



## **Filing Receipt**

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**PUC DOCKET NO. 55718**

**RELIABILITY PLAN FOR THE  
PERMIAN BASIN UNDER PURA  
§ 39.167**

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**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF TEXAS**

**AEP TEXAS INC.'S RESPONSE TO  
COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

**MARCH 27, 2025**

AEP Texas Inc. (AEP Texas) appreciates the opportunity to provide our responses to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) Staff's First Request for Information (RFI) to Transmission Service Providers (TSPs) under Docket No. 55718.

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**Question: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-1**

Provide documentation related to cost estimate information for any import path to which the TSP has been assigned. The cost estimate information should be consistent with the format and categories of data provided to ERCOT in March 2025.

**Response: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-1**

See HSPM Attachment STAFF 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-1 Response\_AEP Texas Cost Estimates for the 765-kilovolt (kV) cost estimate that was submitted to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) on March 5, 2025 and the 345-kV cost estimate that was submitted to ERCOT on March 14, 2025. Due to the competitively sensitive nature of this response, the attachment is considered highly sensitive and as such is treated as Highly Sensitive Protected Material (HSPM). This HSPM will be provided through an iManage link pursuant to the terms of a protective order in Docket No. 55718. Please contact Grieg Gullickson at [gkgullickson@aep.com](mailto:gkgullickson@aep.com) or at (512) 965-3057 if you have any questions.

Prepared By: Kensley Greuter

Title: Regulatory Case Manager, AEP Texas Inc.

Prepared By: John Pulay

Title: Transmission Projects Manager,  
American Electric Power Service Company

**Question: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-2**

To the extent available, provide any vendor commitment letters related to long lead technical equipment, such as autotransformers or circuit breakers, needed to construct and operate the import path.

**Response: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-2**

Please refer to the signed affidavit attachment in Response to Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-5.

Prepared By: Kensley Greuter

Title: Regulatory Case Manager, AEP Texas  
Inc.

Prepared By: John Pulay

Title: Transmission Projects Manager,  
American Electric Power Service Company

**Question: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-3**

To the extent available, provide any vendor commitment letters related to engineering, procurement, and construction or other labor agreements associated with construction of the import path.

**Response: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-3**

Please refer to the signed affidavit attachment in Response to Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-5.

Prepared By: Kensley Greuter

Title: Regulatory Case Manager, AEP Texas  
Inc.

Prepared By: John Pulay

Title: Transmission Projects Manager,  
American Electric Power Service Company

**Question: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-4**

Provide current import path construction timeline estimates necessary to meet the forecasted load requirements documented in the Permian Basin Reliability Plan. If the TSP intends to construct the import path faster than what would be required under the Permian Basin Reliability Plan, please provide the relevant information.

**Response: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-4**

The current import path construction timeline estimates necessary to meet the forecasted load requirements documented in the Permian Basin Reliability Plan are provided in the below tables.

**Table 1-4.1.** AEP Texas Solstice to Howard 765-kV Single-Circuit Transmission Line Project Import Path Estimated Schedule

Project Stage	Start	Finish
CCN Application Filing		January 2026
Route Approval by PUC		July 2026
Engineering	May 2025	January 2029
ROW Acquisition Process	August 2026	June 2028
Material Procurement	May 2025	February 2029
Construction	January 2028	January 2031
Energize Facilities		January 2031*

*\* Note that this in-service date must synchronize with CPS Energy's completion of their portion of the Solstice to Howard 765-kV Transmission line and Howard Station.*

**Table 1-4.2.** AEP Texas Solstice to Bottlebrush 345-kV Double-Circuit Transmission Line Project Import Path Estimated Schedule

Project Stage	Start	Finish
CCN Application Filing		May 2026
Route Approval by PUC		November 2026
Engineering	May 2025	October 2029
ROW Acquisition Process	March 2027	November 2028
Material Procurement	September 2026	July 2029
Construction	January 2028	January 2031
Energize Facilities		January 2031*

*\* Note that this in-service date must synchronize with the Bottlebrush to Howard 345-kV Double-Circuit Transmission Line and Associated Stations.*

Prepared By: Kensley Greuter

Prepared By: John Pulay

Title: Regulatory Case Manager, AEP Texas Inc.

Title: Transmission Projects Manager, American Electric Power Service Company

**Question: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-5**

If the TSP does not have responsive information to Staff 1-2 through Staff 1-4, provide an affidavit or sworn statement by the TSP's highest level official attesting to the TSP's preparedness to design, build, and energize the import path in time to meet the Permian Basin Reliability Plan load forecast irrespective of voltage level.

**Response: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-5**

The requested affidavit is included as Attachment STAFF 1st RFI 1-5 Response\_AEP Texas Affidavit HSPM. Due to the competitively sensitive nature of this response, this affidavit is considered highly sensitive and as such is treated as Highly Sensitive Protected Material (HSPM). This HSPM will be provided through an iManage link pursuant to the terms of a protective order in Docket No. 55718. Please contact Grieg Gullickson at [gkgullickson@aep.com](mailto:gkgullickson@aep.com) or at (512) 965-3057 if you have any questions.

Prepared By: Kensley Greuter

Title: Regulatory Case Manager, AEP Texas Inc.

Prepared By: John Pulay

Title: Transmission Projects Manager,  
American Electric Power Service Company

**Question: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-6**

Provide any new data or information related to cost or timelines the TSP believes would assist the Commission's final determination on the Permian Basin import paths.

**Response: Staff 1<sup>st</sup> RFI 1-6**

AEP Texas does not have any new data or information related to cost or timelines at the time of this filing.

Prepared By: Kensley Greuter

Title: Regulatory Case Manager, AEP Texas Inc.

Prepared By: John Pulay

Title: Transmission Projects Manager,  
American Electric Power Service Company