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Addendum StartPage: 0

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
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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 §

BEFORE THE  
STATE OFFICE OF  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STATEMENT OF POSITION OF  
RAUL G. FIGUEROA

My name is Raul G. Figueroa, and I am an intervenor in this case. I live at 26670 Karsch Rd, Boerne, TX, 78006, which is within High Country Ranch, near one or more of the proposed 138-KV transmission lines that connect to the existing Ranchtown–Menger Creek transmission line. I am adversely impacted by transmission line 46b that runs along and crosses Karsch Rd for the following reasons:

1. Transmission Line 46b runs along a path with residential housing. I am perturbed that CPS and/or consultants would propose transmission line 46b as it would surround my home on three different sides outside the property line with the west and southwest sections being 162 ft away. My home is approximately 7 ft from the edge of Crow-Karsch ridge, and I am extremely concerned about the digging operations for the transmission line towers. The installation of the transmission lines could impact the structure and foundation of the house. Equally unsettling is that the transmission line is showing to be running a few feet away from two water wells on the ranch. The first water well is north of Karsch Rd, and it supplies water to at least three homes in the community. The second is our personal water well which is west of our home and would practically sit under the proposed transmission lines.
2. I have a home office and work strictly from it. My employer is located out of state, and so I have no other option than to work from home. Due to the proximity of transmission line 46b, I fear that my cell phone as well as my Wi-Fi reception would be spotty or non-

453

existent. Furthermore, the noise from the installation of towers and lines would interfere with my work as I conduct numerous on-line presentations daily.

3. Electromagnetic radiation from high voltage power lines could possibly affect the health of people. My family and I would constantly be stressed about exposure to electromagnetic fields. Though studies have not clearly shown whether exposure to electromagnetic fields from transmission lines increases health risks, scientists continue to conduct research on the issue according to the US EPA. The EPA further states that if one is concerned about exposure to EMFs, increasing the distance between one and the source is recommended. Avoiding exposure to EMFs would be difficult when our home is surrounded on three sides by transmission lines. In addition to our health, we would also be concerned about our physical safety as power lines have caused more than 4,000 wildfires in Texas. Transmission lines have been known to cause deadly wildfires as was the case in California a couple of years ago.
4. Another major concern is the possible negative impact of the electromagnetic fields from proposed transmission line routes 41 and 42a on children that attend Sara McAndrew Elementary School located on Toutant Beauregard. Caution would suggest using a different route.
5. Proposed transmission line 46b along with 46a and 46 will desecrate the beautiful High Country / Crow Karsch landscape that is known for its 20 – 30 mile panoramic views. As per Explorer Magazine, 3/28/14, *“Crow-Karsch Ranch Hill Country scenic views is something Boerne is known for. Did you know you could be so close to Boerne and still see all the way to the Tower of the Americas? Crow-Karsch Ranch is the little known place where you can do this. Go out there on a clear day and soak...”*. My home sits on the Crow-Karsh Ridge and overlooks Pecan Springs and Anaqua Springs Ranch. The unobstructed panoramic view accounts for a significant percentage of the value of my home. The transmission lines would traverse the Pecan Springs subdivision and run next to distribution lines that currently run parallel to Pecan Bluff Rd. Instead of a scenery of green rolling hills, the view would be a sea of power lines and poles. This would spoil the area’s aesthetic quality. Studies on high voltage transmission lines have shown proximity to and the visual encumbrance of transmission lines has a varying negative on property

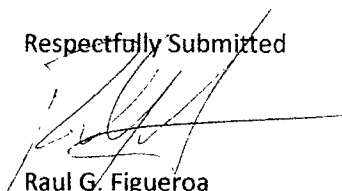
values. Our property would suffer a permanent diminution in property value due to the loss of the breathtaking view.

6. The process of selecting proposed transmission line segments is questionable. Recent amendments to the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity suggest that wealthy developers are influencing the routes of the transmission lines by donating land for the project. This is evident by the recent amendments to add transmission line segments. Developers seem more concerned about their capital investment and future land sales rather than the surrounding communities and desecration of the landscape.

My wife and I purchased our dream home in 2014. A major factor in our decision to buy the house was whether we could spend the rest of our lives here. The panoramic view and natural beauty of the area made our decision easy. It is my hope that the Scenic Loop 138-KV transmission line project decision makers not only select a route and substation based on the most right of way and cost, but also consider the resulting negative factors to the communities' property values, aesthetic quality, and people's health and safety.

I am opposed to the routes that are showing the use of segments 46, 46a, 46b, and 49a because they impact the landscape and properties along the Crow Karsch Ranch / High Country Ranch communities. I wish to remain an intervenor and participant in this case.

Respectfully Submitted



Raul G. Figueroa

26670 Karsch Rd

Boerne, TX, 78006