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Filing Date - 2023-09-07 01:36:06 PM

Control Number - 55067

Item Number - 1777

SOAH Docket No. 473-23-21216

PUC Docket No. 55067

APPLICATION OF ONCOR	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
ELECTRIC DELIVERY LLC TO	§	
AMEND ITS CERTIFICATE OF	§	
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY	§	OF
FOR THE RAMHORN HILL –	§	
DUNHAM 345-KV TRANSMISSION	§	
LINE IN DENTON COUNTIES	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

INTERVENORS HOLLY AND JAMES LEWIS’S POST-HEARING BRIEF

Intervenors Holly and James Lewis (collectively referred to as “Lewis’s”), file this Post-Hearing Brief.

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

James and Holly Lewis respectfully urge the Administrative Law Justices to not recommend to the Public Utility Commission of Texas approval of the “Best Meets” route 179 or any route whose path includes Link J3. Use of this Link would have a negative impact on the Legacy Ranch community values and southern Justin residential and commercial development. Additionally, multiple structural pole/line turns of the Oncor transmission line through the Legacy Ranch community certainly increases the cost of building out Link J3.

ARGUMENT

During the hearing, Oncor stated transmission line route selection requires balancing a number of factors to include proximity to habitable structures, cost constraints, and aesthetics.

The proposed Link J3 follows a zig zag pattern through the recently established neighborhood of Legacy Ranch. Due to this installation pattern and proximity to homes, no other link in the entire study area impacts a neighborhood more than Link J3. As Oncor representative Ms. Perkins said in her rebuttal testimony, every turning structure increases the cost of establishing the transmission line. As this link bisects Legacy Ranch it would require 3 turning structures and consume nearly the entire community

green space as each turning structure requires a much larger easement/footprint. Two of these large monopoles would be approximately 60 yards from existing homes. Furthermore, as J3 heads east connecting through Link H8, another 3 turning structures would be required. This totals 6 turning structures within approximately one mile, making the J3-H8 segments of Route 179 more than likely the most expensive span on the route.

Alternatively, Segment J22 has more habitable structures than J3, however, 73% of those structures are more than 300 ft from centerline. On the other hand, J3 has fewer habitable structures, but 42% of them are less than 300 ft from centerline. Legacy Ranch homes are closer in proximity to the power lines than J-22 and the route zig-zag pattern makes the lines more costly and aesthetically unpleasing from every angle. How is that balancing the factors stated by Oncor?

The Lewis's along with the other residents of Legacy Ranch propose moving the power lines south to Link J22. Only one intervenor at the hearing opposed J22 - Hillwood parties. However, Hillwood stated they would possibly accept a route that included segments I6, J1, and J21 if those segments were moved further west closer to highway FM 156 and the railroad ROW. The Lewis's believe this could be a viable option for Oncor approval. During the hearing, Oncor was able to reach tentative agreements with several intervening parties to adjust/move the transmission lines in other areas of concern. Due to the witnessed cooperation, we implore Oncor to consider making a modification to the preferred route to include J22, J21, J1, I6, H8 instead of moving north to include J3. Furthermore, J22 follows a railroad ROW for a majority of the proposed route whereas J3 bisects a neighborhood and would take up nearly all of the community green space.

Due to the aforementioned reasons, the Lewis's do not support the "Best Meets" route or any other route that includes Link J3.

We respectfully request consideration of this modification proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

James and Holly Lewis