

Mr. Rob Lowe Regional Administrator, Southwest Region Federal Aviation Administration 10101 Hillwood Parkway Fort Worth, Texas 76117-1524

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Lowe:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

Halff Associates, Inc. (Halff) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Alternative Route Analysis to support an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). Halff is currently in the process of gathering data on the existing environment and identifying environmental and land use constraints within the project study area that will be used in the creation of an environmental and land use constraints map. Halff will identify potential alternative routes that consider environmental and land use constraints.

Halff is requesting that your agency/office provide information concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest to your agency/office within the study area. Your comments will be an important consideration in the assessment of potential impacts. Upon certification for the proposed project, Oncor will determine the need for other approvals and/or permits. If your jurisdiction has approvals and/or permits that would apply to this project, please identify them in response to this inquiry. If permits are required from your office, Oncor will contact your office following route certification.

Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: Eckhart, Kimberly (FAA) < Kimberly. Eckhart@faa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:12 PM

To: Marusak, Russell

Subject: Ramhorn Hill-Dunham Transmission Line Project

Attachments: 2022-09-13 - Marusak - Halff - Denton and Wise Counties TX.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon, Mr. Marusak,

Please find the response to your correspondence regarding the Ramhorn Hill-Durham Transmission Line Project attached.

Have a great day!

Office of the Regional Administrator



U.S. Department of Transportation

Administration

Federal Aviation

Southwest Region

10101 Hillwood Parkway Fort Worth, TX 76177

September 21, 2022

Russell Marusak Halff Associates, Inc. 1201 North Bowser Road Richardson, TX 75081-2275

Dear Mr. Marusak:

This is in response to your September 13, 2022, correspondence concerning Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC proposed construction of a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas. You requested information regarding environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest within the study area. You also requested information about any approvals or permits that would apply to the project.

As set forth in Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 77, Objects that Affect the Navigable Airspace, the prime concern of the Federal Aviation Administration is the effect of certain proposed construction on the safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace.

To accomplish this mission, aeronautical studies are conducted based on information provided by sponsors on FAA Form 7460-1, Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration. If your organization is planning to sponsor any construction or alterations that may affect navigable airspace, you must file FAA Form 7460-1 electronically via https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/portal.jsp.

For additional information and assistance, please feel free to contact the Obstruction Evaluation Group at 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, Texas 76177 or (817) 222-5954.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS E Digitally signed by DOUGLAS E LANE **LANE**

Date: 2022.09.22 13:56:36

Rob Lowe For

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region

CC: Obstruction Evaluation Group, AJV-15



Mr. Tony Robinson Regional Administrator Federal Emergency Management Agency - Region VI FRC 800 North Loop 288 Denton, Texas 76209-3698

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: Williams, Loukisha <loukisha.williams@fema.dhs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, October 5, 2022 10:05 AM

To: Marusak, Russell

Cc: stephen.belknap@dentoncounty.com; chad.davis@co.wise.tx.us

Subject: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill-Dunham 345 kV

Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Attachments: Environmental Review_ Denton and Wise Counties_TX 2.docx; Denton and Wise

Counties_TX.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Russell Marusak Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC. 1201 N. Bowser Rd Richardson, TX 75081

Dear Mr. Marusak,

Thank you for contacting FEMA for information in reference to your questions pertaining to Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill-Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas request for information. Please review our attached response.

Loukisha Williams

Program Support Assistant Floodplain Management & Insurance Mitigation-Region 6 O: 940-383-7228 Mobile: (202) 258-3794

Loukisha.Williams@fema.dhs.gov



U. S. Department of Homeland Security FEMA Region 6 800 North Loop 288 Denton, TX 76209-3698



FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY REGION 6 MITIGATION DIVISION

RE: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill-Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

NOTICE REVIEW/ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION We have no comments to offer. We offer the following comments:

WE WOULD REQUEST THAT THE COMMUNITY FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR BE CONTACTED FOR THE REVIEW AND POSSIBLE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS PROJECT. IF FEDERALLY FUNDED, WE WOULD REQUEST PROJECT TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH E011988 & E0 11990.

Denton County, TX

Stephen Belknap
Assistant Public Works Director
1505 East McKinney Street, Suite 175
Denton, TX 76209
stephen.belknap@dentoncounty.com
(940) 349-3250

Wise County

Chad Davis
Engineer
2901 S. FM 51, Building 200
Decatur, TX
chad.davis@co.wise.tx.us
(940) 627- 9332
(940) 627 - 6171
(940) 389 - 7270

DATE: 09/28/2022

REVIEWER:

Loukisha Williams
Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch
Mitigation Division
(940) 383-7228



Mr. Steven Ray, District Conservationist Denton Service Center Natural Resources Conservation Service 525 South Loop 288, Suite C Denton, Texas 76205-4515

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Ray:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: Araya, Samuel - FPAC-NRCS, Temple, TX <Samuel.Araya@usda.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 3:50 PM

To: Marusak, Russell

Cc: Stahnke, Alan - NRCS, Temple, TX

Subject: Proposed Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Attachments: Soil Report - Oncor-HALFF - Denton and Wise TX.pdf; Soil Letter - Oncor-HALFF -

Denton and Wise TX.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Russell Marusak,

I am writing in response to your letter dated September 13, 2022 requesting information related to the Oncor, Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345-kV transmission line project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas. Please find attached a letter and a soils report on the project study area.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Samuel Araya
Soil Scientist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture
101 S Main St., Temple, Texas
(254) 742-9874
samuel.araya@usda.gov
www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov

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United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources and Conservation Service

State Office

101 S. Main Street Temple, TX 76501 Tel: 254.742.9800 Fax: 844.496.8111 September 21, 2022

HALFF Associates, Inc. 1201 North Bowser Road Richardson, TX 75081

Attention: Russell Marusak

Subject: Proposed Oncor Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345-kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed transmission line project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas.

The project study area does not involve any USDA-NRCS easements.

The soils in the project study area have been reviewed and there are a few limitations that should be taken into consideration while planning for the project. Approximately 78,000 acres, 80%, of the study area is rated as highly vulnerable to erosion by wind and portions of the study area experience frequent flooding. Soil erosion prevention practices are recommended for this project. Shallow soils, less than 40-inches deep, are spread out in the area totaling about a third of the study area. Most of the study area is rated high-risk for soil-induced steel corrosion.

Enclosed is a report based on our latest soils database that contains maps and details of relevant soil ratings. We encourage you to consider this information and take measures to protect the soil and water quality.

Please contact me by email at samuel.araya@usda.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Samuel Araya Soil Scientist

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Attachments are voluminous and may be made available on request.



A product of the National Cooperative Soil Survey, a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies, State agencies including the Agricultural Experiment Stations, and local participants Custom Soil Resource Report for Denton County, Texas, and Wise County, Texas

Proposed Oncor Ramhorn Hill— Dunham 345-kV Transmission Line Project



September 21, 2022



Mr. Mike Eastland Executive Director North Central Texas Council of Governments 616 Six Flags Drive - Centerpoint II Arlington, Texas 76011-6347

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Eastland:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader



Ms. Edith Marvin
Director of Environment and Development
North Central Texas Council of Governments
616 Six Flags Drive - Centerpoint II
Arlington, Texas 76011-6347

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Ms. Marvin:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader



Ms. Karen Sanchez Program Specialist Railroad Commission of Texas PO Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78701-2967

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Ms. Sanchez:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: Karen Sanchez < Karen.Sanchez@rrc.texas.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 7:38 AM

To: Marusak, Russell
Subject: Letter received 9/19/22

Attachments: 0464_001.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Mr. Marusak,

We have received your letter dated September 13, 2022, received September 19, 2022.

Based on the information provided, we cannot search for responsive information. You will need to go to our online GID mapping system and determine if there are any RRC regulated facilities in the area of your project. Once you have those identify numbers, we will be happy to search for information.

Public GIS Viewer (Map) (texas.gov)

Sincerely,

Karen Sanchez
Legal Assistant
Office of General Counsel
Railroad Commission of Texas



TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL: Jonathan@Austin.Utexas.edu

Mr. Fred Valdez, Director Texas Archeological Research Laboratory The University of Texas at Austin 1 University Station, R7500 Austin, Texas 78712-0100

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Valdez:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: Jarvis, Jonathan H. <jonathan@austin.utexas.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 3:49 PM

To: Marusak, Russell

Subject: Constraints Analysis: Ramhorn Hill - Dunham 345kV

Attachments: Hallf_RamhornHill-Dunham_345kV.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Russell:

A scanned copy of the cultural resources constraints analysis is attached. I'll drop the hardcopy in the mail along with the invoice. There are quite a few archeological sites present, but none of them are particularly significant.

Cheers, Jonathan

Jonathan H. Jarvis, MLA, M.S., RPA
Associate Director, Texas Archeological Research Lab
Lecturer, Department of Anthropology
Faculty Affiliate, Environmental Science Institute
President, Phi Kappa Phi UT-Austin Chapter
The University of Texas at Austin

Phone: 512/471-5959 www.utexas.edu/cola/tarl www.texasbeyondhistory.net



Texas Archeological Research Laboratory

College of Liberal Arts

1 University Station •R7500 • Austin, TX 78712 • 512-471-5960 • FAX 512-232-6563 https://liberalarts.utexas.edu/tarl/

21 September 2022

Russell Marusak Halff Associates, Inc. 1201 North Bowser Rd. Richardson, TX 75081-2274

Re: Oncor's Proposed Ramhorn Hill – Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project, Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Russell:

This letter is provided in response to a constraints analysis request received by the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) on 16 September 2022 concerning the above referenced project and the possible location of archeological sites within the study area boundaries in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas. Please note that information regarding archeological site locations is not intended for public disclosure; site location information is protected by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Title III, §304, and by §191.004 of the Texas Antiquities Code. If you have any questions regarding this policy please feel free to contact me at the phone number or email address below.

A search of the records on file at TARL indicates that 18 archeological sites have been documented within study area as mapped. These sites are summarized in the table below.

Table 1. Previously recorded archeological sites in the study area

Site	Description	7.5' USGS Quad	Eligibility / Recommendations
41DN249	Historic artifact scatter	Keller	No further work
41DN358	Historic dairy operation	Argyle	No recommendations
41DN359	Historic dairy operation	Argyle	No recommendations
41DN360	Historic dairy operation	Argyle	No recommendations
41DN361	Historic residence/farmstead	Argyle	No recommendations
41DN362	Historic ranch complex	Argyle	No recommendations
41DN363	Historic residence/farmstead	Argyle	No recommendations

41DN364	Historic barn	Argyle	No recommendations	
41DN503	Prehistoric lithic scatter & historic artifact scatter	Justin	No recommendations	
41DN538	Historic farmstead	Justin	Determined ineligible	
			(THC #200602666)	
41DN552	Historic schoolhouse	Justin	No further work	
41DN553	Historic house	Justin	Avoidance	
41DN583	Scatter of fire brick	Argyle	Determined ineligible	
			(THC #201503538)	
41DN590	Historic artifact scatter	Justin	No further work	
41DN607	Historic farmstead	Justin	Determined ineligible	
			(THC #201901591)	
41DN612	Prehistoric camp & historic refuse pit	Justin	Site mitigated, no further	
			work	
41DN616	Historic farmstead	Rhome	Determined ineligible	
			(THC #201911202)	
41WS48	Historic residence/farmstead	Rhome	Determined ineligible	
			(THC #199908796)	

TARL does not maintain cultural resource information other than the archeological site files and spatial data. As a courtesy, however, the current constraints analysis included a search of the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) restricted online Texas Archeological Sites Atlas and the publicly accessible Texas Historic Sites Atlas. The Atlas data indicate that there are ten cemeteries, ten historical markers and two properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) present in the study area. These resources are summarized in the tables below.

Table 2. Cemeteries in the study area

Name	THC Cemetery No.	7.5' USGS Quad
Isabelle	WS-C142	Rhome
Bethel-Rhome	WS-C159	Rhome
Medlin	DN-C049	Colleyville
Dunham	DN-C008	Argyle
Prairie Mound Church	DN-C022	Argyle
Wolfe	DN-C057	Argyle
Kelsay	DN-C058	Argyle
Elizabethtown	DN-C033	Justin
Justin	DN-C034	Justin
Thurmond-Fairview	WS-C006	Rhome

Table 3. Historical markers in the study area

Name	THC Marker No.	7.5' USGS Quad
Elizabeth Cemetery	1456	Justin
Medlin Cemetery	3318	Colleyville
Roanoke Lodge No. 668 A.F. & A.M.	4286	Argyle
Thurmond-Fairview Cemetery	5489	Rhome
United Methodist Church of Rhome	5605	Rhome
Silver Spur Saloon	15720	Colleyville
Roanoke Water Tower	No data	Colleyville
Justin	17845	Justin
Roanoke	No data	Colleyville
Prairie Mound Cemetery	4109	Argyle

Table 4. National Register properties in the study area

Name	Address	Date listed
Central Roanoke Historic District	100-200 Blocks of North Oak Street, Roanoke	2008
Old Continental State Bank	312 Oak Street, Roanoke	1986

There have been a number of archeological surveys in and around the study area's boundaries, but the vast majority of the study area has never been surveyed for cultural resources.

For regulatory matters pertaining to your project, contact the Archeology Division of the Texas Historical Commission at 512/463-6096. For any other questions, please contact me at 512/471-5959 or jjarvis@mail.utexas.edu.

Sincerely,

Jonathan H. Jarvis, RPA

Associate Director

JHJ\hs



Mr. Dan Harmon
Director
Texas Department of Transportation (Aviation Divison)
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2409

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Harmon:

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader



Mr. Mohamed Bur, P.E. District Engineer Texas Department of Transportation – Dallas District 4777 US Highway 80 East Mesquite, Texas 75150-6642

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Bur, P.E.:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

Halff Associates, Inc. (Halff) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Alternative Route Analysis to support an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). Halff is currently in the process of gathering data on the existing environment and identifying environmental and land use constraints within the project study area that will be used in the creation of an environmental and land use constraints map. Halff will identify potential alternative routes that consider environmental and land use constraints.

Halff is requesting that your agency/office provide information concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest to your agency/office within the study area. Your comments will be an important consideration in the assessment of potential impacts. Upon certification for the proposed project, Oncor will determine the need for other approvals and/or permits. If your jurisdiction has approvals and/or permits that would apply to this project, please identify them in response to this inquiry. If permits are required from your office, Oncor will contact your office following route certification.

Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader



Mr. Carlos Swonke
Director
Texas Department of Transportation (Off. Of Env. Affairs)
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2409

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Swonke:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader



Mr. George P. Bush Commissioner Texas General Land Office 1700 North Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 79756-1496

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Commissioner Bush:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE GEORGE P. BUSH, COMMISSIONER

September 13, 2022

Russell Marusak Halff Associate, Inc. 1201 North Bowser Road Richardson, TX 75081-2275

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's proposed Ramhorn Hill – Dunham 345kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Marusak:

On behalf of Commissioner Bush, I would like to thank you for your letter concerning the above-referenced project.

Using your map depicting the project's study area, it does not appear that the General Land Office will have any environmental issues or land use constraints at this time.

When a final route for this proposed project has been determined, please contact me and we can assess the route to determine if the project will cross any streambeds or Permanent School Fund (PSF) land that would require an easement from our agency.

In the interim, if you would like to speak to me further about this project, I can be reached by email at jeff.burroughs@glo.texas.gov or by phone at (512) 463-7845.

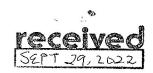
Again, thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Jeff Burroughs

Manager, Right-of-Way Department

Leasing Operations





Mr. Mark Wolfe Executive Director Texas Historical Commission PO Box 12276 Austin, Texas 78701-2276

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

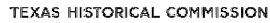
Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: noreply@thc.state.tx.us

Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 10:11 AM **To:** Marusak, Russell; reviews@thc.state.tx.us

Subject: Section 106 Submission





real places telling real stories

Re: Project Review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

THC Tracking #202300559

Date: 12/01/2022

Oncor - Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line intersect of US Hwy 287 and SH 114

Description: proposes to construct a 345 kV transmission line from proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch

Dear Russell Marusak:

Thank you for your submittal regarding the above-referenced project. This response represents the comments of the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission (THC), pursuant to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The review staff, led by Arlo McKee and Caitlin Brashear, has completed its review and has made the following determinations based on the information submitted for review:

Archeology Comments

• An archeological survey is required. You may obtain lists of archeologists in Texas through the Council of Texas Archeologists and the Register of Professional Archaeologists. Please note that other qualified archeologists not included on these lists may be used. If this work will occur on land owned or controlled by a state agency or political subdivision of the state, a Texas Antiquities Permit must be obtained from this office prior to initiation of fieldwork. All fieldwork should meet the Archeological Survey Standards for Texas. A report of investigations is required and should meet the Council of Texas Archeologists Guidelines for Cultural Resources Management Reports and the Texas Administrative Code. In addition, any state-owned buildings 50 years old or older that are located on the tract should be documented with photographs and included in the report. Shapefiles of the area surveyed must be submitted via the tab on eTrac with submission of the draft report to facilitate review and make project information available through the Texas Archeological Sites Atlas. For questions on how to submit these please visit our video training series at:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLONbbv2pt4cog5t6mCqZVaEAx3d0MkgQC

We have the following comments: Within the proposed study area are high probability areas to contain archeological sites. An archeological survey of the proposed transmission line route will be necessary. Please prepare a research design and submit it to our office for review once the exact route for this transmission line has been determined.

We look forward to further consultation with your office and hope to maintain a partnership that will foster effective historic preservation. Thank you for your cooperation in this review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. If the project changes, or if new historic properties are found, please contact the review staff. If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please email the following reviewers: Arlo.McKee@thc.texas.gov, caitlin.brashear@thc.texas.gov.

This response has been sent through the electronic THC review and compliance system (eTRAC). Submitting your project via eTRAC eliminates mailing delays and allows you to check the status of the review, receive an electronic response, and generate reports on your submissions. For more information, visit http://thc.texas.gov/etrac-system.

Sincerely,

for Mark Wolfe, State Historic Preservation Officer Executive Director, Texas Historical Commission

Please do not respond to this email.

aithin Brashean



TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL: WHAB@TPWD.TEXAS.GOV

Ms. Karen Hardin, Habitat Assessment Biologist Habitat Assessment Program Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 4200 Smith School Road Austin, Texas 78744-3218

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Ms. Hardin:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

Halff Associates, Inc. (Halff) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Alternative Route Analysis to support an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). Halff is currently in the process of gathering data on the existing environment and identifying environmental and land use constraints within the project study area that will be used in the creation of an environmental and land use constraints map. Halff will identify potential alternative routes that consider environmental and land use constraints.

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Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

Email & letter response from TPWD (Wildlife Habitat Assmt. Prog.) Page 1 of 16

From: Karen Hardin < Karen.Hardin@tpwd.texas.gov>

Sent: Friday, October 7, 2022 11:54 AM

To: Marusak, Russell

Subject: RE: Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project; TPWD Project 49211 **Attachments:** WL49211DENTONWISEOncorRamhornHill-Dunham345kV-C10-07-2022.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Russell Marusak,

Please see the attached Texas Parks and Wildlife Department comments regarding the Oncor Ramhorn Hill – Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project.

Sincerely,

Karen Hardin
Natural Resource Specialist
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744
903-322-5001
Karen.Hardin@tpwd.texas.gov

From: Marusak, Russell <RMarusak@Halff.com> Sent: Friday, September 16, 2022 10:40 AM To: WHAB <WHAB@tpwd.texas.gov>

Subject: Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

Please see attached study area shapefiles for a new proposed project in Denton and Wise Counties. Thanks.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader Halff Associates, Inc.

O: (214) 346-6367 **C:** (469) 569-6982



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Robert L. "Bobby" Patton, Jr. Fort Worth

Travis B. "Blake" Rowling

Lee M. Bass Chairman-Emeritus Fort Worth

T. Dan Friedkin Chairman-Emeritus Houston

Carter P. Smith Executive Director October 7, 2022

Mr. Russell Marusak HALFF Associates, Inc. 1201 North Bowser Road Richardson, TX 75081-2275

RE: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill – Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties

Dear Mr. Russell Marusak:

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) received a project review request dated September 16, 2022, regarding the transmission project referenced above.

Under Texas Parks and Wildlife Code (PWC) section 12.0011(b)(2) and (b)(3), TPWD has authority to provide recommendations and informational comments that will protect fish and wildlife resources to local, state, and federal agencies that approve, license, or construct developmental projects or make decisions affecting those resources. TPWD is providing input on this proposed project to facilitate the incorporation of beneficial management practices (BMP) during construction, operation, and maintenance that may assist the project proponent in minimizing impacts to the state's natural resources. Pursuant to PWC section 12.0011(b)(2) and (b)(3), TPWD offers the following comments and recommendations concerning this project.

Project Description

Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound. FM 1171 is also known as Cross Timbers Road.

On behalf of Oncor, HALFF Associates, Inc. (HALFF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment and Alternative Route Analysis (EA) to support an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the Public Utility Commission of Texas for the proposed project. HALFF is requesting environmental and land use constraints information or other issues of interest to TPWD within the study area for the project. HALFF provided an ArcGIS shapefile of the proposed study area and a map exhibiting the study area boundary, the proposed Ramhorn Hill and Dunham Switches, existing transmission lines, railways, major roads, and city limits.

TPWD review of aerial imagery and ecosystem data from the Texas Ecosystem Analytical Mapper (TEAM) indicates that the study area contains primarily rural residences, savanna grasslands, tallgrass prairie, croplands, and numerous oil or gas well

4200 SMITH SCHOOL ROAD AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744-3291 512.389.4800 www.tpwd.texas.gov

To manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Email & letter response from TPWD (Wildlife Habitat Assmt. Prog.) Page 3 of 16

Mr. Russell Marusak Page 2 October 7, 2022

pads. Low intensity urban and suburban development is present in portions of the study area near towns and highways. Creeks and tributaries occur throughout the study area and contain riparian and floodplain habitats with herbaceous vegetation, shrublands, and forest. Other cover types generally occurring in smaller amounts within the study area include upland hardwood woodlands and mottes, barrens, swamps, marsh, ponds, and grassland savannahs invaded by native mesquite, juniper, or deciduous woody species.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends using existing transmission facilities wherever possible and minimizing the transmission line length. Where new construction is the only feasible option, TPWD recommends routing new transmission lines along existing transmission lines, roads, railways, pipelines, or other utility rights-of-way (ROW) to reduce habitat fragmentation and minimize loss of undisturbed habitats.

Federal Law

Federal Law: Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits taking, attempting to take, capturing, killing, selling, purchasing, possessing, transporting, and importing of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, or nests, except when specifically authorized by the Department of the Interior. This protection applies to most native bird species, including ground nesting species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Migratory Bird Office can be contacted at (505) 248-7882 for more information on potential impacts to migratory birds.

Measures should be taken to ensure that migratory bird species within and near the project area are not adversely impacted by construction, maintenance, and operation activities. Riparian corridors, rivers, creeks, wetlands, and lakes provide habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, and other birds. There is potential for collision of birds with transmission lines near water features.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends Oncor route transmission lines to avoid crossing streams, riparian areas, wetlands, and open water habitat, to the extent feasible. When crossing streams, TPWD recommends crossing in a perpendicular manner and avoiding placement of lines parallel to streams and their associated wooded and herbaceous floodplain and riparian corridors to minimize risk of collision. Where lines cross or are located near creeks, drainages, wetlands, and lakes, TPWD recommends Oncor proactively install line markers to reduce potential collisions of birds utilizing these habitats. TPWD recommends the use of raptor protection measures such as adequate conductor spacing, perch guards, and insulated jumper wires to prevent electrocution of perching raptors. For additional information, please refer to the guidelines published by USFWS and the Avian Power Lines Interaction Committee found in Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines: State of the Art in 2012, which identifies best practices and provides specific guidance to help electric utilities reduce bird collisions with power lines, and the 2006 companion document, Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines.

Email & letter response from TPWD (Wildlife Habitat Assmt. Prog.) Page 4 of 16

Mr. Russell Marusak Page 3 October 7, 2022

Within the project area, potential impacts to migratory birds may occur during disturbance of existing vegetation and bare ground that may harbor active bird nests, including nests that may occur in grass, shrubs, and trees and on gravel pads and roads.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends excluding vegetation clearing activities during the general bird nesting season, March 15 through September 15, to avoid adverse impacts to breeding birds. If disturbing vegetation during the migratory bird nesting season is unavoidable, TPWD recommends surveying the area proposed for disturbance to ensure that no nests with eggs or young will be disturbed by construction. TPWD generally recommends a 150-foot buffer of vegetation remain around active nests until the eggs have hatched and the young have fledged; however, the size of the buffer zone depends on various factors and can be coordinated with the local or regional USFWS office.

Sky glow because of light pollution can have negative impacts on wildlife and ecosystems by disrupting natural diurnal and nocturnal behaviors such as migration, reproduction, nourishment, rest, and cover from predators.

Recommendation: As bird protection measures, TPWD recommends Oncor construct switch stations and retrofit existing substations to utilize the minimum amount of permanent night-time lighting needed for safety and security. TPWD recommends minimizing the project's contribution to skyglow by focusing light downward, with cutoff luminaries to avoid light emitting above the horizontal, and to use dark-sky friendly lighting that is illuminated only when needed, downshielded, as bright as needed, and minimizes blue light emissions. Appropriate lighting technologies, BMP, and other dark sky resources can be found at the International Dark-Sky Association and McDonald Observatory websites.

Federal Law: Endangered Species Act

Federally listed animal species and their habitat are protected from take on any property by the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Take of a federally listed species can be allowed if it is incidental to an otherwise lawful activity and must be permitted in accordance with Section 7 or 10 of the ESA. Take of a federally listed species or its habitat without allowance from USFWS is a violation of the ESA. The USFWS rare species lists can be obtained at the USFWS Information Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends that the EA identify the federally listed, candidate, and proposed species with potential to occur within the study area. TPWD recommends Oncor conduct site surveys of the route to identify suitable habitat for federally listed species, to assess potential impacts to federally listed species, and to determine route adjustments to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to federally listed, candidate, and proposed species. If impact to a federally listed species is anticipated, TPWD recommends that Oncor consult with USFWS – Arlington Ecological Services at (817) 277-1100 pursuant to the ESA. The USFWS should be contacted for additional species occurrence data, guidance, permitting, survey protocols, and mitigation for federally listed species.

Email & letter response from TPWD (Wildlife Habitat Assmt. Prog.) Page 5 of 16

Mr. Russell Marusak Page 4 October 7, 2022

The whooping crane (*Grus americana*) is listed endangered in the entire U.S. except where it is listed as an experimental, non-essential population. The Aransas-Wood Buffalo National Park population is the only self-sustaining wild population and had a 2021-2022 estimated size of 543 birds (USFWS 2022). The Aransas-Wood Buffalo National Park population migrates across and winters in Texas utilizing a variety of wetland and other habitats, including coastal marshes and estuaries, inland marshes, lakes, ponds, wet meadows, rivers, and agricultural fields. During migration, roosting occurs in shallow, seasonally and semi-permanently flooded palustrine wetlands. During migration, feeding occurs in wetlands and harvested grain fields for a diet of frogs, fish, crayfish, insects, and agricultural grains.

The study area occurs within the core migration corridor that represents 95% of the sightings during whooping crane migration (Pearse et al., 2018). Additionally, the study area contains peripheral stopover polygons based on the *Characterization of whooping crane migrations and stopover sites used in the Central Flyway, 2010-2016* and the associated companion publication (Pearse et al., 2019 and 2020). The peripheral stopover polygons of the study area are interspersed with potential stopover habitat such as croplands, floodplain herbaceous cover, stock ponds, swamp, and marsh among savannah grasslands and tallgrass prairie.

Recommendation: To avoid potential collision risk when whooping cranes access stopover habitat, TPWD recommends avoiding project development within areas that may provide stopover habitat for whooping cranes during migration. If proposed transmission lines must occur within the vicinity of herbaceous floodplains, cropland, or the margins of open water sites, TPWD recommends proactively installing bird flight diverters to reduce potential whooping crane collision risk and consulting with the USFWS for additional guidance.

Federal Law: Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) prohibits anyone, without a permit issued by the Secretary of the Interior, from taking bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*), including their parts, nests, or eggs. The BGEPA defines take as pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb.

There is potential for bald eagles to winter or nest within portions of the study area due to the proximity of the study area to Eagle Mountain Lake and Grapevine Lake, which are large lakes that provide potential foraging habitat for bald eagles.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends that route alternatives in the vicinity of lakes and rivers be assessed for nesting, foraging, or roosting habitat for the bald eagle. For protection of bald eagles, please refer to the 2007 USFWS National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines. The USFWS Migratory Bird Program website provides information regarding eagle management, guidance for eagle nest surveys, permitting, and other guidance and tools. When potential impacts to the bald eagle are anticipated, TPWD recommends consultation with USFWS – Arlington Ecological Services regarding compliance with the BGEPA.

Email & letter response from TPWD (Wildlife Habitat Assmt. Prog.) Page 6 of 16

Mr. Russell Marusak Page 5 October 7, 2022

Federal Law: Clean Water Act Section 404

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) establishes a federal program to regulate the discharge of dredge and fill material into the waters of the U.S., including wetlands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are responsible for regulating water resources under this act. Although isolated wetlands may not be applicable to the USACE permitting process, both isolated and jurisdictional wetlands are essential in providing habitat for wildlife and helping to protect water quality.

Recommendation: If the proposed project would impact waterways or associated wetlands, TPWD recommends consulting with the Regulatory Branch of the Fort Worth District of the USACE at (817) 886-1731 pursuant to the CWA, including jurisdictional determinations, delineations, and mitigation.

State Law

State Law: Chapter 64, Birds

PWC section 64.002, regarding protection of nongame birds, provides that no person may catch, kill, injure, pursue, or possess a bird that is not a game bird. PWC section 64.003, regarding destroying nests or eggs, provides that, no person may destroy or take the nests, eggs, or young and any wild game bird, wild bird, or wild fowl.

Recommendation: Please review the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* section above for recommendations because they are also applicable for compliance with PWC.

State Law: State listed Species

PWC regulates state listed threatened and endangered animal species. The capture, trap, take, or killing of state listed threatened and endangered animal species is unlawful unless expressly authorized under a permit issued by USFWS or TPWD. The TPWD Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species of Texas by County (RTEST) is an on-line resource that identifies threatened and endangered species and other species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) that have potential to occur within each county in Texas based on occurrence and range data. The on-line webpage can be found by searching TPWD RTEST in your search engine.

TPWD also maintains location specific records of known occurrences for SGCN, within the Texas Natural Diversity Database (TXNDD), and these data are available by request. A TPWD review of the TXNDD indicates the state listed threatened Texas heelsplitter (*Potamilus amphichaenus*) has been recorded in Grapevine Lake. A portion of Grapevine Lake extends into the study area. Please note that Denton and Wise Counties are not well represented by the TXNDD, and state listed species could occur if suitable habitat is present.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends the EA identify the state listed threatened and endangered species with potential to occur within the study area using the RTEST lists for Denton and Wise Counties. TPWD recommends Oncor conduct site

Email & letter response from TPWD (Wildlife Habitat Assmt. Prog.) Page 7 of 16

Mr. Russell Marusak Page 6 October 7, 2022

surveys of the route to identify suitable habitat for state listed species and to assess potential impacts to state listed species. TPWD recommends the EA identify impact avoidance and minimization measures that Oncor will implement to protect state listed species, rare vegetation communities, and other SGCN that may occur within the study area.

Terrestrial State Listed Threatened Species: Based on TPWD review of RTEST for Denton and Wise Counties, other than birds or federally listed species addressed above, the state listed threatened Texas horned lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*) has potential to occur in in the study area, although an occurrence is unlikely due to a significant loss of range for the species in this area. If unknown populations occur in the project area, the Texas horned lizard, which hibernates only a few inches underground, would be susceptible to earth moving equipment and compaction in areas of suitable habitat such as native grasslands and native rangeland being invaded by woody species. Additionally, the Texas horned lizard and other small vertebrates including snakes, lizards, toads, and mice can fall into trenches, become trapped, and would be susceptible to loss from backfilling activities, trench inundation, starvation, dehydration, predation, and exposure to elements.

Recommendation: Please review the *Beneficial Management Practices* section below for recommendations to avoid or minimize potential impacts to state listed terrestrial species. Please review the *Migratory Bird Treaty Act* section above for recommendations to avoid or minimize potential impacts to birds that are also state listed species.

Aquatic State Listed Threatened Species: Grapevine Lake provides suitable habitat for the state listed threatened Texas heelsplitter, which is a freshwater mussel that can adapt to some reservoirs.

Recommendation: Although transmission lines typically span surface waters, TPWD recommends that Oncor be aware that aquatic state listed mussels occur in Grapevine Lake and to protect state listed aquatic resources during construction activities.

Recommendation: If the project would require work within streams or Grapevine Lake, the project may need to be coordinated with the TPWD Kills and Spills Team (KAST) for appropriate authorization and to ensure protection of native aquatic wildlife, see *Aquatic Resources* section below for more information.

State Law: Aquatic Resources

PWC section 1.011 grants TPWD authority to regulate and conserve aquatic animal life of public waters. Texas Administrative Code (TAC) section 57.157 regulates take of mussels, including mussels that are not state listed. TPWD regulates the introduction and stocking of fish, shellfish, and aquatic plants into public waters of the state under PWC 12.015, 12.019, and 66.015 and TAC 52.101-52.105, 52.202, and 57.251-57.259.

Dewatering activities can impact aquatic resources through stranding fish and mussels. Other harmful construction activities can trample, dredge or fill areas exhibiting

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stationary aquatic resources such as plants and mussels. Relocating aquatic life to an area of suitable habitat outside the project footprint avoids or reduces impacts to aquatic life. Relocation activities are done under the authority of a TPWD *Permit to Introduce Fish, Shellfish or Aquatic Plants into Public Waters* with an approved Aquatic Resource Relocation Plans (ARRP). The permit allows for movement (i.e., introduction, stocking, transplant, relocation) of aquatic species in waters of the state. ARRPs are used to plan resource handling activities and assist in the permitting process. If dewatering activities and other project related activities cause mortality to fish and wildlife species, then the responsible party would be subject to investigation by the TPWD KAST and will be liable for the value of lost resources under the authority of PWC sections 12.0011 (b) (1) and 12.301.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends that impact avoidance measures for aquatic organisms, including all native fish and freshwater mussel species, regardless of state listing status, be considered during project planning and construction activities.

Recommendation: If construction occurs during times when water is present and dewatering, fill, or trampling activities are involved, then TPWD recommends relocating native aquatic resources, including fish and mussels, in conjunction with a *Permit to Introduce Fish, Shellfish or Aquatic Plants into Public Waters* and an ARRP. The ARRP should approved by the department 30 days prior to activity within project waters or resource relocation and submitted with an application for a no-cost permit. ARRPs can be submitted to Bregan Brown TPWD Region 2 KAST available at Kirian.Brown@tpwd.texas.gov and 903-566-2518.

Mussels in association with Denton Creek and Grapevine Lake: The Texas Freshwater Sampling Protocol Stream Grouping dataset. https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/texas-freshwater-mussel-sampling-protocol, identifies Grapevine Lake as a Group 4 stream and Denton Creek as a Group 5 stream within the project study area. The Texas Freshwater Mussel Survey Protocol was updated in October 2021 to streamline an applicant's coordination with both the TPWD and USFWS whenever a project has potential to impact freshwater mussels while ensuring the needs of both agencies are met. Group 4 is defined as: large stream reaches that are known to our may be inhabited by state listed freshwater mussel species, but presence of federal listed freshwater mussel species is not anticipated. Group 5 is defined as: streams where no federal or state listed freshwater mussels occur, but mussels are known to occur; or perennial streams where it is anticipated that live freshwater mussels may occur, but presence or diversity have not been confirmed. Protocols specific to the Grapevine Lake or Denton Creek stream group number would need to be followed for this project if any work in Grapevine Lake or Denton Creek is proposed. Please note that the mussel protocol is included as part of the TPWD Aquatic Resource Relocation Plan that is needed in conjunction with a Permit to Introduce Fish, Shellfish, or Aquatic Plants into Public Fresh Water.

No other streams or waters within the project area are currently assigned a stream grouping number. Please note that the groupings were based on TCEQ designated stream segments that were identified as perennial streams. However, the dataset is not perfect and there may be perennial water bodies that were not assigned a stream

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grouping or there may be segments of classified perennial waters that are intermittent. Therefore, the need to conduct a survey is based on the presence of suitable mussel habitat, which is currently defined as perennial water, or water being present at the site for the past three consecutive years. If a site has dried within the last three years, then it is considered unsuitable mussel habitat. If a site is found to have suitable mussel habitat and is not currently identified by a stream group, then the site should be treated as a Group 5 stream.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends that Oncor be aware of the mussel sampling protocol when working in inland public waters.

State Law: Invasive Species

Per TAC chapter 57, it is an offense for any person to possess, transport, or release into the water of this state any species, hybrid of a species, subspecies, eggs, seeds, or any part of any species defined as a harmful or potentially harmful exotic fish, shellfish, or aquatic plant. This rule applies not only to zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) (live or dead) and their larvae but also to any species or fragments thereof designated as harmful or potentially harmful under this subchapter (e.g., giant salvinia, hydrilla, Eurasian watermilfoil). The full list of prohibited species can be found on the TPWD webpage regarding prohibited aquatic species.

Although surface waters are generally spanned by transmission lines, temporary and permanent stream crossings installed to accommodate machinery and vehicle access may require work within surface waters. Equipment coming in contact with surface waters could transport invasive species where mud, plant debris, or water accumulate.

Recommendation: If equipment will come in contact with inland streams or waterbodies, such as during construction or demolition of temporary and permanent stream crossings, TPWD recommends Oncor prepare and follow an aquatic invasive species (AIS) transfer prevention plan which outlines BMP for preventing inadvertent transfer of aquatic invasive plants and animals on project equipment and materials. To minimize the risk of transporting aquatic invasive species, TPWD recommends Oncor and its contractors review and adhere to the AIS BMP identified in the ARRP guidelines packet and the TPWD Clean/Drain/Dry Procedures and Zebra Mussel Decontamination Procedures for Contractors Working in Inland Public Waters.

Disturbed areas are susceptible to infestation of invasive terrestrial plant species such as old-world privets (Ligustrum spp.), Johnson grass (Sorghum halepense), bermudgrass (Cynodon dactylon), King Ranch bluestem (Bothriochloa ischaemum var. songarica), and bastard cabbage (Rapistrum rugosum). Other species with potential to invade portions of the project ROW can be found on the Eco Alerts By Region of the Texas Invasives website.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends Oncor plant only native species and prepare and follow a revegetation and maintenance plan to monitor, treat, and control invasive species within the construction and operation ROWs.

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State Law: Parks, Public Recreation Areas, Scientific Areas, Wildlife Refuges, or Historic Sites

PWC chapter 26 requires that before a state agency can approve any project that will result in the use or taking of public land designated and used as a park, public recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site, that state agency must provide certain notices to the public, conduct a hearing, and render a finding that there is no feasible and prudent alternative and that the project includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the property. Additionally, per Section 6(f) of the U.S. Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCF), no public outdoor recreation areas acquired or developed with LWCF assistance can be converted to non-recreational uses without Department of Interior approval. The conversion must be in accordance with the statewide outdoor recreation plan and replaced with other recreation land of reasonable equivalent usefulness and location.

A review of the TPWD Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan (LWRCRP) 2012 statewide inventory of conservation and recreation lands in Texas and the TPWD Public Hunting Lands 2022-23 Map Booklet indicate that no TPWD owned or managed park and recreational lands occur within the study area. The study area does contain several parks and recreational areas owned or managed by municipalities and the USACE. Please note that other parks and recreation areas not in the LWRCP inventory may occur in the study area.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends avoiding routes across lands owned or managed for conservation or recreation by city, county, state, and federal entities. A route that crosses a public park or recreation area will need to comply with PWC chapter 26 and Section 6(f) of LWCF Act, where applicable. Public parks and recreation areas within the vicinity of a proposed route should be contacted early in the planning process to determine if the proposed transmission line may impact their property.

Conservation Easements

A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or governmental agency that permanently limits uses of the land to protect and conserve the land's natural values such as wetlands, fertile soils, mature trees, and wildlife habitat. Lands with conservation easements protect existing wildlife habitat from future fragmentation and therefore have greater environmental integrity than comparable lands without conservation easements. Fragmentation of wildlife habitat from transmission line construction on properties where conservation agreements serve to protect the state's natural resources now and in the future is of concern to TPWD.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends properties protected by conservation easements be identified in the constraints analysis and avoided during development of alternative routes. Data sources for the location of these properties include, but are not limited to, online databases such as the Protected Areas Database of the United States and the National Conservation Easement Database, as well as available county records. If properties protected by conservation easements would be crossed by a route, TPWD recommends the length of routes through these

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> properties be included in the accounting of alternative route impacts presented in the EA. If a conservation easement is crossed by an alternative route, the entity holding the easement should be contacted early in the project planning process.

State Fish and Wildlife Resources

The Texas Conservation Action Plan (TCAP) contains handbooks for each ecoregion of the state for guidance regarding SGCN and important habitats. The TCAP identifies threats affecting native species and habitats such as loss due to development. In addition to state and federally listed species, TPWD tracks SGCN and natural plant communities and actively promotes their conservation. TPWD considers it important to evaluate and, if feasible, minimize impacts to SGCN and their habitat to reduce the likelihood of endangerment and preclude the need to list as threatened or endangered in the future. SGCN are included in the above-referenced RTEST application.

The project study area is located within the EPA Level III Cross Timbers Ecoregion. Within the Cross Timbers Ecoregion, priority habitats identified in the TCAP for conservation of SGCN include barrens, native prairie communities, savanna and open woodlands, oak/hardwood-juniper woodlands and forest, post oak- blackjack oak woodlands, riparian and floodplain forest, freshwater wetlands, seeps, and springs.

The TPWD Landscape Ecology Program's Ecological Mapping Systems (EMS) data are available for download or available for use in the TPWD TEAM online interactive mapping tool. The EMS provides 10-meter resolution ecological systems, mapping subsystems, and vegetative types for Texas and can assist in planning projects to avoid impacts to important habitats or SCGN in an ecoregion. TPWD encourages landowners and land agents to conserve priority habitats of the ecoregion and discourages fragmentation and loss to such habitats.

Recommendation: TPWD recommends the EA utilize the TCAP and EMS data to assist in identifying and avoiding areas of priority habitats including barrens, native prairie communities, savanna and open woodlands, oak/hardwood-juniper woodlands and forest, post oak- blackjack oak woodlands, riparian and floodplain forest, freshwater wetlands, seeps, and springs. TPWD recommends using the EMS in conjunction with other resources such as stream, wetland, floodplain, and soils datasets as well as on-the-ground assessments.

The RTEST lists identify the following SGCN flora and fauna with potential to occur in Denton and Wise Counties. These species could be impacted in association with construction, operation, and maintenance activities if suitable habitat or the species occur at the project site. General habitats descriptions for these species are included on the RTEST lists:

Taxon	Scientific Name	Common Name	GRank ¹	SRank ²
Amphibians	Anaxyrus woodhousii	Woodhouse's toad	G5	SU
Amphibians	Pseudacris streckeri	Strecker's chorus frog	G5	S3
Birds	Plegadis chihi	white-faced ibis*	G5	S4B

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Birds	Haliaeetus	bald eagle	G5	S3B,S3N
10	leucocephalus	5	50-27-30-0-015	,
Birds	Laterallus	black rail**	G3	S2
D: 1	jamaicensis	1 ' 4-4-	01	G1G0N7
Birds	Grus americana	whooping crane**	G1	S1S2N
Birds	Charadrius melodus	piping plover**	G3	S2N
Birds	Charadrius montanus	mountain plover	G3	S2
Birds	Calidris canutus rufa	rufa red knot**	G4T2	S2N
Birds	Leucophaeus pipixcan	Franklin's gull	G5	S2N
Birds	Athene cunicularia hypugaea	western burrowing owl	G4T4	S2
Birds	Anthus spragueii	Sprague's pipit	G3G4	S3N
Birds	Calamospiza melanocorys	lark bunting	G5	S4B
Birds	Calcarius ornatus	chestnut-collared longspur	G5	S3
Mammals	Perimyotis subflavus	tricolored bat	G3G4	S2
Mammals	Eptesicus fuscus	big brown bat	G5	S5
Mammals	Lasiurus borealis	eastern red bat	G3G4	S4
Mammals	Lasiurus cinereus	hoary bat	G3G4	S4
Mammals	Nyctinomops macrotis	big free-tailed bat	G5	S3
Mammals	Sylvilagus aquaticus	swamp rabbit	G5	S5
Mammals	Cynomys ludovicianus	black-tailed prairie dog	G4	S3
Mammals	Ondatra zibethicus	muskrat	G5	S5
Mammals	Mustela frenata	long-tailed weasel	G5	S5
Mammals	Spilogale putorius	eastern spotted skunk	G4	S1S3
Mammals	Conepatus leuconotus	western hog-nosed skunk	G4	S4
Mammals	Puma concolor	mountain lion	G5	S2S3
Reptiles	Deirochelys reticularia miaria	western chicken turtle	G5T5	S2S3
Reptiles	Terrapene carolina	eastern box turtle	G5	S3
Reptiles	Terrapene ornata	western box turtle	G5	S3
Reptiles	Apalone mutica	smooth softshell	G5	S3
Reptiles	Ophisaurus	slender glass lizard	G5	S3
	attenuatus			
Reptiles	Phrynosoma cornutum	Texas horned lizard*	G4G5	S3
Reptiles	Plestiodon septentrionalis	prairie skink	G5	S2
Reptiles	Heterodon nasicus	western hognose snake	G5	S4
Reptiles	Thamnophis sirtalis annectens	Texas garter snake	G5T4	S1

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Reptiles	Crotalus horridus	timehan (aan ahnal-a)	G4	S4
Reputes	Crotatus norriaus	timber (canebrake) rattlesnake	G 4	54
Reptiles	Crotalus viridis	western rattlesnake	G5	S5
Reptiles	Sistrurus tergeminus	western massasauga	G3G4	S3
Reptiles	Sistrurus miliarius	pygmy rattlesnake	G5	S2S3
Insects	Bombus pensylvanicus	American bumblebee	G3G4	SNR
Insects	Arethaea ambulator	No accepted common name	GNR	SNR
Mollusks	Lampsilis satura	sandbank pocketbook*	G2?	S1
Mollusks	Pleurobema riddellii	Louisiana pigtoe*	G1G2	S 1
Mollusks	Potamilus amphichaenus	Texas heelsplitter*	G1G3	S1
Plants	Echinacea atrorubens	Topeka purple- coneflower	G3	S3
Plants	Physaria engelmannii	Engelmann's bladderpod	G4	S3
Plants	Dalea reverchonii	Comanche Peak prairie clover	G2	S2S3
Plants	Pediomelum cyphocalyx	turnip-root scurfpea	G3G4	S2S3
Plants	Pediomelum reverchonii	Reverchon's scurfpea	G3	S3
Plants	Crataegus viridis var. glabriuscula	Sutherland hawthorn	G5T3T4	S3
Plants	Agalinis densiflora	Osage Plains false foxglove	G3	S2
Plants	Yucca necopina	Glen Rose yucca	G1G2	S3
Plants	Schoenoplectus hallii	Hall's baby bulrush	G3	S1S2

^{*}State listed species

Beneficial Management Practices

TPWD recommends implementing the following BMP to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife and SGCN, including state listed SGCN, potentially occurring in Denton and Wise Counties:

 TPWD recommends designing the project to minimize removal of vegetation and retain native habitats. TPWD recommends that precautions be taken to avoid impact to SGCN flora and fauna, natural plant communities, and priority habitat types of the ecoregion while working in Denton and Wise Counties or if encountered during project construction, operation, and maintenance activities. Areas exhibiting a native grass and forbs component should be protected from disturbance and from introduction of non-native vegetation. TPWD encourages clearly marking areas

^{**}Federal and state listed species

¹GRank is the NatureServe global conservation status rank.

²SRank is the NatureServe subnational or state level conservation status rank.

See NatureServe's website for specific global and state ranking definitions.

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found to contain rare plants or sensitive communities as work zone avoidance areas prior to construction, maintenance, and operation activities.

- 2. TPWD recommends Oncor inform employees and contractors of the potential for the state listed Texas horned lizard and other SGCN to occur in the project area and to avoid impacts to all wildlife that are encountered.
- 3. If field assessments indicate that Texas horned lizards occur or quality habitat for the species is present, then TPWD recommends a biological monitor be present during clearing and construction activities to assist in detecting state listed species, as well as other SGCN, in the ROW. If the presence of a biological monitor during construction is not feasible, wildlife observed in the project area should be allowed to safely leave the site. Wildlife in danger from project activities that will not readily leave the site, can be translocated to a nearby area with similar habitat that will not be disturbed by project activities. TPWD recommends that any translocations of reptiles be the minimum distance possible no greater than one mile, preferably within 100-200 yards from the initial encounter location. For purposes of relocation, surveys, monitoring, and research, terrestrial state listed species may only be handled by persons with the appropriate authorization obtained through the TPWD Wildlife Permits Program. For more information on obtaining this authorization, please contact the Wildlife Permits office at (512) 389-4647.
- 4. Waterways, floodplains, riparian corridors, lakes, and wetlands provide valuable habitat for aquatic species and other wildlife, and TPWD recommends protecting them to the maximum extent possible. TPWD recommends establishing disturbance-free buffers contiguous to wetlands or aquatic systems to preserve wildlife cover, food sources, and travel corridors and constructing the transmission line to span all creeks. During construction, trucks and equipment should use existing bridges to cross creeks while avoiding unnecessary temporary or permanent access roads across creeks. If stream crossings are required, TPWD recommends avoiding disturbance to inert microhabitats in waterways such as snags, brush piles, fallen logs, creek banks, pools, and gravel stream bottoms, as these provide habitat for a variety of fish and wildlife species and their food sources. Placement of culverts in areas containing native mussels should be avoided. Erosion control measures should be installed prior to construction and maintained until disturbed areas are permanently revegetated using site-specific native vegetation.
- 5. Where trenching or other excavation is involved in construction, TPWD recommends that contractors keep trenching, excavation, and backfilling crews close together to minimize the number of trenches or excavation areas left open at any given time during construction. Any trenches or holes left open for more than two daylight hours should be inspected for the presence of trapped wildlife prior to backfilling. TPWD recommends that any open trenches or excavation areas be covered overnight and inspected every morning to ensure no wildlife species have been trapped. If trenches and excavation areas cannot be backfilled the day of initial excavation or covered overnight, then escape ramps should be installed, if feasible, at least every 90 meters (approximately 295 feet). Escape ramps consist of short

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lateral trenches made of soil or wooden planks sloping to the surface at an angle less than 45 degrees (1:1).

- 6. For soil stabilization and revegetation of disturbed areas within the proposed project area, TPWD recommends erosion control and seed and mulch stabilization materials that avoid entanglement hazards to snakes and other wildlife species. Because the mesh found in many erosion control blankets or mats pose an entanglement hazard to wildlife, TPWD recommends the use of no-till drilling, hydromulching, or hydroseeding rather than erosion control blankets or mats due to a reduced risk to wildlife. If erosion control blankets or mats will be used, the product should contain no netting or contain loosely woven, natural fiber netting in which the mesh design allows the threads to move, therefore allowing expansion of the mesh openings. Plastic mesh matting and hydromulch containing microplastics should be avoided.
- 7. Reductions in native floral resources has led to widespread concern about significant declines in the population of migrating monarch butterflies and other native insect pollinator species including the American bumblebee, which is an SGCN of the project area. Augmenting larval feeding and adult nectaring opportunities is part of an international conservation effort for the monarch butterfly. To support pollinators and migrating monarchs, TPWD encourages the establishment of native wildflower habitats on private and public lands. Infrastructure ROW can provide habitat for a diverse community of pollinators, providing food, breeding, or nesting opportunities. Please refer to the publication, Monarch Habitat Development on Utility Rights of Way, which can be found at the TPWD Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program: Planning Tools and Best Management Practices webpage. TPWD encourages Oncor to restore or revegetate impacted areas with vegetation that provides habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinator species. Species appropriate for establishment within the project area can be found by accessing the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, working with TPWD biologists to develop an appropriate list of species, or utilizing resources found at the Monarch Watch website or the Xerces Society's Guidelines webpage. For areas of the site that already exhibit floral resources and for areas that are planted with floral resources, TPWD recommends incorporating pollinator conservation into maintenance plans for the ROW to promote and sustain the availability of flowering species throughout the growing season. TPWD recommends scheduling vegetation maintenance to occur once the seed from pollinator plants has been released and avoiding herbicides that affect floral resources.
- 8. To aid in the scientific knowledge of a species' status and current range, TPWD encourages reporting encounters of SGCN to the TXNDD according to the data submittal instructions found at the TPWD Texas Natural Diversity Database: Submit Data webpage. An additional method for reporting observations of species is the iNaturalist community app in which plant and animal observations are uploaded from a smartphone. The observer adds the observation to specific TPWD Texas Nature Tracker Projects appropriate for the taxa observed, including Herps of Texas, Birds of Texas, Texas Eagle Nests, Texas Whooper Watch, Mammals of Texas, Rare Plants of Texas, Bees & Wasps of Texas, Terrestrial Mollusks of Texas, Texas Freshwater Mussels, Fishes of Texas, and Texas Milkweeds for Monarchs.

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The TXNDD is intended to assist users in avoiding harm to rare species or significant ecological features. Given the small proportion of public versus private land in Texas, the TXNDD does not include a representative inventory of rare resources in the state. Please note that absence of information in the database does not imply that a species is absent from that area. Although it is based on the best data available to TPWD regarding rare species, the data from the TXNDD do not provide a definitive statement as to the presence, absence, or condition of special species, natural communities, or other significant features within your project area. These data are not inclusive and cannot be used as presence/absence data. This information cannot be substituted for on-the-ground surveys. The TXNDD is updated continuously based on new, updated and undigitized records. For questions regarding a record or to obtain digital data, please visit the TXNDD webpage for guidance.

TPWD appreciates the opportunity to provide input on potential impacts to the fish and wildlife resources of Texas. Please contact me at Karen.Hardin@tpwd.texas.gov or (903) 322-5001 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Karen B. Hardin

Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program

Faver & Hardi

Wildlife Division

KBH:49211

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Mr. Roger Wolfe District Leader Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 11942 FM 848 Tyler, Texas 75707-5234

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

Halff Associates, Inc. (Halff) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Alternative Route Analysis to support an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). Halff is currently in the process of gathering data on the existing environment and identifying environmental and land use constraints within the project study area that will be used in the creation of an environmental and land use constraints map. Halff will identify potential alternative routes that consider environmental and land use constraints.

Halff is requesting that your agency/office provide information concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest to your agency/office within the study area. Your comments will be an important consideration in the assessment of potential impacts. Upon certification for the proposed project, Oncor will determine the need for other approvals and/or permits. If your jurisdiction has approvals and/or permits that would apply to this project, please identify them in response to this inquiry. If permits are required from your office, Oncor will contact your office following route certification.

Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader



Mr. Joe Koen, P.E. Manager - Northeast Texas Water Development Board P.O. Box 13231 Austin, Texas 78711-3231

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Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader



Mrs. Kelly Davis Trinity River Authority 5300 South Collins Street Arlington, Texas 76018-1710

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mrs. Davis:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: Jacob Rodgers <rodgerstj@trinityra.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 3:57 PM

To: Marusak, Russell
Cc: Kelly Davis

Subject: Ramhorn Hill - Dunham Transmission Line Project (Oncor)

Attachments: Original Letter 20220913.pdf; TRA Denton Creek Wasterwater System 20221013.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Mr. Marusak,

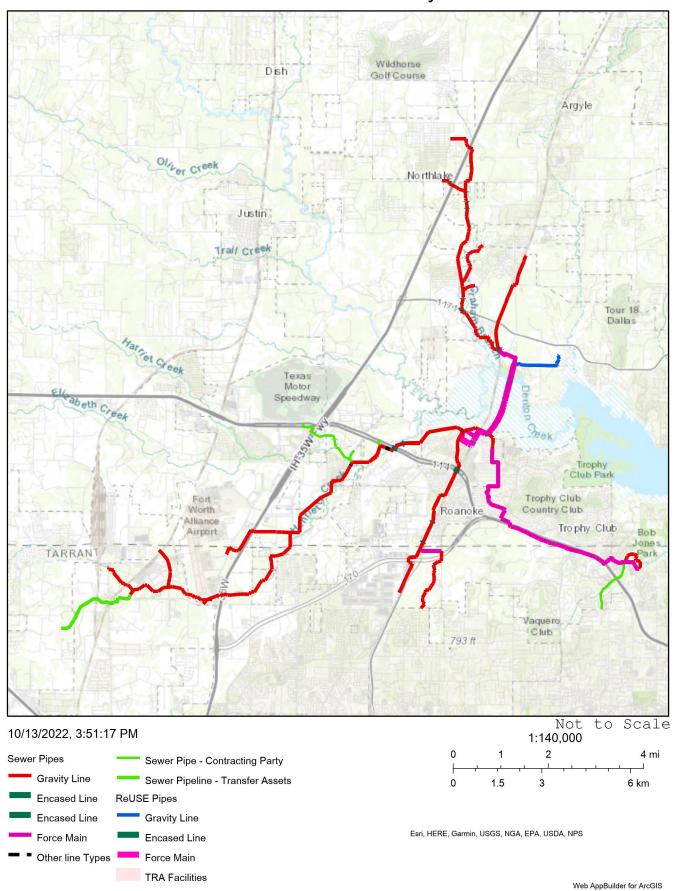
Thank for reaching out to the Trinity River Authority (TRA) concerning your environmental assessment for the Ramhorn Hill, Dunham Transmission Line Project. To assist you in the current stage of the project, I have attached a high-level overview map of the TRA facilities near your project zone. As you progress, please keep the TRA in mind and let us know if further information such as as-builts, easement documents, etc. is required.

Sincerely,

T. Jacob Rodgers, P.E.

Engineer, Capital Improvement Program
Planning, Design & Construction Administration
Trinity River Authority of Texas
Office: (817) 493 - 5194
5300 Collins Street
Arlington, Texas 76018
http://www.trinityra.org/

TRA Denton Creek Wasterwater System 20221013





Ms. Jennifer Walker, Permit Section Chief Environmental Division Regulatory Branch CESWF-PER-R (Room 3A37) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 17300 Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Ms. Walker:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: Kurpis, Julianna K CIV (USA) < Julianna.K.Kurpis@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2022 10:32 AM

To: Marusak, Russell

Cc: Walker, Jennifer R CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)

Subject: SWF-2022-00451 Ramhorn Hill-Dunham 345kV Transmission Line: Request for

Additional Information

Attachments: Linear Projects General Recommendations.pdf; General Recommendations.pdf;

Hi Mr. Marusak,

I've been assigned USACE Project Number WF-2022-00451, Ramhorn Hill-Dunham 345kV Transmission Line, which appears incomplete. In order for us to continue our review of this project, please address the following:

- 1. Please provide a site development plan, including a detailed description of all proposed activities
- 2. Please see the attached handouts for more information needed regarding a professional delineation and impact exhibits of wetlands, other special aquatic sites and other waters.
- 3. Please make sure to include a threatened & endangered species assessment consisting of 1) running a USFWS IPAC report for the project site (please ensure date report is generated is on the report) and 2) discussion documenting whether any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act, or candidate species, as listed on the IPAC report, might be affected by, or found in the vicinity of, the USACE permit area for the proposed project.
- 4. Please contact the Fort Worth District's Regulatory Archeology Section (Mr. Jimmy Barrera at james.e.barrera@usace.army.mil or 817-886-1838) to determine what, if any, additional Section 106 (National Historic Preservation Act) requirements apply to this project. Please have your archeologist coordinate directly with Jimmy in order to assist him in completing his review.
- 5. Please provide the name, email, and address of the applicant

The propsed project may qualify for a NWP 57, Electric Utility Lines and Telecommulations Activities. A copy of this general permit is attached for your reference. If the project does not meet the terms and conditions of the general permit, an individual permit would be required for authorization.

Based on the responses to the items above, additional completeness items may be required to continue our review of the submittal. Please email me responses that are small (30 MB or less) with attachments in pdf format. Large responses (greater than 30 MB) can be with multiple emails & the attachments split up, or if necessary, I can provide a link to the Department of Defense FTP site we use (no physical hardcopy is needed). If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (817) 692-6139 or julianna.k.kurpis@usace.army.mil

Respectfully,

Julianna Kurpis

Project Manager
USACE Ft. Worth District, Regulatory Division
819 Taylor Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Office: 817-692-6139 Mobile: 347-239-2362



General Recommendations for Department of the Army Permit Submittals for Linear Projects July 28, 2003



- tt Worth District
- 1. A detailed project description.
- 2. A large-scale map showing the entire route of the project.
- 3. The proposed route of the project on 8½ by 11-inch copies of 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle maps, national wetland inventory maps, published soil survey maps, scaled aerial photographs, and/or other suitable maps. Identify all base maps, (e.g. "Fort Worth, Texas" 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle, Natural Resources Conservation Service Tarrant County Soil Survey, sheet 10). Clearly mark (such as by circling) and number the location of each proposed linear project crossing of a water of the United States and any appurtenant structure(s) in waters of the United States on the map. Waters of the United States include streams and rivers; most lakes, ponds, mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, and wet meadows; abandoned sand, gravel, and construction pits, and similar areas.
- 4. For each potential linear project crossing or appurtenant structure in a water of the United States, the following site specific information when applicable:
 - a. 7.5-minute USGS quadrangle map name, universal transverse mercator (UTM) coordinates, county or parish, waterway name;
 - b. a brief characterization of the crossing area (stream, forested wetland, non-forested wetland, etc.) including the National Wetland Inventory classification and soil series;
 - c. distance between ordinary high water marks;
 - d. proposed method of crossing (bore, trench, fill with culvert, fill with bridge, etc.);
 - e. length of proposed crossing;
 - f. width of temporary and permanent rights-of-way;
 - g. type and amount of dredged or fill material proposed to be discharged;
 - h. acreage of proposed temporary and permanent adverse impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands; and
 - i. a typical cross-section.

Please refer to the "General Recommendations for Department of the Army Permit Submittals" for additional details about what to submit for linear projects. Additional information, including more detailed jurisdictional determination data, may be needed to complete the Corps evaluation of a project in some cases. We encourage you to consult with a qualified specialist (biologist, ecologist or other specialist qualified in preliminary jurisdictional determinations) who is familiar with the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual and the USACE Regulatory Program (33 CFR Parts 320-331).



General Recommendations for Department of the Army Permit Submittals



June 11, 2001

The following recommendations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Fort Worth District, specify information that should be submitted with project proposals for review of permitting requirements under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899:

- 1. The purpose of, and need for, the project.
- 2. A delineation and description of wetlands and other waters of the United States in the area that would be affected by the proposed work, and a description of the project's likely impact on the aquatic environment. Delineations of wetlands must be conducted using the "Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual", USACE Waterways Experiment Station Wetlands Research Program Technical Report Y-87-1, dated January 1987 (on-line edition available at http://www.wes.army.mil/el/wetlands/wlpubs.html), including all supplemental guidance (currently includes guidance dated October 7, 1991, and March 6, 1992). The supplemental guidance is included in the on-line version and may also be obtained from your USACE district office. In addition, include the width and depth of the water body and the waterward distance of any structures from the existing shoreline.
- 3. A vicinity map (e.g., county map, USGS topographic map, etc.) showing the location of all temporary and permanent elements of the project, including the route of the entire highway or road, borrow pit(s), disposal site(s), staging area(s), etc. This map, or an additional map, should show the project area in relation to nearby highways and other roads, and other pertinent features. A ground survey is not required to obtain this information. (All maps and drawings must be submitted on 8½ by 11 inch sheets.)
- 4. Plan, profile, and cross-section views of all work (fills, excavations, structures, etc.), both permanent and temporary, in, or adjacent to, waters of the United States, including wetlands, and a description of the proposed activities and structures, such as the dimensions and/or locations of highways and roads (both temporary and permanent), coffer dams, equipment ramps, borrow pits, disposal areas, staging areas, haul roads, and other project related areas within the USACE permit area(s). The permit area(s) includes all waters of the United States affected by activities associated with the project, as well as any additional area of non-waters of the United States in the immediate vicinity of, directly associated with, and/or affected by, activities in waters of the United States. The USACE permit area(s) includes borrow pits, disposal areas, staging areas, etc. in many cases. A description of the proposed work should include such information as the height, width, and length of structures and fills, widths of cleared rights-of-way, location of all affected areas of waters of the United States, and the size and spacing of culverts, bridges and other crossings of waters of the United States. (All maps and drawings must be submitted on 8½ by 11 inch sheets.)
- 5. The volume of material proposed to be discharged into and/or excavated from waters of the United States and the proposed type and source of the material.
- 6. A written discussion of the alternatives considered and the rationale for selecting the proposed alternative as the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative. Practicable alternatives that do not involve a discharge into a special aquatic site, such as wetlands, are presumed to have less adverse impact on the aquatic ecosystem, unless clearly demonstrated otherwise. The package should also include documentation that the amount of area impacted is the minimum necessary to accomplish the project.

Page 2 of 2

- 7. An assessment of the adverse and beneficial effects, both permanent and temporary, of the proposed work and documentation that the work would result in no more than a minimal adverse impact on the aquatic environment.
- 8. A compensatory mitigation plan for unavoidable adverse impacts to the aquatic environment. This plan should include a description of proposed appropriate and practicable actions that would restore, enhance, protect, and/or replace the functions and values of the aquatic ecosystem unavoidably lost in the project area because of the proposed work.
- 9. A discussion documenting whether any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act might be affected by, or found in the vicinity of, the USACE permit area for the proposed project. Direct coordination with the FWS concerning the potential impact of the entire project on endangered and threatened species is strongly encouraged.
- 10. A discussion documenting whether any cultural resources, particularly those historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), would be affected by, or are in the vicinity of, the USACE permit area for the proposed project.
- 11. Documentation that any permanent above-grade fills in waters of the United States within the 100-year floodplain comply with FEMA, or FEMA-approved local, floodplain development requirements.
- 12. The applicant should include any other relevant information, including information on hydrology and hydraulics.

Attachments are voluminous and may be made available on request.

Document Title
NATIONWIDE PERMIT 57
Electric Utility Line and
Telecommunications Activities
Effective Date: March 15, 2021
(NWP Final Notice, 86 FR 8)



Mr. Kenneth Myers Lake Grapevine Lake Manager U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Grapevine Lake Project Office) 110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, Texas 76051-3495

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Myers:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

From: Marusak, Russell

Sent:Friday, September 16, 2022 10:30 AMTo:john.l.mathney@usace.army.milCc:Kenneth.Myers@usace.army.mil

Subject: Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

Attachments: RH--D USACE GV.pdf

Good morning Mr. Mathney,

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas. The proposed Dunham Switch is approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

The USACE Lake Grapevine Master Plan identifies several lands near the Dunham Switch as either Environmentally Sensitive Area or Wildlife Management Area. Oncor requests a meeting with the lake office to discuss the constructability of an alternative near the IH 35W corridor, and to confirm the fee ownership relative to the existing IH 35W road right-of-way. If your office could provide a list of available dates by email, Halff will begin coordinating a teleconference with all parties. The teleconference can provide screen-sharing ability and a variety of preliminary maps that will represent the full project.

If there are additional names you wish to include in future correspondence, please add them in your reply. I inadvertently sent this to Mr. Myers, so I am CC'ing him so he knows it got to you.

Thanks.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader Halff Associates, Inc.

O: (214) 346-6367 C: (469) 569-6982



We improve lives and communities by turning ideas into reality.

Halff.com | LinkedIn | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube



Mr. Kenneth Myers Lake Grapevine Lake Manager U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Grapevine Lake Project Office) 110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, Texas 76051-3495

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project

in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Mr. Myers:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

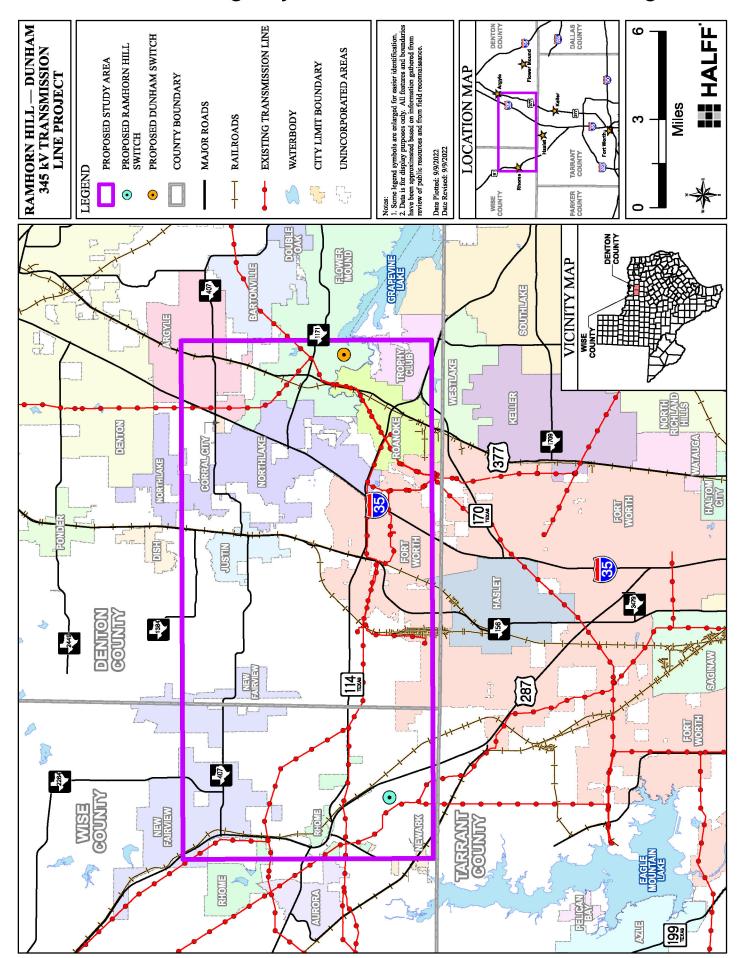
Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

Attachment (1)

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

1201 NORTH BOWSER ROAD RICHARDSON, TX 75081-2275 TEL (214) 346-6200 FAX (214) 739-0095 WWW.HALFF.COM



From: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Friday, September 23, 2022 3:25 PM

To: Marusak, Russell

Cc:Wilson, Nicholas A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)Subject:Proposed Ramhorn Hill - Dunham 345kV Project

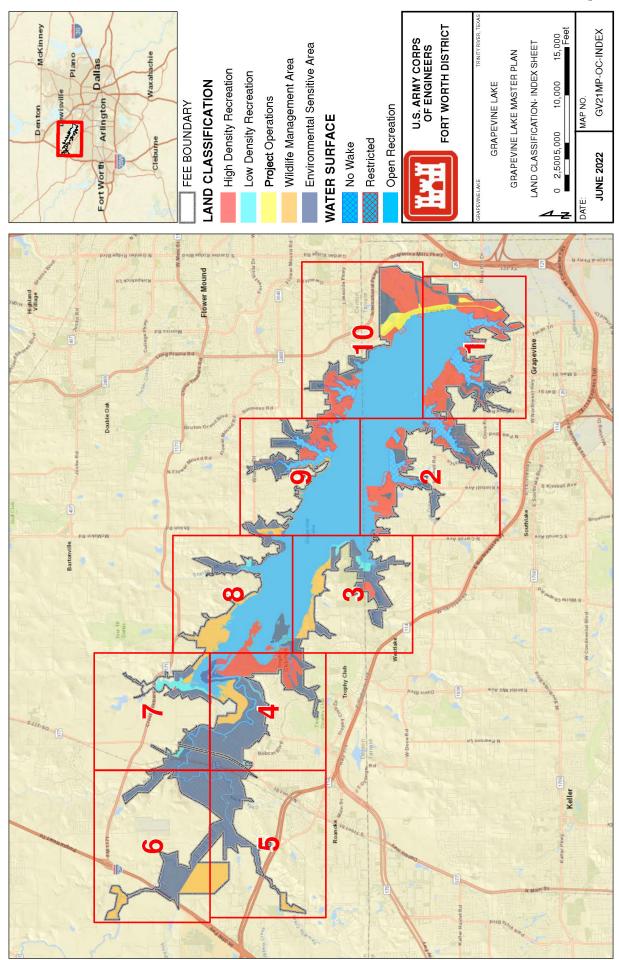
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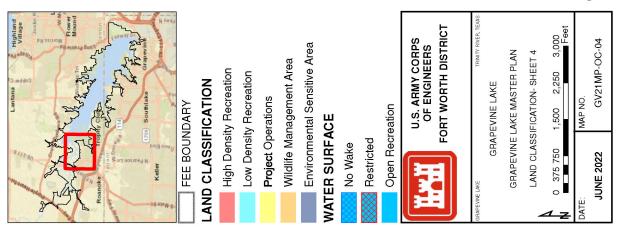
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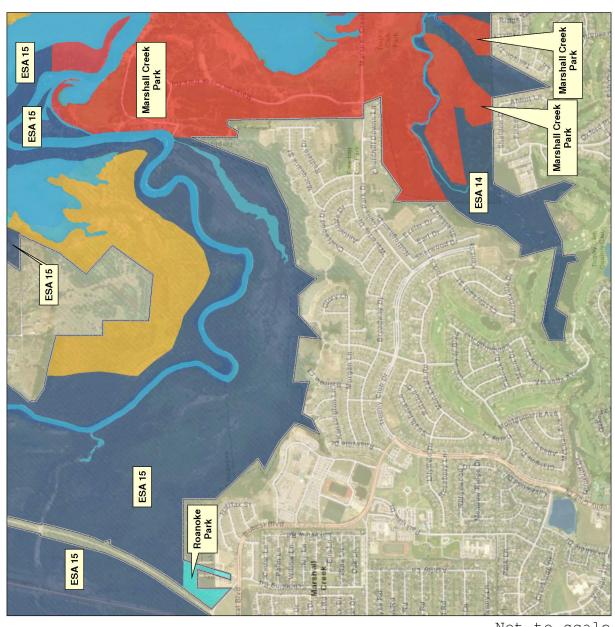
Mr. Marusak,

Thank you for reaching out to the US Army Corps of Engineers Grapevine Lake office. I have attached our land classification maps and utility corridor map for that area where the line might cross through. Most land in that area is considered Environmentally Sensitive and we would not allow any crossing in this area outside of the utility corridors, we have several utility corridors in this area. We also have a vertical clearance requirement for electrical and communication lines, which at Grapevine for a 345kV line would be minimal line elevation of 627.3. If you have any questions please feel to reach out to me.

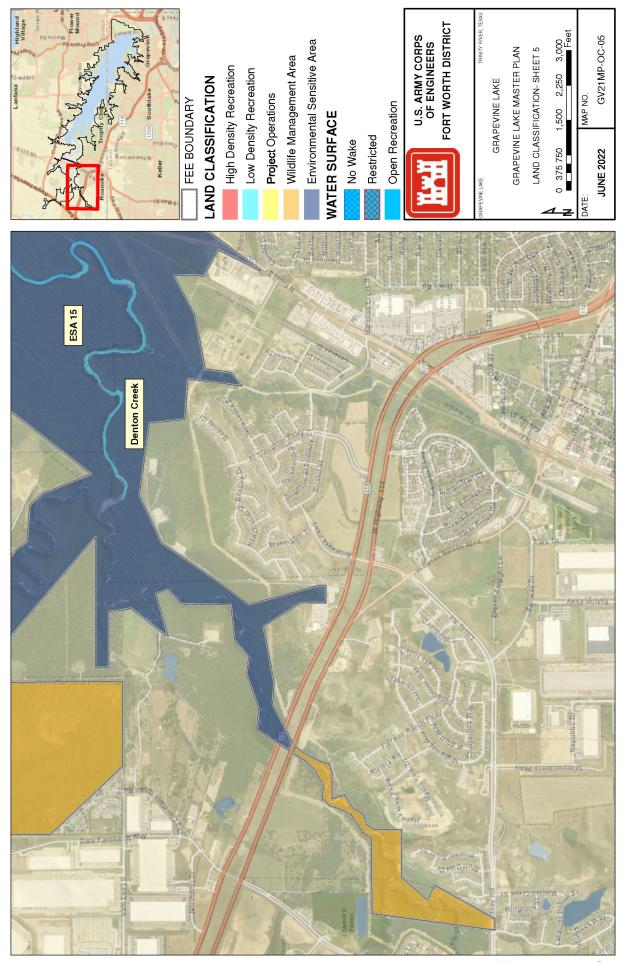
John Mathney Grapevine Lake Manager US Army Corps of Engineers 110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, TX 76051 (817)865-2600 - office (817)865-2612 - direct

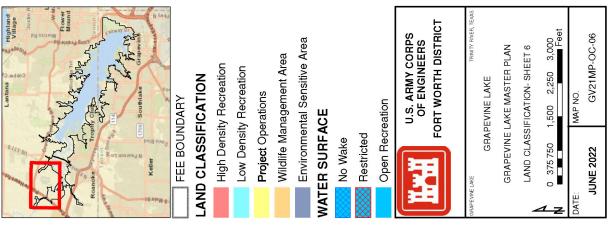


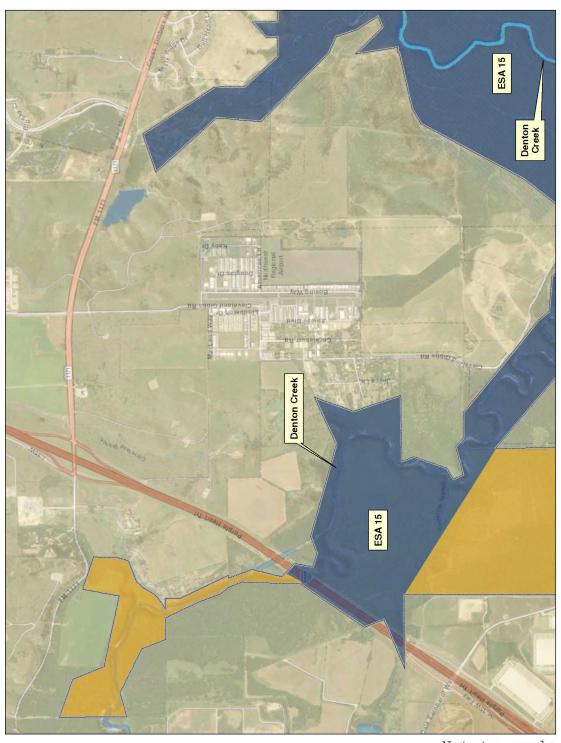


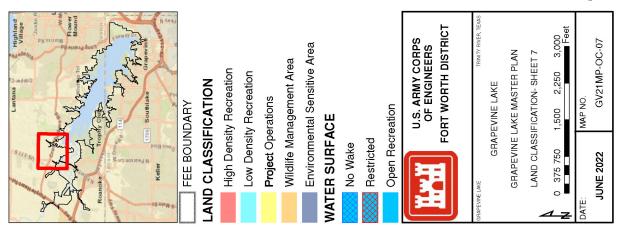


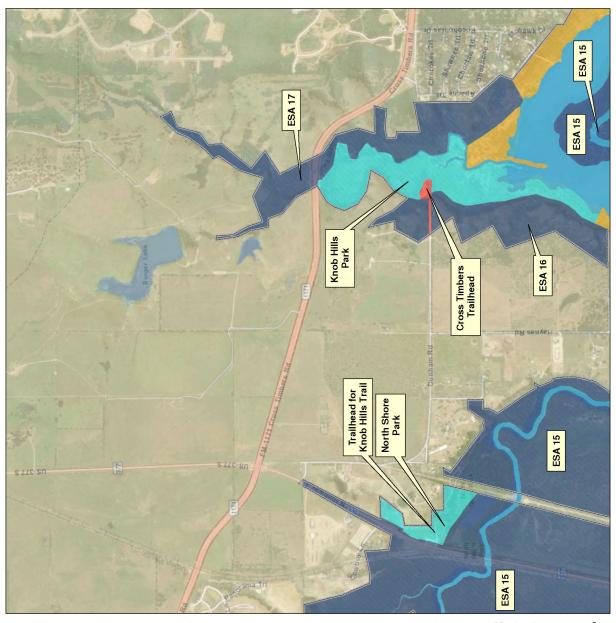
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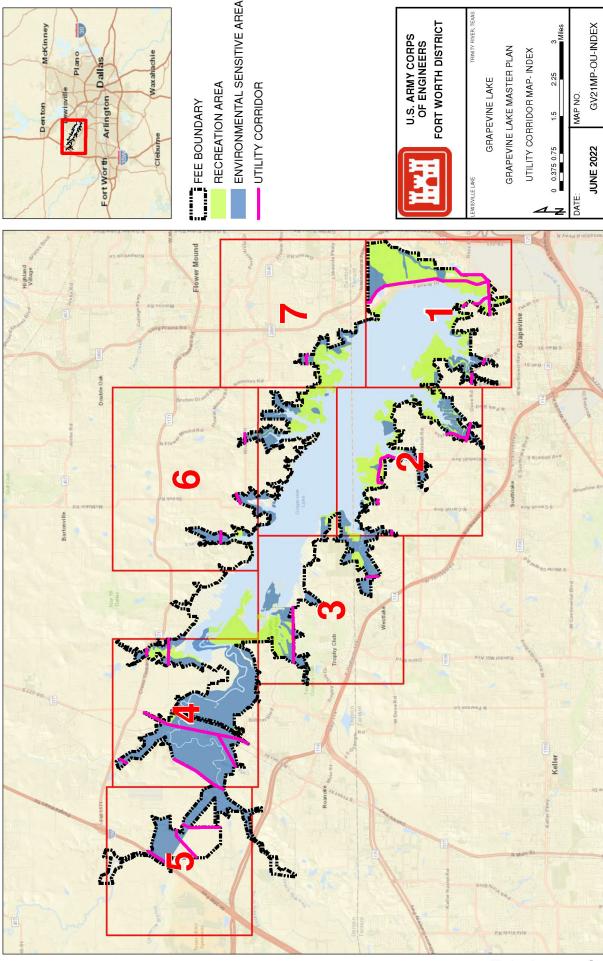


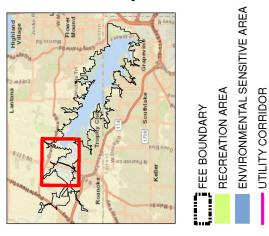


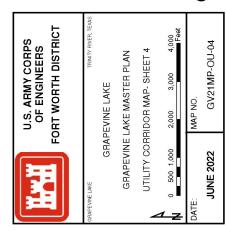


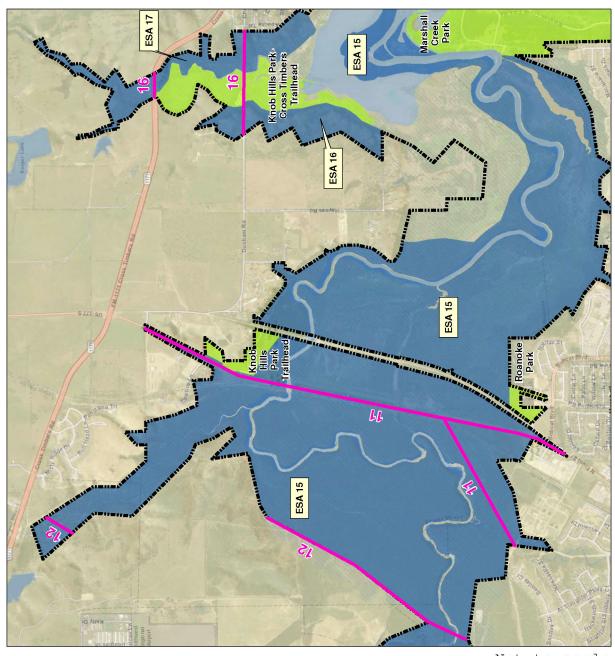


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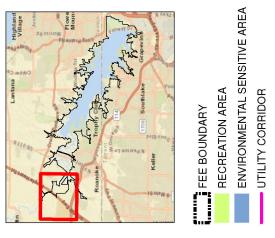


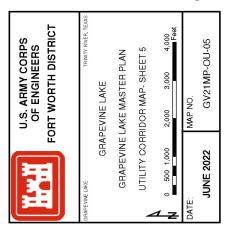


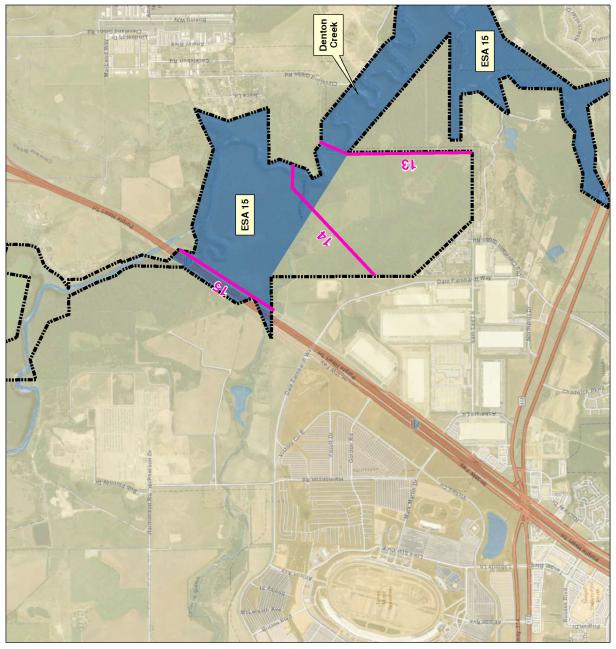




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From: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 1:31 PM

To: Marusak, Russell

Cc: Wilson, Nicholas A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)

Subject: RE: Proposed Ramhorn Hill - Dunham 345kV Project

Russell,

The map from our Master Plan is correct as for our boundary, I-35 is on our property under a Real Estate agreement. As for the utility corridor, that is correct only subsurface utilities will be allowed for future use within this cooridor. Currently there is an overhead line running through it, belonging to Co-Serv.

John Mathney Grapevine Lake Manager US Army Corps of Engineers 110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, TX 76051 (817)865-2600 - office (817)865-2612 - direct

From: Marusak, Russell <RMarusak@Halff.com> Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 9:11 AM

To: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil> Cc: Wilson, Nicholas A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < Nicholas.Wilson@usace.army.mil>

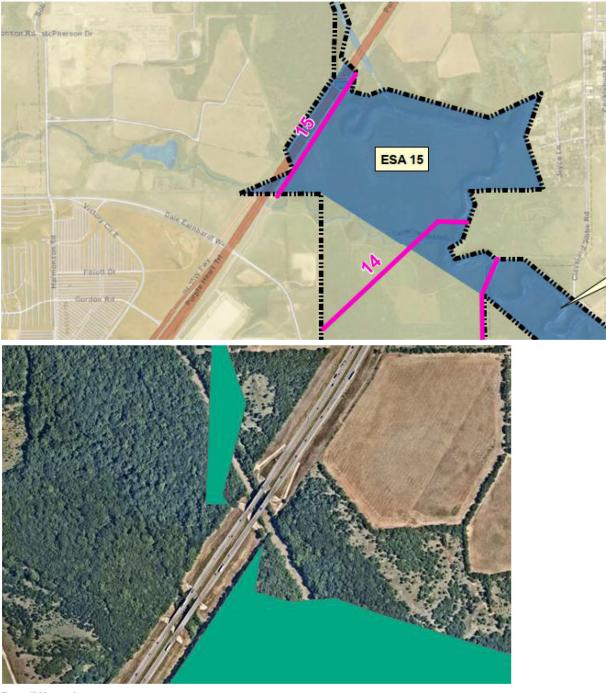
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] RE: Proposed Ramhorn Hill - Dunham 345kV Project

John,

Thanks for the time this morning. The NE corner where Denton Creek crosses the highway is a gap we are targeting to avoid having to cross USACE property. The image on the left is from the master plan, the image on the right include appraisal boundaries that as we understand them are federal ownership. It is consistent with the master plan, save for the I-35W ROW. So the key question we need to confirm is does that gap really exist.

From the Draft Master Plan available <u>Draft Grapevine Lake Master Plan June 2022 (army.mil)</u>, I noted the following regarding corridor 15. I need to confirm that the restriction to sub-surface boring restricts this as a possible use for a new transmission line. Thanks in advance.

This corridor is runs parallel to I-35 W in Roanoke, Texas and crosses through Denton Creek, Catherine Branch of Denton Creek, and an unnamed tributary. It lies on the southeast side of I[1]35 within Grapevine federal fee boundary. The length of the corridor is approximately 1,350 yards and the width is 140 feet. The corridor is restricted to the existing road right-of-way not to exceed 70 feet from the center of the road. For both portions, future use of this corridor is restricted to sub-surface boring, and no bore pits will be permitted on USACE property in order to protect the riparian habitat along the roads.



Russell Marusak Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader Halff Associates, Inc.

O: (214) 346-6367 **C**: (469) 569-6982

From: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Friday, September 23, 2022 3:25 PM **To:** Marusak, Russell <RMarusak@Halff.com>

Cc: Wilson, Nicholas A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < Nicholas. Wilson@usace.army.mil>

Subject: Proposed Ramhorn Hill - Dunham 345kV Project

Mr. Marusak,

Thank you for reaching out to the US Army Corps of Engineers Grapevine Lake office. I have attached our land classification maps and utility corridor map for that area where the line might cross through. Most land in that area is considered Environmentally Sensitive and we would not allow any crossing in this area outside of the utility corridors, we have several utility corridors in this area. We also have a vertical clearance requirement for electrical and communication lines, which at Grapevine for a 345kV line would be minimal line elevation of 627.3. If you have any questions please feel to reach out to me.

John Mathney Grapevine Lake Manager US Army Corps of Engineers 110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, TX 76051 (817)865-2600 - office (817)865-2612 - direct From: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 3:38 PM

To: Marusak, Russell
Cc: Perkins, Brenda

Subject: RE: Ramhorn Hill--Dunham Transmission Line Project: Oncor Public Meeting Dec 7 & 8,

2022

Russell.

I know where the Dunham Switch is going, do you have an a map with preliminary lines are going, based off one you provide and the location of switch I looks like routes will avoid USACE lands. But had to tell on that map.

John Mathney Grapevine Lake Manager US Army Corps of Engineers 110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, TX 76051 (817)865-2600 - office (817)865-2612 - direct

From: Marusak, Russell <RMarusak@Halff.com> Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:24 AM

To: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>; Underwood, Martin K CIV USARMY

CESWF (USA) <Martin.K.Underwood@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Perkins. Brenda <Brenda.Perkins@oncor.com>

Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral] [Non-DoD Source] Ramhorn Hill--Dunham Transmission Line Project: Oncor Public

Meeting Dec 7 & 8, 2022

Good morning,

John, I left you a voice message this morning and this email is a follow-up to that. Oncor is hosting a public meeting for the referenced project next week. A notice like the attached was sent to landowners near the proposed project alternatives to invite them to the public meeting. The USACE was included in the notice mailout for some of our links near USACE property associated with Lake Grapevine, but that went to Tax Record address listing information which was Washington DC. Hence, the personal invite through your lake office to make sure you are aware. We will have much more detailed maps showing these alternatives, and I would appreciate if someone from the Lake Office could attend.

I have also copied Marty Underwood. He and I have talked offline on a few occasions either on phone calls or other public meetings about similar linear projects near USACE properties in case he could make it. I would be really helpful for a brief 1-on-1 discussion with some maps in front of us, and for the team to fully understand the process should a utility choose to formally request crossing wildlife management areas or ESAs as defined in the Lake Master Plan.

Thanks, and please give me a call if I can provide additional information.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader Halff Associates, Inc.

O: (214) 346-6367 C: (469) 569-6982

Halff.com | LinkedIn | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube

From: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 2:55 PM

To: Marusak, Russell

Subject: RE: Ramhorn Hill--Dunham Transmission Line Project: Oncor Public Meeting Dec 7 & 8,

2022

Russell,

I totally dropped the ball on attending this. But I did speak with your coworker that stopped by. The only thing we could see might be crossing USACE lands is right around where Denton Creek passes under IH-35W. Since I-35 is there I don't see why a line couldn't cross over 35 there as long as it meets our SAG height.

John Mathney
Grapevine Lake Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers
110 Fairway Drive
Grapevine, TX 76051
(817)865-2600 - office
(817)865-2612 - direct

From: Marusak, Russell <RMarusak@Halff.com> Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:24 AM

To: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>; Underwood, Martin K CIV USARMY

CESWF (USA) <Martin.K.Underwood@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Perkins, Brenda <Brenda.Perkins@oncor.com>

Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral] [Non-DoD Source] Ramhorn Hill--Dunham Transmission Line Project: Oncor Public

Meeting Dec 7 & 8, 2022

Good morning,

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I have also copied Marty Underwood. He and I have talked offline on a few occasions either on phone calls or other public meetings about similar linear projects near USACE properties in case he could make it. I would be really helpful for a brief 1-on-1 discussion with some maps in front of us, and for the team to fully understand the process should a utility choose to formally request crossing wildlife management areas or ESAs as defined in the Lake Master Plan.

Thanks, and please give me a call if I can provide additional information.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

Halff Associates, Inc.

O: (214) 346-6367 C: (469) 569-6982 From: Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:18 AM

To: Marusak, Russell

Subject: Oncor-USACE Grapevine Lake

Attachments: Fig3C_ConsMap_with_USACE_Options_Optimized_20221221.pdf; Saq Height

Requirements.pdf

Russell,

The following map with a new routes that effect more USACE lands was provided to us from Thomas Yamin through Congressman Burgess's office. I am just wanting to make sure this is something Oncor wants to propose. As these crossing are outside our utility corridors and within ESA designated lands. This would be a fairly lengthy process through NEPA with no guarantees it would be approved. Also, any lines that cross over USACE lands would be required to meet our SAG heights for safety. I have attached our SAG height chart which shows lowest height allowed per KV of line.

John Mathney Grapevine Lake Manager US Army Corps of Engineers 110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, TX 76051 (817)865-2600 - office (817)865-2612 - direct

JON OF ELECTRIC AND COMMUNICATIONS LINES EERS LAKES, FORT WORTH DISTRICT CORPS OF E LOW SAG EL

Reference ER 1110-2-4401 dated 30 May 1997 and NESC dated 1997)

LINE VOLIAGE RANGE		0V-75UV	751V-22KV	23KV-87KV	88KV-115KV	116KV-161KV	162KV-230KV	231KV-345KV	116KV-161KV 162KV-230KV 231KV-345KV 346KV-500KV	501KV-765KV
CLEARANCE REQUIRED (ft)	. 1	54.50	56.5	58.7	59.6	61.1	63.4	67.3	72.4	81.3
LAKE	REFERENCE POOL ELEVATION	MINITINE	MIN LINE ELEVATION	MIN LINE ELEVATION						
AQUILLA	556.0	610.5	612:5	614.7	615.6	617.1	619.4	623,3	628.4	637.3
BARDWELL	439.0	493.5	495.5	7.784	498,6	500.1	502.4	506.3	511.4	520.3
B.A. STEINHAGEN	85.0	139.5	141.5	143.7	144.6	146.1	148.4	152,3	157.4	166.3
BELTON	631.0	685,5	687.5	2.689	9.069	692.1	694.4	698.3	703.4	712.3
BENBROOK	710.0	764.5	766.5	7.897	769.6	771.1	773.4	777.3	782.4	791.3
CANYON	943:0	9,766	999.5	1001.7	1002.6	1004.1	1006.4	1010.3	1015.4	1024.3
COOPER	446.2	500.7	502.7	504.9	505.8	507.3	509.6	513.5	518.6	527.5
GEORGETOWN	834.0	888.5	890.5	892.7	893.6	895.1	897.4	901.3	906.4	915.3
GRANGER	528.0	582.5	584.5	586.7	587.6	589.1	591.4	595,3	600.4	609.3
GRAPEVINE	0.092	614.5	616.5	618.7	619.6	621.1	623.4	627.3	632.4	641.3
HORDS CREEK	1920.0	1974.5	1976.5	1978.7	1979.6	1981.1	1983.4	1987,3	1992.4	2001.3
JOE POOL	536.0	590.5	592.5	594.7	595.6	597.1	599.4	603.3	608.4	617.3
LAKE O' THE PINES	249.5	304.0	306.0	308:2	309.1	310.6	312.9	316,8	321.9	330.8
LAVON	503.5	558.0	560.0	562.2	563.1	564,6	566.9	570:8	575.9	584.8
LEWISVILLE	532.0	586.5	588.5	590.7	591.6	593.1	595.4	599.3	604.4	613,3
NAVARRO MILLS	443.0	497.5	499.5	501.7	502.6	504.1	506.4	510.3	515.4	524,3
O.C. FISHER	1938.5	1993.0	1995.0	1997.2	1998.1	1999.6	2001.9	2005.8	2010.9	2019.8
PROCTOR	1197.0	1251.5	1253.5	1255.7	1256.6	1258.1	1260.4	1264.3	1269.4	1278.3
RAY ROBERTS	640.5	695.0	697.0	699.2	700.1	701.6	703.9	8',707	712.9	721.8
SAM RAYBURN	173.0	227.5	229.5	231.7	232:6	234.1	236.4	240.3	245.4	254.3
SOMERVILLE	258.0	312.5	314.5	316.7	317.6	319:1	321.4	325.3	330.4	339.3
STILLHOUSE HOLLOW	666.0	720.5	722.5	724.7	725.6	727.1	729.4	733.3	738.4	747.3
WACO	500.0	554.5	.556.5	558.7	559.6	561.1	563.4	567.3	572:4	581,3
WHITNEY	571.0	625.5	627.5	629.7	630.6	632.1	634,4	638.3	643.4	652.3
WRIGHT PATMAN	259.5	314.0	316.0	318.2	319.1	320.6	322.9	326.8	331.9	340.8
Note 1: Sailboat rigging and launching areas shall have clearances 5 feet greater than those given in table below.	g areas shall have o	clearances 5 feet	greater than thos	e given in table be	elow.					

Note 2: All indicated voltages are phase to ground. Wye circuit vottage must be converted to this basis to determine clearances.

Note 3: Communications lines as defined in Section 2 of the NESC shall have a minimum clearance of 52.0 ft as per ER 1110-2-4401. Note 4: Reference pool elevation is the elevation of the spillway crest or top of tainter gates.

with justification, to the Lake Manager. In accordance with ER 1110-2-4401, such requests are forwarded by the Lake Manager through channels in the current edition of the NESC, Rule 232, Table 232-1, Item 6. Any proponent destring such consideration shall submit a request, complete for review by Corps headquarters in Washington, D.C. Proponents should allow not less than 180 days for completion of the review process. to installing power and communication lines with a minimum vertical clearance (above reference pool elevation) of not less than that required Note 5: In land or water areas where it is not reasonable or normal for sailboats to be rigged, faunched, or operated, consideration will be given

From: Adetoro, Ifeoluwa

Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2023 12:29 PM

To: Macallister, Timothy L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA); Gresback, Thomas Robert LN (USA)

Cc: Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)

Subject: RE: Oncor / USACE : Ramhorn Hill -Dunham 345kV

Thank you Mr. Macallister for the clarification. This is very helpful.

Rgds,

Ife Adetoro, P.E.
Oncor | Regulatory, External Affairs
817-716-3124

From: Macallister, Timothy L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) [mailto:Tim.L.MacAllister@usace.army.mil]

Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2023 12:25 PM

To: Adetoro, Ifeoluwa < Ifeoluwa. Adetoro@oncor.com>; Gresback, Thomas Robert LN (USA)

<Thomas.R.Gresback@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < James.A.Murphy@usace.army.mil>

Subject: RE: Oncor / USACE: Ramhorn Hill -Dunham 345kV

Hello Mr. Adetoro – Our USACE NEPA process for an Environmental Assessment (EA) strives to complete actions within a 12 month time frame, acknowledging that at times this may be a little quicker or longer. The link you have provided is for DOE's Environmental Impact Statement processes and EIS' generally involve a much longer timeframe. We do not anticipate this effort would be an EIS, rather, an EA.

I hope this clarifies things, but if not, please feel free to let me know if I can provide additional information.

Tim

From: Adetoro, Ifeoluwa < Ifeoluwa. Adetoro@oncor.com >

Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2023 12:03 PM

To: Gresback, Thomas Robert LN (USA) < Thomas.R.Gresback@usace.army.mil >

Cc: Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < James.A. Murphy@usace.army.mil>; Macallister, Timothy L CIV

USARMY CESWF (USA) <Tim.L.MacAllister@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Oncor / USACE : Ramhorn Hill -Dunham 345kV

Thank you, Tom. In regards to NEPA permitting timelines, I was going off what I was able to pull from the <u>energy.gov</u> and doe websites.

Quick research on NEPA permitting process and timelines:

- https://ceq.doe.gov/docs/nepa-practice/CEQ EIS Timeline Report 2020-6-12.pdf Timelines of NEPA Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) permit timelines (median of 3.5 years)
- NEPA process from <u>www.energy.gov</u> attached.

Please let me know what an accurate representation of the NEPA and CATex approval timeline with the USACE is like.

We received the updated invite to meet on Monday, and I am looking forward to it as well.

Rgds, Ife Adetoro, P.E. Oncor | Regulatory, External Affairs 817-716-3124

From: Gresback, Thomas Robert LN (USA) [mailto:Thomas.R.Gresback@usace.army.mil]

Sent: Wednesday, February 1, 2023 6:05 PM

To: Adetoro, Ifeoluwa < Ifeoluwa. Adetoro@oncor.com >

Cc: Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < James.A.Murphy@usace.army.mil>; Macallister, Timothy L CIV

USARMY CESWF (USA) < <u>Tim.L.MacAllister@usace.army.mil</u>> **Subject:** RE: Oncor / USACE : Ramhorn Hill -Dunham 345kV

Ife,

Thank you for your follow-up note to our mtg in Congressman Burgess office two weeks ago.

It looks like the on-site is now set for Monday 6 Feb at 0900 with a rally point of Nob Hill Park in Flower Mound.

The one thing that jumps out at us is your line of 42 months for the standard NEPA Process; it normally is much less.

Again, we will work with ONCOR on the CATex process as Mr. MacAllister stated. Look forward to seeing you on Monday. All the best. Tom Gresback

Tom Gresback
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs &
Strategic Communications
Fort Worth District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Thomas.r.gresback@usace.army.mil

Office: 817-886-6585 Cell: 817-223-9245

From: Adetoro, Ifeoluwa < Ifeoluwa. Adetoro@oncor.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 2:42 PM

To: Gresback, Thomas Robert LN (USA) < Thomas.R.Gresback@usace.army.mil Cc: Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) < James.A.Murphy@usace.army.mil Localization <a href="mailto:Local

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Oncor / USACE: Ramhorn Hill -Dunham 345kV

Good Afternoon Tom,

It was great meeting with you and your team at Dr. Burgess's office on 1/19/23. You handed me your card and I wanted to make good use of it by reaching out to verify that I have listed correctly what Oncor and USACE next steps are in regards to the proposed Ramhorn Hill – Dunham 345kV transmission line project.

At the meeting on 1/19/23, Congressman Michael Burgess invited representatives from Oncor and the USACE to meet with him and Mayor David Retting of Northlake, Mayor Derek France of Flower Mound and Mayor Livingston of Argyle. The meeting resulted in a commitment by Oncor and the Corps to work together to identify potential crossings on Corps property that could be feasible for inclusion in the southern alternative route that Northlake and Argyle have suggested. At the meeting, USACE stated that crossing Corps property would require NEPA permitting, however, that permitting process could be expedited for approval within 12-18 months as opposed to the typical 42+ month long process. USACE also expressed their ability to grant a categorical exclusion within the existing utility corridors to allow for the build of

overhead transmission lines and allowance of the 100 ft. easement required by Oncor, which will not require NEPA permitting.

Oncor and USACE personnel planned on a site visit this week to evaluate areas on Corps property for crossing. However, due to extreme weather conditions, that meeting has been postponed to next week. During this visit, areas of potential mitigation to avoid, minimize and compensate for impacts to aquatic resources will also be evaluated.

Please let me know if I missed anything from the meeting.

Thank you and have a great day,

Ife Adetoro, P.E.

Regulatory Manager II – Transmission and Planning
Oncor | Regulatory, External Affairs

1616 Woodall Rodgers Freeway
Suite 6A-014 Dallas, Texas 75202

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ifeoluwa.adetoro@oncor.com





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From: Marusak, Russell

Sent: Monday, February 6, 2023 1:22 PM

To: Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)

Cc: ifeoluwa.adetoro@oncor.com

Subject: FW: 2/6/23 USACE Field Meeting Attendees (Oncor RH-D)

Attachments: 2023-02-06_USACE Field Meeting Attendees.pdf

James.

Please see attached. Good to see everyone tohis morning. Attached is the attendee list for your records.

Russell Marusak Senior Project Manager Halff Associates, Inc.

O: (214) 346-6367 C: (469) 569-6982

Halff.com <www.halff.com> | LinkedIn <www.linkedin.com/company/halff-associates> | Facebook <www.facebook.com/HalffAssociates> | Twitter <twitter.com/halffassociates> | Instagram <www.instagram.com/halffassociates> | YouTube <www.youtube.com/user/HalffAssociates> -----Original Message-----

From: Zapletal, Amy < Amy. Zapletal@oncor.com>

Sent: Monday, February 6, 2023 1:17 PM To: Marusak, Russell <RMarusak@Halff.com>

Subject: 2/6/23 USACE Field Meeting Attendees (Oncor RH-D)

Attached is the Attendee List from today's field meeting.

Thank you,

Amy L. Zapletal, P.E.

Oncor | Transmission Engineering - ROW

Tel: 817.215.6144 Cell: 682.999.2186

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	FIELD MEETING ATT	ENDEE LIST	5
2/6/23	NAME ORG	EMAIL	
	AMY ZAPLETAL ONCOR-I	RANSM. ENG AMY. ZAPLETALCONO	502.
	Auron Howell USACTE	Agron W. Hone/ Quisuce.	may.
	John Mathry Ushit	John L. Matheray Cusco er	147.
	PHIL LEDBETTER USACE	(CARD) PHILLIP, M. LEOBETTER C USACE.	
	James Garrigus USACE	jones. C. garrigus Queace, army, n	
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	Marty Underwessel USACE	martin. k. underweed Ousage un	y, m.]
	Nick Wilson USACE	Nicholas . W/so Oseceans	
	Jeverny Jordon Halff	jjordan@half.com	
	Justin Benot USACE	yster the atersaceung al	C
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		Sevate toxus	gov

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Grapevine Lake

Phil Ledbetter

Natural Resource Specialist

110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, TX 76051-3495



Office: 817-865-2619 phillip.m.ledbetter@usace.army.mil From: Marusak, Russell

Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2023 3:48 PM

To: Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA); john.l.mathney@usace.army.mil

Subject: Ramhorn--Dunham 345 kV transmission line project field visit

Attachments: 2023-02-06_USACE Field Meeting Attendees.pdf; MM_230206_USACE Field.docx

Good afternoon James,

As we discussed on the phone, see attached minutes. Most of these items are things we discussed about the process, and then at the end we have the item for the USACE and Halff (for which I have provided an update). If we have anything that needs amending, I have provided a word file for edit, or just provide comments back in an email.

Once we finalize, I will resend a PDF with the attendee list included so we only have one file to track.

Russell Marusak

Senior Project Manager Halff Associates, Inc.

O: (214) 346-6367 **C:** (469) 569-6982



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1201 North Bowser Road Richardson, Texas 75081 (214) 346-6200 Fax (214) 739-0095

MEETING MINUTES

To: Mr. James Murphy Attendees: See attached list

From: Mr. Russell Marusak

Subject: USACE/Oncor Field Visit

Meeting Date: February 6, 2023

Location: Knob Hills Park

Minutes Date: February 7, 2023

Project: Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV

transmission line project

Item	Description	Action
1.	After a brief introduction of attendees, Halff presented a map of the eastern portion of the project study area to orient the group, provide a project overview, and to set the objectives of the meeting. The presented map was Figure 3C as presented, without modification, at the public open house meetings on December 7 and 8, 2022.	None
2.	Halff briefly explained the preliminary links on the map and routing constraints south of the US 377 / FM 1171 intersection. Specifically, Halff addressed the routing approach as it pertained to crossing the existing overhead transmission line, US 377, and the rail corridor in light of other physical constraints in the area (e.g. structures; utilities).	None
3.	The group addressed the existing utility corridors as identified in the USACE Grapevine Lake Master Plan. Oncor, Halff, and USACE acknowledged that Corridor 14 and 15 as identified in the Master Plan were the only suitable corridors. For example, use of Corridor 11 of 12 would still require additional crossings of the same environmentally sensitive area at a separate location. It was verified that modification of the Master Plan to utilize these utility corridors could be achieved through a categorical exclusion (CATEX). The utility corridor would need to accommodate the width (100 feet) of the above-ground transmission line project. Per the master plan, these corridors currently permit the use of subsurface boring.	None
4.	In consideration of the routing process, and at the request of the Towns of Flower Mound, Northlake, and Argyle, Halff proposed that a route across USACE property not utilizing a utility corridor as identified in the lake master plan might be best achieved south of the Trailwood Development. The group relocated to that general proximity to view the landscape.	None
5.	No specific route was finalized. Halff discussed general routing principles as it pertains to paralleling property boundaries, with the general intent to minimize fragmentation of land use and habitats. Halff noted this was PUC guidance, and that allowances to deviate from a property line offset could be made if it was environmentally preferable to existing vegetation or creek crossings.	None
6.	The USACE provided a brief summary of the Outgrant Process and how a request would proceed. A new route through a designated Environmentally Sensitive Area would require a full NEPA review. General timelines were discussed of at least 12 months. Halff requested that the USACE provide written communication of the process	USACE



1201 North Bowser Road Richardson, Texas 75081 (214) 346-6200 Fax (214) 739-0095

- and timeline to get an approved route through the Outgrant Process, including real estate requirements. The USACE agreed to do so.
- 7. It was the USACE's understanding that Oncor would need to have a fully approved route before Oncor would consider including a route across USACE property in their CCN application, which the USACE understood to be May 2023. Halff noted that they would confirm this stance with Oncor.

Halff

UPDATE: Constructability is a key requirement of the PUCT for any filed route. Until a crossing can be approved through the USACE Outgrant Process, constructability of any link across USACE property remains uncertain. To provide the PUCT a constructable link, USACE approval will be required.

This concludes the Meeting Minutes. Our goal is to provide a complete and accurate summary of the proceedings of the subject meeting in these minutes. If you feel that any of the items listed above are not correct, or that any information is missing or incomplete, please contact Halff Associates so that the matter can be resolved, and a correction issued if necessary. These minutes will be assumed to be correct and accepted if we do not hear from you within ten (10) calendar days from your receipt.

	FIELD MEETIN	V6 H17	ENDEE L	15T	5
2/6/23	NAME	ORG		EMAIL	
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	John Mathry	USACE	J	show. L. Matheray C	Usca army, my
	PHIL LEDBETTER	USACE	× .	LIP, M. LEOBETTER	
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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Grapevine Lake

Phil Ledbetter

Natural Resource Specialist

110 Fairway Drive Grapevine, TX 76051-3495 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers®

Office: 817-865-2619 phillip.m.ledbetter@usace.army.mil From: Marusak, Russell

Sent: Friday, February 17, 2023 3:13 PM

To: Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA); john.l.mathney@usace.army.mil

Subject: Ramhorn Hill--Dunham transmission line meeting minutes

Attachments: USACE 2.14.23 Attendee List.pdf; MM_230214_USACE Lewisville Office.docx;

 $RH_D_Fig3C_ConsMap_Watermarked.pdf$

Good afternoon James and John,

Please see attached our minutes from the stakeholder meeting hosted at your Lewisville Lake office this week on February 14, 2023. Please let me know if there are any comments or questions.

Introducing our new look for today's Halff.



Russell Marusak

Senior Project Manager

(214) 346-6367 (469) 569-6982

RMarusak@Halff.com

We improve lives and communities by turning ideas into reality.



1201 North Bowser Road Richardson, Texas 75081 (214) 346-6200 Fax (214) 739-0095

MEETING MINUTES

To: Mr. James Murphy Attendees: See attached list

Mr. John Mathney

From: Mr. Russell Marusak

Subject: Ramhorn Hill—Dunham

stakeholder meeting

Meeting Date: February 14, 2023

Location: Lewisville Lake Project Office

Minutes Date: February 17, 2023

Project: Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV

transmission line project

Item Description

- 1. The meeting started with an acknowledgment that the USACE and Oncor representatives met in the field on February 6, 2023, south of the Trailwood Subdivision to look at a potential corridor. A brief introduction of the meeting objectives was provided:
 - 1) Can there be a path across USACE property?
 - 2) What will be the review and approval timeline?

This was followed by a brief introduction of the meeting attendees.

- 2. The USACE led with a brief reset from the prior meeting at the USACE office on January 19, 2023:
 - Oncor plans to file their CCN application to the PUCT at the end of May 2023
 - NEPA review for the crossing of federal property classified as environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) would be approached through the environmental assessment (EA) process, not through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- 3. The USACE provided a description of the general area that was reviewed during the February 6, 2023, meeting. In addition to the site-specific description, the USACE stated the definition and intent of the ESA and the need to preserve these areas. For a cleared and maintained easement necessary for an aerial crossing, the USACE noted that the loss of vegetation and habitat would be difficult to approve through the NEPA process. By contrast, the USACE noted that, for example, an aerial span of the north end of Utility Corridor 15 at the IH-35W crossing could be approved by a CATEX.
- 4. The USACE introduced broad concepts of the NEPA review process, including the USACE's need to consider other potential viable alternatives that did not affect USACE property (e.g. FM 1171 corridor). They also noted that challenges to approval for an

02/17/23 email transmittal of 02/14/23 Meeting Minutes



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aerial crossing would include other resource agencies and conservation groups through the public notice process.

- The USACE concluded that in light of recent resolutions passed by Governor Abbott citing the economic and health benefits of Texas State Parks, including outdoor recreation and wildlife habitat conservation, such a request (crossing USACE property in a western direction) would seem counter to that initiative and unlikely to be approved by the USACE.
- Oncor provided clarification that there are viable alternatives that parallel the FM 1171 corridor.
- The Town of Northlake representatives mentioned that they could assist the USACE regarding any comments at the state level.
- 5. The notion of a subsurface alternative was discussed for a potential crossing across the ESA. Oncor stated that it has contacted underground transmission vendors and that it has been unable to locate any underground facility constructed in the United States at the 5,000 amps level. Oncor explained that there are technical feasibility, reliability and cost obstacles to undergrounding this type of construction.
- 6. Oncor requested a USACE stepwise progression of the approval process. The USACE summarized the process as a "12-month or less" process, and provided a best-case scenario in consideration of the different steps:
 - Receipt of formal application and engagement 30 days
 - Preparation and ready for public notice 60 days
 - Public notice period 30 days
 - Response to comments, mitigation determinations to be determined

The USACE summarized a best-case scenario as 6-8 months.

- 7. The USACE noted that there could be a means to allocate additional USACE resources to help the process if there was an emergency declaration. Oncor noted that the designation status for this project by ERCOT was "critical" which was the highest ERCOT-designation known for transmission line projects. Representatives from State Senator Parker's office said they would take the lead on determining what designation the State could provide for this item.
- 8. The Town of Argyle wanted to revisit the notion of putting the project underground and inquired regarding an engineering feasibility study. Oncor explained that it does not view undergrounding of a 5,000 amp line as a technologically feasible solution, and that it would likely be cost prohibitive. Argyle expressed a desire to pursue this option.

02/17/23 email transmittal of 02/14/23 Meeting Minutes



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9. The Town of Northlake requested a better understanding of how much information needs to be included in a formal USACE request, as they were under the impression the process should already be started. The USACE provided an explanation of the two steps to their Outgrant Process, and that the first step was to determine if there is a viable option that can be carried forward for formal review, and that these initial meetings were to work through that process. Once a viable alternative is determined and generally agreed upon, at that time a formal request can be submitted.

So far, the USACE opinion for this first phase was:

- Aerial crossings of non-utility corridors at Graham Branch crossing (western crossing of USACE property) are not viable solutions
 - The option reviewed in the USACE field visit south of Trailwood was specifically discussed as an option the USACE did not believe it could support or approve.
- The underground option, although preferable to USACE, may still need to
 determine viability from a constructability standpoint. The USACE emphasized
 that there would be no retainment of surface rights for project operation and
 maintenance. Oncor voiced concern regarding the reliability of the project if
 surface rights were not obtainable for maintenance purposes.

The Town of Northlake then inquired about the appeal process should the USACE deny an alternative, and the USACE countered that it could be a letter to the Executive Office requesting an appeal, referencing the project.

10. Towards the end of the meeting, an additional alternative (a southerly crossing) was introduced that utilized a linear corridor east of Utility Corridor 11. This corridor was described as the former US 377 alignment, portions of which are currently occupied by a TRA sanitary sewer easement. The USACE thought there may be a possibility for the USACE to allow an aerial alternative through this corridor, but it would be up to Oncor to determine if they could access either endpoint.

Oncor clarified that access from the north would be feasible but exiting from the south has physical space limitations that may preclude construction, but that Oncor would further investigate that option.

This item concluded with Town of Northlake expressing acknowledgment of Oncor's alternatives along the FM 1171 corridor, and their concern regarding how it would influence future development. Northlake also addressed their ongoing coordination with Northwest Regional Airport interests regarding pilot approach preferences.

NOTE: To assist with this item, please see the map presented at the public meeting showing USACE properties in relation to Oncor's preliminary routing alternatives.

This concludes the Meeting Minutes. Our goal is to provide a complete and accurate summary of the proceedings of the subject meeting in these minutes. If you feel that any of the items listed above are not correct, or that any information is missing or incomplete, please contact Halff Associates so that the matter can be resolved, and a correction issued if necessary. These minutes will be assumed to be correct and accepted if we do not hear from you within ten (10) calendar days from your receipt.

Page 3 of 3

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	Nick Wilson	USACE USACE		may CUSALE. army mil
	John Mathrey Ussall Marusak		TMATUSAL @	half.com
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From: Macallister, Timothy L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) <Tim.L.MacAllister@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 2:38 PM

To: Bryan Livingston; Adetoro, Ifeoluwa; With, Erik; Coulter, Jeff; David Rettig; Torres,

Melanie; Wilson, Nicholas A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA); Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA); Marusak, Russell; Mayor; trish.robinson@senate.texas.gov; Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA); Gresback, Thomas Robert LN (USA); Hays, Matthew K CIV

USARMY CESWF (USA); Taylor, Jaren; Zapletal, Amy; 'james.childers@flower-mound.com'; tommy.dalton@flower-mound.com; Erika McComis; Nabila Nur;

Underwood, Martin K CIV USARMY CESWF (USA); Piazza, Gloria C CIV USARMY CESWF

(USA)

Subject: RE: Ramhorn Hill - Dunham 345kV Proposed Transmission Line : 2.14.23 USACE Meeting

Minutes

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All – wanted to touch base to further clarify some things about crossing USACE property. The aerial crossing proposed by Argyle and Northlake was well worth the effort and I appreciate the time everyone took to explore that potential option. When we discussed that crossing during the last meeting, both my staff and Mr. Marusak agreed that the habitat quality along with the ESA designation within a riparian area does not lend itself to be a good candidate for an aerial crossing. I cannot in good faith recommend this area to be disturbed and I feel confident that pushing an EA in an attempt to achieve this would result in significant resistance from our land management partners.

The timing concern for any crossing that cannot be categorically excluded (CATEX) is another concern needing to be addressed. Any item that needs an EA (or more) will require more time than we have since ONCOR has to provide the State with their options in May 2023.

At this time, my recommendation is to go after a route that USACE can CATEX (such as what was discussed at I35 where the line would span USACE property) or avoid USACE property altogether.

I hope this helps in the discussion. Thank you all for the candid participation in this effort.

Timothy L. MacAllister Chief, Operations Division Fort Worth District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

From: Bryan Livingston blivingston@argyletx.com

Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2023 5:21 PM

To: Adetoro, Ifeoluwa <Ifeoluwa.Adetoro@oncor.com>; With, Erik <Erik.With@mail.house.gov>; Coulter, Jeff <Jeff.Coulter@mail.house.gov>; 'drettig@town.northlake.tx.us' <drettig@town.northlake.tx.us>; Torres, Melanie <Melanie.Torres@mail.house.gov>; Macallister, Timothy L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)

<Tim.L.MacAllister@usace.army.mil>; gloria.piazza@usace.army.mil; matrinilo.underwood@usace.army.mil; Wilson, Nicholas A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) <Nicholas.Wilson@usace.army.mil>; Mathney, John L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)

<John.L.Mathney@usace.army.mil>; Marusak, Russell <RMarusak@Halff.com>; Mayor

<mayor@townofbartonville.com>; trish.robinson@senate.texas.gov; Murphy, James A CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)

<James.A.Murphy@usace.army.mil>; Macallister, Timothy L CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)
<Tim.L.MacAllister@usace.army.mil>; Gresback, Thomas Robert LN (USA) <Thomas.R.Gresback@usace.army.mil>; Hays, Matthew K CIV USARMY CESWF (USA) <Matthew.K.Hays@usace.army.mil>; Taylor, Jaren <jarentaylor@velaw.com>; Zapletal, Amy <Amy.Zapletal@oncor.com>; 'james.childers@flower-mound.com' <james.childers@flower-mound.com>; tommy.dalton@flower-mound.com; Erika McComis <emccomis@argyletx.com>; Nabila Nur <nnur@argyletx.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Ramhorn Hill - Dunham 345kV Proposed Transmission Line: 2.14.23 USACE Meeting Minutes

Dear Mr. Adetoro,

I appreciate your effort to capture the conversation on February 14th at the USACE offices at Lake Lewisville. I must correct your account of the meeting on a few points.

- USACE did not reject an underground option for crossing Corps property on the east side of the original southern alternative corridor proposed by Argyle and Northlake. USACE stated that an aerial crossing would not be practical given the in-service date of May 2025. USACE stated that an underground crossing could be eligible for a categorical exclusion depending on the outcome of an engineering feasibility study.
- 2. Argyle and Northlake requested a feasibility study for the underground option at the eastern crossing. The responsibility for the study should belong to Oncor, along with the rest of the engineering work being done to support the project.
- 3. USACE expressed optimism about the use of the "old US 377" right of way for a southern alternative corridor and is enthusiastic about following the progress of your engineering review.

Kindly respond with your comments on Oncor's position on using your engineering resources to conduct a feasibility study for the originally proposed southern alternative route.

Best regards,

Bryan Livingston

IF YOU ARE A PUBLIC OFFICIAL, DO NOT USE REPLY ALL TO RESPOND TO THIS MESSAGE

Bryan Livingston Mayor Town of Argyle, Texas 817 689 0478 (M)



From: Adetoro, Ifeoluwa < lfeoluwa.Adetoro@oncor.com>

Sent: Friday, February 17, 2023 4:47 PM

To: With, Erik < Erik.With@mail.house.gov; Coulter, Jeff < Jeff.Coulter@mail.house.gov; Bryan Livingston < Slivingston@argyletx.com; 'drettig@town.northlake.tx.us' < drettig@town.northlake.tx.us; Torres, Melanie

<i Tim.L.MacAllister@usace.army.mil; rim.L.MacAllister@usace.army.mil; matrinilo.underwood@usace.army.mil; matrinilo.underwood@usace.army.mil; matrinilo.underwood@usace.army.mil; matrinilo.underwood@usace.army.mil; matrinilo.underwood@usace.army.mil; nicholas.wilson@usace.army.mil; matrinilo.underwood@usace.army.mil; nicholas.wilson@usace.army.mil; Marusak, Russell RMarusak@Halff.com; Mayor

trish.robinson@senate.texas.gov; Murphy, James
trish.robinson@senate.texas.gov; Hurphy, James
trish.robinson@senate.texas.gov; Murphy, James
trish.robinson@senate.texas.gov; Hurphy, James
trish.robinson@senate.texas.gov</a

Subject: Ramhorn Hill - Dunham 345kV Proposed Transmission Line: 2.14.23 USACE Meeting Minutes

External Email: Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Evening All -

The USACE meeting hosted at the Lewisville Lake office on 2/14/23 with Congressman Burgess's office, Towns of Argyle, Northlake, Flowermound, Bartonville and Trish Robinson from Sen. Parker's office resulted in some critical takeaways. Overall, it was concluded that the initial request to evaluate Corps property for crossing from the 1/19/23 meeting would be rejected by the USACE. The Corps proposed an alternative of utilizing an abandoned utility corridor that progresses south of the study area. Oncor is currently in the process of evaluating the feasibility of routing through the abandoned utility corridor.

Attached are meeting minutes created by Halff Associates sequencing the order of discussion points that were addressed.

Please reach out to me directly if you have any questions.

Rgds,

Ife Adetoro, P.E.

Regulatory Manager II – Transmission and Planning
Oncor | Regulatory, External Affairs
1616 Woodall Rodgers Freeway
Suite 6A-014 Dallas, Texas 75202
817-716-3124 - C
214-486-4918 - O
ifeoluwa.adetoro@oncor.com





oncor.com

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September 13, 2022 AVO 52671.001

TRASNMITTED VIA CERTIFIED MAIL: 7020 3160 0000 9149 0204

U.S. Department of Defense Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse 3400 Defense Pentagon, Room 5C646 Washington, DC 20301-3400

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear To whom it may Concern:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

Halff Associates, Inc. (Halff) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Alternative Route Analysis to support an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). Halff is currently in the process of gathering data on the existing environment and identifying environmental and land use constraints within the project study area that will be used in the creation of an environmental and land use constraints map. Halff will identify potential alternative routes that consider environmental and land use constraints.

Halff is requesting that your agency/office provide information concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest to your agency/office within the study area. Your comments will be an important consideration in the assessment of potential impacts. Upon certification for the proposed project, Oncor will determine the need for other approvals and/or permits. If your jurisdiction has approvals and/or permits that would apply to this project, please identify them in response to this inquiry. If permits are required from your office, Oncor will contact your office following route certification.

Thank you for your assistance with this transmission line project. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (214) 346-6367. Electronic data may also be shared at rmarusak@halff.com. Your earliest reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

Attachment (1)

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Delivered

Delivered, Individual Picked Up at Postal Facility

WASHINGTON, DC 20310 September 19, 2022, 7:57 am

Available for Pickup

WASHINGTON, DC 20310 September 18, 2022, 8:34 am

Arrived at Hub

WASHINGTON, DC 20018 September 18, 2022, 5:57 am

In Transit to Next Facility

September 17, 2022

Arrived at USPS Regional Facility

COPPELL TX DISTRIBUTION CENTER September 13, 2022, 9:51 pm



September 13, 2022 AVO 52671.001

Ms. Debra Bills, Field Supervisor Arlington Ecological Services Field Office U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2005 Northeast Green Oaks Boulevard, Suite 140 Arlington, Texas 76606-3293

Re: Oncor Electric Delivery Company's Proposed Ramhorn Hill—Dunham 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Denton and Wise Counties, Texas

Dear Ms. Bills:

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. FM 1171 is also known regionally as Cross Timbers Road. Please refer to the attached map depicting the study area.

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Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Russell Marusak

Environmental / Natural Resources Team Leader

Attachment (1)



Appendix B

Public Involvement

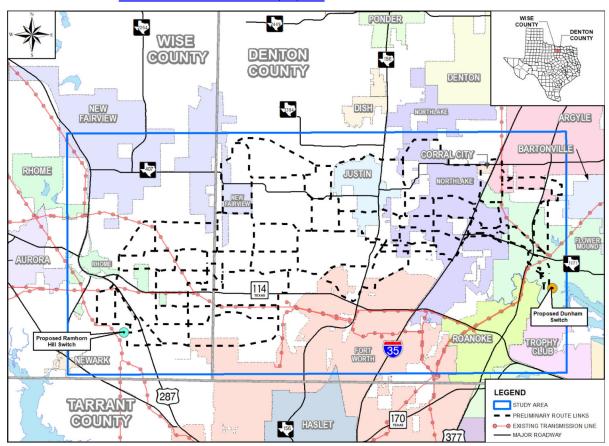


December 7 and 8, 2022

Marriott Hotel & Golf Club at Champions Circle 3300 Championship Parkway Fort Worth, Texas, 76177

4:00 - 7:00 PM

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) proposes to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed Ramhorn Hill Switch, which will be located approximately 2 miles south of the intersection of United States Highway 287 and State Highway 114 near Rhome, Texas, and continuing to the proposed Dunham Switch, which will be located approximately 1.4 miles southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 35W and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171 in Flower Mound, Texas. Oncor is committed to ensuring that the proposed transmission line meets the requirements of the Texas Utilities Code and Public Utility Commission of Texas rules. In support of this process, Oncor is holding a Public Participation Meeting to solicit input from the community to obtain information about the study area and determine routing alternatives for the proposed transmission line. Halff Associates, a consulting firm retained by Oncor for the project, has identified preliminary alternative transmission line route links for consideration, which are shown as dashed black lines on the map below. Maps with greater detail will be exhibited at the meeting. Attendees will be free to come and go from the meeting and visit information stations addressing various aspects of the project at their leisure. This format will provide attendees an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments regarding the proposed transmission line project to representatives and technical experts from Oncor and Halff Associates. If you have questions concerning this meeting, please contact Mr. Ifeoluwa Adetoro at (214) 486-4918 or email transmissionprojects@oncor.com. For more information, please visit our website at www.oncor.com/transmissionprojects/.



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