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Public Utility Commission of Texas

Memorandum

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: John Poole PE, Infrastructure Division
Julia Wagner PE, Market Analysis Division

DATE: August 19, 2024

RE: Project No. 55718 Reliability *Plan for The Permian Basin Under Pura §39.167*
Agenda for August 22, 2024 Public Workshop

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Commission Staff will hold a public workshop on August 22, 2024, starting at 9:30 am. The workshop will be held in the Commissioner's Hearing Room, 7th Floor, William B. Travis Building, located at 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78701. The workshop will also be broadcast live and archived for later viewing on AdminMonitor, which can be found by navigating to this link: <https://www.adminmonitor.com/tx/puct/>.

The workshop will be structured in a question-and-answer format, during which Commission Staff will pose the questions listed below and interested stakeholders will be invited to respond to those questions. Commission Staff will allocate approximately 30 minutes for each broad category of questions. Commentary outside the scope of the questions listed below may not be considered due to time constraints. ERCOT staff will participate in the workshop.

Commission Staff seeks stakeholder feedback on the specific questions found on the next page and appreciates any insights which expand on – and do not simply repeat – feedback already provided to the Commission through written comments.

PLAN

1. What is the best approach to approve a plan that gives the Commission flexibility to consider and benefit from ERCOT's EHV study that will be completed by the end of 2024?
2. Would there be any permanent, negative impacts to any stakeholder if the Commission were to approve a *phased approach* where a complete 2030 plan would be approved in September of 2024, and a future plan for 2038 would be approved *at a no later than date* explicitly specified in the Final Order when Commission approves the 2030 phase of the plan?

AFFORDABILITY AND COST

3. Is the Network Open Season (NOS) concept proposed by NRG¹ and used in the natural gas industry a viable option to consider for transmission buildout in ERCOT for new large loads?

CCN PROCESS

4. Should the Commission approve a plan at the September 26, 2024 open meeting, by what date can TSPs, with input from ERCOT, provide an implementation plan—including sequencing of projects—for use by the Commission to establish a schedule to sequence priority projects and subsequent projects?
5. What methodology should be used to prioritize and sequence the individual CCN applications to fulfill the objectives of PURA section 39.167 to optimize efficient transmission build-out?
6. Due to the large scope of the Permian Basin Reliability Plan, are there any additional outreach efforts the Commission should consider outside of what is required by PURA and Commission rule?
7. If ERCOT publishes the end points of all the projects along with which entity owns each endpoint, would that information suffice for TSPs to move forward with filing CCNs or contested cases over project ownership?

OTHER TOPICS

8. Are there any protocol changes ERCOT should consider to better facilitate this plan's build out?
9. Is there anything else the Commission should consider already not addressed?

¹ Project 55718 NRG Energy Inc. Comments filed August 9, 2024 AIS Item No. 33