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The Honorable Charles Geren
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Representative Geren,

I appreciate your recent letter regarding the need to expand transmission capacity in the Permian Basin to serve electric loads that help drive the Texas economy. Soon after the passage of HB5066, ERCOT quickly engaged with stakeholders to develop a plan that would meet the growth in the Permian and to do so in the most expedient and efficient way possible.

On July 25th, ERCOT filed with the Public Utility Commission, a comprehensive plan to serve the Permian Basin that includes utilizing a 345kV system. Along with that plan ERCOT included two alternatives utilizing different Electric High Voltage (EHV) systems, those being 500kV and 765kV. While these alternatives would be most effective if associated with a broader EHV state plan, we thought it was important for all stakeholders to begin contemplating building a more robust system to serve the projected growth we see happening across the State of Texas. With regard to the concern you raised about potential delays associated with studying an EHV statewide plan, we too support a thoughtful discussion among stakeholders and the Texas legislature that achieves your timing expectations.

We have reached out to your staff to set up some time for us to meet and have a more detailed discussion about the path forward.

I look forward to our discussion.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Vegas".

Pablo Vegas
President & CEO, ERCOT