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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HEARING CLERK

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF SAN §
ANTONIO ACTING BY AND THROUGH §
THE CITY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD §
(CPS ENERGY) TO AMEND ITS §
CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE §
AND NECESSITY FOR THE PROPOSED §
SCENIC LOOP 138-KV TRANSMISSION §
LINE §

STATE OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STATEMENT OF POSITION OF
Michael W. Odom, M.D. and Beatriz O. Odom

Our names are Michael and Beatriz Odom and we are an intervenor in this case. We live at 11310 Cat Springs, which is within the Anaqua Springs Ranch subdivision and we are adversely impacted by the transmission line that runs along Toutant Beauregard and that runs along the southern border of Anaqua Springs Ranch property.

We are opposed to the routes that use, run along, are parallel to, follow, or utilize Toutant Beauregard for the following reasons. (1) These routes will greatly impact the value of our home and spoil the natural beauty of this area which originally drew us to it many years ago. We first became aware of this unique portion of the hill country that is only a few miles outside of metropolitan San Antonio when we attended a parade of homes that was held in Anaqua Springs Ranch in 2005. We were impressed by the unspoiled natural beauty of this carefully planned development with its large lots, strict architectural controls and underground utilities. In 2008 we made a decision to build a house in Anaqua Springs Ranch. After a large monetary investment and months of planning and work we moved into our dream home in 2010. We have loved the neighborhood ever since.

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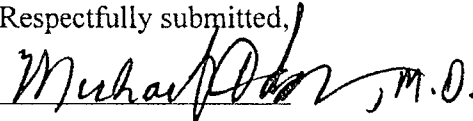
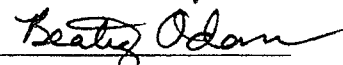
Careful estimates indicate that our property value will be cut by 20-40% by locating 110-foot transmission towers with high voltage electrical lines in close proximity to our home. By locating a substation and these towers on either side of Toutant Beauregard and immediately in front of the entrance to Anaqua Springs Ranch millions of dollars of property value in ASR will be lost. Other homes and ranches along Toutant Beauregard will also be adversely affected and the natural terrain will be spoiled.

Toutant Beauregard is a winding, two-lane country road that leads to Anaqua Springs Ranch where our home is located. This road is narrow and has insufficient space on either side to accommodate large towers that crisscross this narrow road. They will be a major eye-sore and will adversely impact the property value of all homes within the immediate area. Had we known that a power substation and 110-foot towers with their high voltage transmission lines would be located all along the drive to our home, the area would have been much less appealing to us and we likely would not have built here.

(2) This process has been opaque and somewhat disingenuous. We first learned of this project to locate a new substation and high-voltage transmission lines in our area in October of 2019. Multiple options were presented by CPS but a route to the north of Toutant Beauregard which was the shortest, had the most favorable terrain and the least economic impact by far was presented as the most likely to be chosen. Subsequently we heard nothing from CPS until August 2020 when the company chose an entirely different route, building a substation directly on Toutant Beauregard and setting up transmission towers for several miles along this road. This route was apparently the result of deals struck by CPS and certain developers and well-connected landowners.

(3) A further major problem with the proposed route is the potential adverse health impact on the area's school children. As a pediatrician I (Michael Odom) am greatly concerned about the impact of high voltage transmission lines on children who attend the Sara McAndrew elementary school which is located on Toutant Beauregard just to the northwest of Anaqua Springs Ranch. High voltage transmission lines emit electromagnetic fields which have been linked to leukemia and deleterious effects on neurobehavioral performance in children. Although the effects of these transmission lines on the developing child have not been conclusively proven, prudence would suggest choosing a different route. Moreover, North Side Independent School District who has jurisdiction in this area has proposed building a middle school also on Toutant Beauregard in close proximity to McAndrew elementary school. This middle school would also be impacted by the proposed route and its high voltage transmission lines.

We are also opposed to the routes that use segments 38, 39, and 43 because those segments impact Anaqua Springs properties on the southern border. We wish to remain an intervenor and participate in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Odom, M.D.
Beatriz Odom
11310 Cat Springs
Boerne, TX 78006