



## **Filing Receipt**

**Filing Date - 2023-07-23 09:10:29 PM**

**Control Number - 55067**

**Item Number - 804**

In April of 2018, my wife and I purchased our "forever" home here in Justin, property which backs onto the pastoral Trail Creek greenbelt, and affords us a quiet, fully private back yard, complete with an unspoiled view of the surrounding oak trees lining Reatta Ridge behind our house. Following a long exhaustive search, we felt so extremely fortunate to finally secure our new place, and indeed, for lo these past five-plus years, 360 Cedar Crest Drive has proven itself an ideal location to put down roots and enjoy our wonderful natural surroundings, especially as we transition into our retirement years.

However, like a bolt out of the blue, the last thing we might ever have expected to happen arrived in our mailbox recently. It was notification from Oncor Electric concerning possible routes being considered for a proposed high voltage transmission line, one option in particular that has high voltage lines running within a couple hundred feet of our rear property line, very close to Trail Creek. To our great dismay, it was also revealed that the natural vegetation including all trees within 100 feet of the towers would have to be removed prior to construction. Particularly for those of us with homes facing the greenbelt, this action would undoubtedly come as a blow, not only potentially impacting us homeowners within the Hardemann Estates subdivision, but also negatively affect those many folks residing in the Reatta Ridge neighborhood who appreciate the aesthetic value of our community. If uprooting trees and displacing the local wildlife wasn't enough, affected landowners' property values would likely depreciate instantly by an estimated 10-40 percent, according to various sources. We bought our home in good faith that its resale value would one day net us or our dependants a goodly profit, should we decide to sell the house. If the Oncor lines are given final approval for construction directly adjacent to our property, most of our long-term equity could potentially be wiped out.

Also, consideration should be given to possible health and safety hazards related to high voltage lines. My wife's side of the family carries the Alzheimer's gene, and Swiss studies show an increased risk in the development of Alzheimer's disease in those who are genetically predisposed, and who live close to high voltage lines. Understandably, the Oncor proposal is putting her on edge, to the point where she thinks we might have to pull up stakes and relocate elsewhere, should a route running through our neighborhood be chosen. As a survivor of testicular cancer in 2001, I too am a bit apprehensive as to what effects on the human body 345 kV of power might produce over time. At age 70, I still hope to be around for quite a while longer to relish the peaceful sounds of water trickling and birds chirping in the shady oak trees that line Trail Creek.