



Control Number: 51023



Item Number: 249

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Comments in Docket No. 51023

If you want to be a PROTESTOR only, please complete this form. Although public comments are not treated as evidence, they help inform the PUC and its staff of the public concerns and identify issues to be explored. The PUC welcomes such participation in its proceedings.

Mail this completed form and 10 copies to:

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2020 SEP -4 AM 9:33  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

First Name: ERNEST Last Name: YBARRA

Phone Number: 210 422-9936 Fax Number: N/A

Address, City, State: 9938 Circle Hill Drive, San Antonio, TX 78255

I am NOT requesting to intervene in this proceeding. As a PROTESTOR, I understand the following:

- I am NOT a party to this case;
- My comments are not considered evidence in this case; and
- I have no further obligation to participate in the proceeding.

Please check one of the following:

- I own property with a habitable structure located near one or more of the utility's proposed routes for a transmission line.
- One or more of the utility's proposed routes would cross my property.
- Other. Please describe and provide comments. You may attach a separate page, if necessary. \_\_\_\_\_

\*SEE ATTACHMENT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of person submitting comments:

Ernest Ybarra  
ERNEST YBARRA  
ERNIEYBARRA02@gmail.com

Date: 8/28/2020

Effective: January 1, 2003

**We would never have purchased our property and built our home if we knew we would be next to Power Lines! Our home would be within one mile of the proposed power line route and as research has shown property values of our home as well as all the other homes in our neighborhood would decrease by half of their current value. It is unreasonable for CPS Electric to try to route the power lines next to our neighborhood when other groups and neighborhoods faced with this same situation have also protested against it and won their appeals and protests.**

## **Is Living near Power Lines Really Bad? YES**

**A simple answer is YES.** Some research has already showed evidence of how long-term exposure to these high-voltage wires can lead to several health problems. Here are the most common issues you may experience when living near power lines

### **1. Childhood Leukemia**

One of the first studies was conducted in 1979 in which researchers studied any relationship between incidence of leukemia in children living near high-voltage power lines and towers. They chose a residential area inside Denver, Colorado to conduct the study and compared the electromagnetic field (EMF) radiation effects on people living at various distances from high-voltage wires and transmission towers. The results were shocking as children living close to power sources were more at risk for childhood leukemia. However, no evidence has been provided to establish a direct connection between childhood leukemia and EMF.

### **2. Cancer**

Another research study conducted in Australia looked for any connection between the incidence of cancer in people living near power lines and transmission towers. The research showed that those who lived within 50 m radius of a power source had 106% of chances to develop cancer as compared to those who lived at least 300 meters away from a power source. This confirmed that there is a connection between exposure to power sources and cancer.

### **3. Depression**

A research conducted on the psychological effects of living close to power lines showed exposure to extremely low frequency EMF might contribute to the number of depression-related suicides in people living close to those power sources. EMF was responsible for disruption in circadian rhythm cycles, alteration in melatonin and serotonin neurotransmitter levels in people living close to those areas.

In addition to these effects, many other published papers have discovered links between living near power lines and a number of other health concerns, including brain cancer, Alzheimer's disease, Lou Gehrig's disease, miscarriage, breast cancer, birth defects, fatigue, hormonal imbalances, decreased libido, sleeping disorders, heart disease, neuro-degenerative disease and more.

## **Why Is Living near Power Lines Bad?**

Power lines are used to transfer high-voltage electric current from place to another, but when the current flows through the lines, it creates two separate fields around them – a magnetic field and an electric field, both of which are important components of the electromagnetic field. This electromagnetic radiation is responsible for creating negative effects on human body. The magnetic component is even more dangerous because it gives out more EMF. The strength of this magnetic field usually depends on how much current flows through the wires, the voltage and the configuration of those wires.