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REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF WRITTEN STATEMENT

October 27, 2021

RE: APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO TO AMEND ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR THE SCENIC LOOP 138-KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN BEXAR COUNTY

To the Chairman and Commissioners of the Public Utility Commission of Texas:

My name is Paul Craig, an affected homeowner and Intervenor Pro Se in this proceeding. I was hoping to be able to present my thoughts and position during tomorrow's open meeting that was originally going to be held by phone. However, the memo issued yesterday Oct 26 indicated that the meeting would now be held in person in Austin, which unfortunately I am unable to attend in person on such short notice. Thus I am submitting this letter in lieu of presenting oral statements, and respectfully request that it be given the same weight that my presence and oral statement would have been given, in light of the lack of advance notice of the change.

I take issue with the ruling of the ALJ's in this matter that sided against the PUC Staff's own recommendation that a southern route, Route P in particular, be chosen. The Community Values considered in this case showed an overwhelming majority of votes (58%) for the most important consideration to our area to be the "Impact to residences," showing that the greatest majority of those affected by this decision have concerns about the impact to the places they live with their families and their children. Thus, a route that can be chosen which minimizes impact to the greatest number of residences would be optimal from this perspective. I live in the Serene and Scenic Hills Neighborhood, which is home to many families with young children, including my own 3 boys, aged 8, 6 and 2. The lots in my neighborhood average about 1 acre, so by following the property boundaries of these small lots, the transmission lines would subject those who live in these homes to the constant exposure to the electromagnetic fields generated. And while I do feel for the owners of large parcels and ranches that might be affected by these transmission lines, I also feel that it's fairly indisputable that the electromagnetic fields from a transmission line on the boundary of a small acre-sized lot would have a greater impact than those from a transmission line that might disrupt the scenery and views of much larger parcels of land.

PUC Docket 51023 shows that at least 71 residents of my neighborhood alone, including at least 15 showing Toutant Beauregard addresses, filed either a Request to Intervene, or Comments as a Protestor in this case. Many of those initial intervenors were not able to continue to participate in the process for whatever reason (I myself found the process to be quite intimidating!), but the impact of these transmission lines remains a concern to all of us.

In my own case specifically, the lack of high voltage transmission lines close by was a large factor in the purchase of our home in this area over 7 years ago, as the health and safety of our family and our 3 young boys is of paramount importance. There are many studies showing correlation of continual exposure to strong electromagnetic fields to various terminal illnesses, including childhood Leukemia, as well as a variety of other health issues. The constant electromagnetic fields that these transmission lines would produce is extremely worrisome, and the potential harm to our growing and developing children is a frightening prospect. I will close with a heartfelt ask that your decision protect all the children and families of Serene and Scenic Hills and our neighboring communities by not bringing risky and/or dangerous high voltage transmission lines and power substations too close to where they sleep, learn, and play.

Thus, please choose a southern route as the final placement for these transmission lines, such as Route P which is recommended by PUC Staff as well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Paul Craig 27 Oct 2021
Paul Craig
Homeowner, Father of 3, Intervenor