised Order replaces the initial order issued on September 8, 2016.

In the final order in Docket No. 45624, the Commission forbids Garland from energizing the Rusk-to-Panola transmission line until ERCOT completes the below tasks. Therefore, it is essential that ERCOT complete these tasks expeditiously without compromising the quality of the
work or proper procedure and process. ERCOT will periodically update the Commission, and the Commission will monitor the process at ERCOT in order to ensure there is not undue delay. The public interest requires that ERCOT, and the Commission, immediately begin the process of updating their respective rules, protocols, and standards so that the reliability of the ERCOT system is not jeopardized and cost responsibilities are properly placed on market participants. Where this Order discusses implementation of modifications, revisions, or restrictions, ERCOT shall do so through revisions to its standards, guides, systems and protocols, as appropriate. The Commission notes that Southern Cross Transmission LLC is required to pay ERCOT’s costs to perform these tasks. Some of these issues may require stakeholder input.

**Directives to ERCOT**

1. ERCOT shall (a) determine the appropriate market participation category for Southern Cross Transmission LLC and for any other entity associated with the Southern Cross DC tie for which a new market-participant category may be appropriate (creating new ones if necessary), (b) implement the modifications to the standard-form market-participant agreement and its protocols, bylaws, operating guides, and systems required for Southern Cross Transmission’s and any other entity’s participation, and (c) determine the appropriate market segment for Southern Cross Transmission and any other entity.

2. ERCOT shall execute a coordination agreement or agreements with any necessary independent system operator, regional transmission organization, or reliability coordinator on the eastern end of the Southern Cross line. ERCOT shall consult Southern Cross Transmission as needed during negotiations of such agreement(s) for technical input and guidance.

3. ERCOT shall determine what ramp rate restrictions, if any, will be necessary to accommodate the interconnection of the Southern Cross DC tie and shall implement those restrictions and shall certify to the Commission when it has completed these actions.

4. ERCOT shall develop and implement a methodology to coordinate reliably and cost-effectively outages following the interconnection of the Southern Cross DC tie and shall certify to the Commission when it has completed these actions.

5. ERCOT shall study and determine how best to model the Southern Cross DC tie in its transmission planning cases, make any necessary revisions to its standards, guides, systems, and protocols as appropriate, and certify to the Commission when it has completed these actions.

6. ERCOT shall study and determine what transmission upgrades, if any, are necessary to manage congestion resulting from power flows over the Southern Cross DC tie, make any
necessary revisions to its standards, guides, systems, and protocols as appropriate, and certify to the Commission when it has completed these actions.

7. ERCOT shall (a) study and determine whether some or all DC ties should be economically dispatched or whether implementing a congestion-management plan or special protection scheme would more reliably and cost-effectively manage congestion caused by DC tie flows, (b) implement any necessary revisions to its protocols, guides, standards, and systems as appropriate, and (c) certify to the Commission when it has completed these actions.

8. ERCOT shall (a) study and determine whether Southern Cross Transmission or any other entity scheduling flows across the Southern Cross DC tie should be required to provide or procure voltage support service or primary frequency response, or their technical equivalents, (b) implement any necessary revisions to its standards, guides, systems, and protocols, as appropriate, and (c) certify to the Commission when it has completed these actions.

9. ERCOT shall (a) evaluate what modifications to existing and additional ancillary services, if any, are necessary for the reliable interconnection of the Southern Cross DC tie, (b) implement any needed modifications to ancillary-services procurement, (c) recommend how the costs of such required ancillary services are to be allocated, and (d) certify to the Commission when it has completed these actions.

10. ERCOT shall study price formation issues to determine whether, to avoid the flows over the DC ties adversely affecting price formation in the ERCOT wholesale market or otherwise causing outcomes inconsistent with a properly functioning energy market, any changes to pricing within the ERCOT market during emergencies are necessary. ERCOT shall certify to the Commission when it has completed these actions.

11. ERCOT shall study and recommend appropriate responsibility for, and allocation of, the costs identified in the Commission’s final order in Docket No. 45624, including costs common to the ERCOT system and extraordinary costs that are specific to the Garland line and Southern Cross DC tie, and shall identify any existing protocols that need to be modified or new protocols that need to be created, or (if appropriate) any existing Commission rules that need to be modified or new rules that need to be enacted, to appropriately address those costs.

12. ERCOT shall study and determine for export-related costs whether the qualified scheduling entity should be assigned costs that ordinarily would ultimately be paid by the end-use customer.

13. ERCOT shall periodically update the Commission regarding its progress in completing the above tasks.
14. ERCOT shall, as soon as practicable, notify the Commission of reasonable completion dates for the above tasks and shall report any changes to those completion dates as changes become known.

Signed at Austin, Texas the 27th day of May 2017.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

KENNETH W. ANDERSON, JR., COMMISSIONER

BRANDY MARTY MARQUEZ, COMMISSIONER