



Control Number: 51023



Item Number: 464

Addendum StartPage: 0

**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-21-0247
P.U.C. DOCKET NO. 51023**

RECEIVED

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** 2021 JAN 29 AM 11:33
§
§ PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
§ FILING CLERK
§ **STATE OFFICE OF**
§
§ **ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**
§

**STATEMENT OF POSITION OF
Lauren Pankratz, MD**

My name is Lauren Pankratz. I am an intervenor in this case. I live at 24918 Caliza Terrace, San Antonio, Texas 78006, which is within the Anaqua Springs Ranch subdivision. I am impacted by the transmission line that runs along Toutant Beauregard and along the southern border of Anaqua Springs Ranch property. I am also the mother of a 6-year-old boy who attends McAndrew elementary school which is adjacent to Anaqua Springs Ranch on Toutant Beauregard. The elementary school will also be impacted by the proposed transmission line.

I am opposed to the routes that use, run along, are parallel to, follow, or utilize Toutant Beauregard for the following reasons:

1. The proposed routes run along the property of McAndrews Elementary school which is located at 26615 Toutant Beauregard Rd, Boerne, Texas 78006. As a practicing pediatric endocrinologist I understand the influences on a developing child are complex and not completely understood. Studies suggest long term exposure to electromagnetic fields emitted by high voltage transmission (HVT) lines may negatively impact a child's health. Studies suggest HVT lines may negatively impact neurobehavioral function and increase a child's risk of developing leukemia.

4164

- In 2013 Huang et al performed a cross-sectional study of 437 children ages 9-13 years at two primary schools. After controlling for potentially confounding factors, multivariable regression revealed that children attending a school near 500 kV HVT lines had poorer performance on neurobehavioral tests compared to children attending a school that was not in close proximity to HVT lines. While this study involves a 500 kV HVT line rather than a 138 kV HVT line – the suggestion that any HVT line may affect the development of a child's neurobehavioral function should be strongly considered to avoid placing a HVT line near an elementary school that would place hundreds of school children at potential risk.

Huang, J, et al. Association between Exposure to Electromagnetic Fields from High Voltage Transmission Lines and Neurobehavioral Function in Children. PloS ONE 2013; 8(7): e67284

- In 2005 Draper et al found an association between childhood leukemia and proximity of home address at birth to high voltage power lines. Children who lived within 200 m had a relative risk of leukemia of 1.69 (95% confidence interval 1.13-2.52). Those born between 200-600m had a relative risk of 1.23 (1.02-1.49).

Draper D, et al. Childhood cancer in relation to distance from high voltage power lines in England and Wales: a case-control study BMJ 2005; 330:1290

- In 1998 Chung-Yi et al also found that children, particularly ages 5-9 years, living near HVT lines experienced an elevated risk of leukemia.

Chung-Yi et al. Risk of Leukemia in Children Living Near High-Voltage Transmission Lines. J Occup Environ Med 1998; 40:2:144-147

- While these studies may have their limitations, there are no studies that prove HVT lines are 100% safe. Please to not expose my child and the hundreds of other children who attend, and will attend, McAndrews elementary school to a potentially dangerous

environment. Please do not be responsible for placing a HVT line near an elementary school. Do not let that be your legacy.

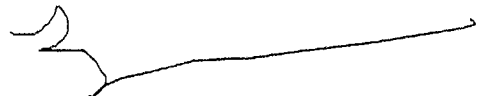
2. In addition, the construction of these HVT lines behind and/or along the side of McAndrews elementary school could present an alternative danger. Children are curious by nature. It is possible a child could and would make their way towards one of these very large and “interesting” poles trying to figure out what it was. Children read signs that say “Danger” as interesting and fascinating. A child may wander off to explore and get injured.
3. Large, imposing HVT lines could negatively affect my son's learning at McAndrews. Instead of looking out the window and being inspired and calmed by the beautiful countryside, his gaze would be blocked by enormous dreary constructs of metal and wire. Large outdoor school events like the big kite flight in the Spring, the APEX annual fundraiser with obstacle course, and bike rodeo would be overshadowed by these intimidating structures. These power lines and poles can be scary to young children. COVID has brought so many hardships and challenges to our children, please don't subject them to more. Instead, preserve the natural beauty that inspires, soothes, and brings joy to our children. Allow them the peace of looking out onto rolling hills with fields ripe for imagination and play.
4. Most parents who have children at McAndrew elementary school have not been notified about this CPS project. CPS did not contact parents who have children that attend McAndrew Elementary School. It is very disappointing and frustrating that this project could have major personal impacts on not just my child, but hundreds of children's lives. The wellness and development of these children are paramount. It

would not have been unreasonable for CPS to send out notices to every parent who has children that attend this school.

5. Lastly, a HVT line along the Toutant Beauregard route would be extremely disruptive to my community of Anaqua Springs Ranch. The direct impact of the 100-foot right-of-way would destroy our existing entrance. It would uproot many of the existing oak trees and cedar elms that shade and define the entrance in addition to its beautiful landscaping. In addition, it would place our guard house (with its electric and water lines) within 300 feet of the HVT line which may require its relocation with substantial associated costs . In addition, a HVT line along Toutant Beauregard would result in loss of property values of existing homes not only in Anaqua Springs Ranch, but also in Scenic Hills and Sundance Ranch.

Please avoid placing a HVT line along Toutant Beauregard or along the southern border of Anaqua Springs Ranch property. I wish to remain an intervenor and participate in this case for the sake of my child, my family, and my community's wellbeing.

Respectfully,



By: _____
Lauren Pankratz, MD
24918 Caliza Terrace

INTERVENOR