



Control Number: 50664



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July 20, 2020



Chairman DeAnn T. Walker  
Commissioner Arthur C. D'Andrea  
Commissioner Shelly Botkin  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
1701 N. Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78701

Re: Project 50664 – Issues Related to the State of Disaster for Corona Virus Disease 2019 as it Relates to Conducting Open Houses Pursuant to 16 TAC § 22.52

Dear Commissioners:

Entergy Texas, Inc. (“ETI”) requests guidance and feedback regarding compliance with 16 TAC § 22.52, as it relates to a planned 138 kV transmission line within southeast Montgomery County (approximately 10 miles in length depending on the final route). Specifically, ETI seeks feedback and guidance from the Commission on ETI’s proposal, detailed herein, to perform an online open house for approximately 1,000 property owners. ETI believes that, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, personal safety issues, restrictions on in-person meetings, and the unpredictable duration of the current conditions, it is necessary to provide information to potentially impacted property owners virtually and by mail instead of in-person.

It is important to ETI that communications with potentially impacted property owners include a robust set of informational materials, opportunity to ask questions, and opportunity for ETI to receive feedback on this project from any potentially impacted property owners.

A typical in-person open house entails the following:

- Mailing open house notice letters and a map showing the preliminary alternative route segments two weeks prior to the scheduled in-person open house, including a contact person for a landowner to contact via mail, phone and/or email with questions about the project and upcoming open house.
- At the in-person open house:
  - Attendees sign a sign-in sheet and are provided a project brochure and questionnaire.
  - Booths are staffed by subject matter experts to provide the information on the following:
    - Purpose and need for the project
    - Regulatory Approval Process
    - Right of Way – Needs and Acquisition Process
    - Typical Transmission Structures
    - Substation Design
    - Criteria for evaluating the alternative routes
    - Agencies contacted
    - Engineering Constraints Map
    - Aerial Photograph Based Project Map
    - GIS Stations for one on one discussion of the alternative route segments

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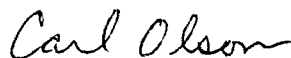
- Area for landowners to complete and submit the questionnaire, which could also be mailed in within one week of the in-person open house

Under the circumstances, in order to abide by the intent of TAC § 22.52 and maintain the health and safety of its employees, vendors, and the general public, ETI proposes the following measures in lieu of the process outlined above:

- Mailing open house notice letters that include the open house questionnaire and a map showing the preliminary alternative route segments, direct landowners to the project website, and request that landowners fill out the open house questionnaire within 3 weeks of the mailing. The questionnaire could also be completed on-line via a linked survey or by downloading the questionnaire from the project website and returning it either by email or mail.
- The open house notice letter would include a contact person for a landowner to contact via mail, phone and/or email with questions about the project and upcoming open house. Depending on the question(s) asked, one or more of the subject matter experts will contact the landowner.
- The project website would allow landowners to access and download materials typically displayed or provided at the in-person open house (other than the physical GIS station) along with a narrative explaining the materials, including:
  - Purpose and need for the project
  - Regulatory Approval Process
  - Right of Way – Needs and Acquisition Process
  - Typical Transmission Structures
  - Substation Design
  - Criteria for evaluating the alternative routes
  - Agencies contacted
  - Engineering Constraints Map
  - Aerial Photograph Based Project Map
  - The questionnaire
- Finally, ETI would hold a videoconference open house via WebEx or Zoom (which would also allow audio-only participation by phone) in which it will present information addressing the topics above, hold a Q&A session, and reiterate the information above regarding the information available on the website, the methods for completing the questionnaire, and the available means of contacting the project team with additional questions.

It is important to ETI, its employees, vendors, and the general public, that the utmost protections and precautions be taken during this pandemic while still abiding by the Commission's rules and requirements. ETI looks forward to your guidance and feedback to enable this project to move forward and ultimately serve the people of southeast Montgomery and northeast Harris Counties. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Carl Olson, P.E.