



## **Filing Receipt**

**Filing Date - 2023-07-31 04:53:07 PM**

**Control Number - 55067**

**Item Number - 1469**

Melissa Dennis  
215 Cedar Crest Dr.  
Justin, TX 76247

July 31, 2023

Public Utility Commission of Texas Central Records  
Attn: Filing Clerk  
1701 N. Congress Avenue  
P.O. Box 13326  
Austin, TX 78711-3326

RE: Request to Intervene in PUC Docket #55067

To: PUC Commissioners, and others whom it may concern,

My name is Melissa Dennis and I own property at 215 Cedar Crest Dr, Justin, TX 76247. This statement is with respect to the proposed transmission lines by ONCOR described in docket number 55067. I am requesting that the PUC deny any of the filed routes for the proposed Ramhorn Hill-Dunham transmission line that include Link J4, specifically Routes 1, 19, 65, 67, 68, 69, 72, 92, 94, 96, 103, 108, 142, 143, 146, 170, 191, 192, and 219.

The proposed routes that include Link J4 would result in transmission lines being constructed a few feet over 500 feet from my property. Link J4 cuts right through the heart of the City of Justin, which would disrupt the Justin Community Park, the Trail Creek, the trees, plants and vegetation along the creek, the wildlife present in this area, and most of all, adversely affect the residents of the communities living adjacent to the creek.

The presence of high-powered transmission lines in residential neighborhoods has drastic effects, particularly on environmental impact, health consequences, property value depreciation, and aesthetics.

1. **Environmental Impact:** High-powered transmission lines have various environmental consequences. Construction activities disrupt natural habitats, leading to habitat fragmentation and displacement of wildlife. Moreover, the electromagnetic fields (EMF) generated by the transmission lines raise concerns about potential impacts on migratory birds and other animal species. Additionally, the clearing of vegetation for line maintenance can contribute to deforestation and disrupt local ecosystems.

2. **Health Effects:** One of the most dangerous issues surrounding high-powered transmission lines is their impact on human health due to exposure to EMF. While research on this topic is ongoing, a lot of studies suggest an association between prolonged exposure to high levels of EMF and certain health conditions, such as childhood leukemia, brain tumors, and neurodegenerative disorders.
3. **Declining Property Values:** The presence of high-powered transmission lines in a neighborhood has been associated with declining property values. Prospective homebuyers perceive the lines as undesirable due to concerns about health, aesthetics, and potential interference with electronic devices. As a result, homeowners near transmission lines experience difficulties when selling their properties and see a decline in their property's market value.
4. **Aesthetics:** The introduction of high-powered transmission lines also dramatically alter the visual landscape of a neighborhood. Their towering metal structures, extensive lattice towers, and long stretches of cables can be seen for miles, potentially diminishing the scenic beauty and overall appeal of the area. It's an intrusion into the community, leading to reduced pride in the neighborhood and diminished community identity.

#### Mitigation Strategies

To address the adverse effects of high-powered transmission lines, several mitigation strategies can be considered. Underground cabling is one alternative to reduce the visual impact of the lines. Proper land-use planning can also help avoid constructing transmission lines through densely populated residential areas and sensitive environmental zones.

#### Alternate Routes

Considering the fact that both the Ramhorn-Hill switch and the Dunham switch both lie significantly south of the city of Justin, it doesn't make sense to construct a line encroaching further north into more densely populated area. Route 164 seems to be the most logical route with the least impact on habitable structures within 500 feet of the line.

In conclusion, I am requesting that the PUC deny all routes involving Link J4, and consider alternate routes for this project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Dennis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melissa Dennis