



## **Filing Receipt**

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**Control Number - 55067**

**Item Number - 778**

# Request to Intervene in PUC Docket No. 55067

The following information must be submitted by the person requesting to intervene in this proceeding. This completed form will be provided to all parties in this docket. **If you DO NOT want to be an intervenor, but still want to file comments, please complete the "Comments" page.**

For USPS, send one copy to:

Public Utility Commission of Texas  
Central Records  
P.O. Box 13326  
Austin, TX 78711-3326

For all other delivery or courier services, send one copy to:

Public Utility Commission of Texas  
Central Records  
1701 N. Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX 78701

First Name: Carrie

Last Name: Polka

Phone Number: 253-347-2440

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, City, State: 211 Cedar Crest Dr, Justin, TX 76247

Email Address: carrieesky@hotmail.com

**I am requesting to intervene in this proceeding. As an INTERVENOR, I understand the following:**

- I am a party to the case;
- I am required to respond to all discovery requests from other parties in the case;
- If I file testimony, I may be cross-examined in the hearing;
- If I file any documents in the case, I will have to provide a copy of that document to every other party in the case; and
- I acknowledge that I am bound by the Procedural Rules of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) and the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

**Please check one of the following:**

- ☒ I own property with a habitable structure located near one or more of the utility's proposed routes for a transmission line.
- ☐ One or more of the utility's proposed routes would cross my property.
- ☐ Other. Please describe and provide comments. You may attach a separate page, if necessary.

**Signature of person requesting intervention:**

Carrie Polka

Date: 7/21/23

Carrie and Tobias Polka

211 Cedar Crest Dr

Justin, TX 76247

Docket No. 55067

Thank you for hearing our concerns regarding the high voltage power lines that are possibly being put in within a few hundred feet of our home. I have many concerns regarding this project, and with its possibility of being by our home. Some of the concerns are the health and safety of our young children, pets, and ourselves. The noises that will be emitted from the lines. The possible huge decrease in property values. The erosion of an area that is already susceptible to flooding and erosion, and the concern that Oncor should be considering putting these lines underground for everyone's safety as well as increasing the longevity of the lines.

First and foremost, on my mind is the safety of my two young children. We moved to the Hardeman Estates in Justin, TX, a year ago on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July. We have owned our home since December 2021. There are a few reasons that we picked this home above so many others that met our requirements. No larger powerlines/transformers were a huge deal for us. We found 2 other homes, in the areas that we were looking, that would have fit our budget and needs better as far as space for our children, us and our dogs. Both of those homes were within a few hundred feet of large powerlines, like what Oncor wants to put in. This was a no go for us. We spent more money to purchase a home that did not have this constraint. If Oncor puts this line in, we will be less than 500 ft away from it and this will force us to have to uproot our children and move after already making a 2000 mile move to get here. There have been multiple studies that show being within this distance of a high voltage powerline increases our family's chance of cancer, leukemia, tumors, sleep disturbances, hormone issues, behavioral issues and more (Albertans). Our family is already at risk for cancer and tumors and adding this will greatly increase the likelihood that we will be affected by it.

The noises emitted by these lines can be torturous to those who suffer from migraines and hearing sensitivities, both of which I have. My husband's previous employer was located about 1000 ft from a similar type of line and if I visited him at work I would have to stay inside for longer visits as I would start to have difficulties within a few minutes of being outside. The humming can trigger a severe headache which would mean I have to stay in my home and not be able to enjoy our backyard or doing anything outside for extended periods of time. My children have not been subjected to this so I do not know what their reactions will be.

These lines WILL decrease our home value. We paid top dollar to be in this home, passing up less expensive homes near powerlines, so that we would have the ability to enjoy a corner lot, no homes behind us, trees, and a creek. If these lines go in, all the hard work we have done will be for nothing as we will lose value to our home which could make it nearly impossible to relocate as we will not be able to fully recoup the funds spent on this home, and on making it our home. As well as loose the use of the creek and trees we so love.

The creek I mentioned above is where the proposed lines will be going in. What feasibility studies have been done? This creek can flood, has erosion already starting, and a new development of homes is going in above it already aggravating this condition. If they take out the trees to put in this line it will greatly increase the possibility of flooding putting multiple homes at risk. These trees are essential to the wildlife that we have as well as to reinforce the ground to minimize erosion. Please think of the wildlife that will be impacted if these trees are gone. The cranes, birds, toads, frogs, etc. will also be impacted. Has a study been done to make sure no protected wildlife uses this area for their home?

Lastly, why are we not asking Oncor to consider putting these lines underground? If they put these lines underground, they have the possibility of taking a more direct route, greatly minimizing (if not eliminating) the health effects, home devaluation, and allowing natural wildlife to return once completed. While I understand that there is a greater cost upfront, underground lines would not be as susceptible to ice storms, high winds, and tornados. Due to this it would increase the longevity of the lines, allow for less outages and disruptions to customers that are paying to put these lines in, as well as mitigate the risk of electrocutions or bodily harm due to downed lines.

Thank you for taking the time to read about my family, my concerns, and options for a (better) solution. Please do not let these powerlines go in Justin, TX. I am praying for my family, my neighbors, and you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carrie Poika" followed by a smaller signature, likely "Tobias Poika".

Carrie and Tobias Poika

Albertans, R. E. (n.d.). *RETA*. Retrieved from Responsible Electricity Transmission for Albertans:  
[Retasite.wordpress.com](http://Retasite.wordpress.com)