



## Filing Receipt

**Received - 2021-11-17 02:46:22 PM**

**Control Number - 51023**

**ItemNumber - 945**

**TO: PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
Chairman Peter Lake, Lori Cobos, Will McAdams & Jimmy Glotfelt

**REF: DOCKET 51023**

**DATE: November 16, 2021**

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I have been an "Intervenor" as well as an active "Pro Se" participant in the Hearing for Merit for Docket 51023. I had planned to provide Oral Argument in docket #51023 with the understanding that the meeting would be by conference call as outlined in the letter issued by the PUC in September but received a 2 days' notice that it had been changed to an in-person meeting without the ability to provide Oral Argument remotely. I did not have sufficient time to make arrangements to take off from work and travel to Austin. This does not mean that I am not concerned with this project.

My husband (Gene Omeis) and I have owned and lived in our 1970's home built on a .8 acre lot in Serene & Scenic Hills for over twenty-seven (27) years. Our neighborhood was long-established just under fifty (50) years ago along with one other development. It was considered rural back then. There was no bridge on Boerne Stage Road and when it rained in the early 1970's, residents had to stay in San Antonio if you were on your way home! Our neighborhood has maintained this rural feel with natural grasses, neighborhood hayrides, and organized running races through the neighborhood. Primarily Primates-a Bexar County non-profit organization operates an animal sanctuary- resides in our community.

The folks in our hard-working middle class neighborhood help each other out and don't ask for much. Most of my neighbors have been here for many years and are happily living in a quiet, friendly and nature filled community. Half of the residents have their own wells and when my husband and I moved here in 1994, the community had 3 large wells on top of the hill that supplied community who had no well of their own. There was always one well not working and water ran low. But, neighbors shared their well water with folks without water. This is what we do. My husband volunteered as Serene & Scenic Hills HOA treasurer board so he could participate in fixing the water situation. At 2am, he would hear the heavy milk trucks filled with water slowly pulling up the hill past our bedroom window aiming towards the pump yard to fill our dry wells. He would meet them at the top of the hill and write them a check as they filled up our tanks. That is what Serene & Scenic Hills community is all about.

I am asking you to please consider Serene & Scenic Hills as not just numbers or dots on a CPS map but as human beings with families who volunteer at local schools and churches. Our neighborhood (across from the proposed substation #7 and route Z2) has twice as many habitable structures clustered together on 1 acre lots in comparison to any and all of the opposing neighborhoods including SHLLA. Those neighborhoods have only one structure on large 10 acre properties on route P compared to our 10 families on a 10 acre section. The folks on route P complain that there would be a change in their scenic view on their 10 acre lot if the transmission lines were placed on route P. I say that having a transmission pole sitting smack in your front yard would be one million times worse. That is what Serene & Scenic Hills would be facing. They have at least 4 residents living off Toutant Beauregard where the transmission

lines from route Z2 would go right over their driveways and onto their front yards within 300 feet of their home.

Not only would substation #7 and route Z2 be in close proximity to the children and families living in Serene & Scenic Hills, but their children would have further exposure because their elementary school and proposed middle school and athletic field would come within 200 feet of the High Voltage Transmission (HVT) lines.

Although I know there are many issues that go into deciding where a substation and transmission lines will be placed, can you really put a price on the hundreds and hundreds of people living in a long-established and supportive community versus a few people who will be acres away? There are viable options with far less habitable structures for routes to choose from.

Although Serene/Scenic Hills residents did not have the resources to hire an attorney or have the financial ability to buy their way out of the transmission lines like one of the developers did (how is that fair?), we certainly have grit and we want to save our community from devastating effects. Eight residents have worked tirelessly researching and dissecting data, sharing thoughts and ideas and speaking for residents who were unable to participate or who never even **received** the notice of the hearings from the PUC. We stood up at the PUC zoom hearing supporting and cheering each other on as a David versus Goliath. And, we will continue to do so.

Serene/Scenic Hills should not be punished because we did not have every single resident living on Toutant Beauregard speak up. Just because a person does not stand up, does not mean that they do not care. There are many reasons a person does not stand up... anxiety and lack of information among them. No one wants a massive substation structure and massive transmission poles/lines across the street, next to them or right in their front yard.

Serene/Scenic Hills community has minded its own business for almost 5 decades when no one else wanted to live out as far away in a rural area as we were. We built a strong and caring community with fewer resources than those in the city. Not only did we survive, but we thrived. Why does our neighborhood now have to bear the brunt of both a huge substation and transmission lines to supply electricity for thousands and thousands of brand new huge homes and large developments when now, all of a sudden, it is "cool" to live out here? Our trees are being torn down, our wildlife are being driven from their habitats, we can barely hear the birds chirping from all the noise, we can barely see the stars at night due to all the light pollution and we now have increased in traffic and 5 street lights on Boerne Stage Road when just 8 years ago there were zero?

We will continue to support our neighbors and family in order to preserve one of the oldest and most wonderful communities in this area. Please think of the larger population of people who live in Serene & Scenic Hills and **DO NOT** choose substation #7 and route Z2 when you have other very viable and less damaging options. I feel substation #6 and route P are the most logical and fair choices for this area.

Respectfully submitted,

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