

Item Number: 46

PETITION FOR CONSOLIDATED§PERMIAN BASIN RELIABILITY PLAN§CCN FILING AUTHORIZATION§

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

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ORDER

On July 25, 2024, in Project No. 55718, the Electric Reliability of Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) issued the ERCOT Permian Basin Reliability Plan Study (Reliability Plan) which identified a number of transmission projects needed to meet forecasted demand in the Permian Basin.¹ ERCOT filed an addendum to the Reliability Plan on September 11, 2024. On October 18, 2024, ERCOT issued, in Project No. 57152, a report detailing ERCOT's proposed assignments to various transmission service providers (TSPs) of the responsibility for the ownership, construction, and operation of the projects identified in the Reliability Plan (the ERCOT Report).² Following issuance of the ERCOT Report, there was an opportunity for TSPs to object, in Project 57152, to the proposed assignment of any project in the ERCOT Report.

On December 16, 2024, Commission Staff filed the petition at issue in this proceeding. The primary purpose of the petition is to obtain a Commission Order approving the TSP assignments proposed in the ERCOT Report to own, construct, and operate the projects identified in the report: (1) for which no dispute was filed in Project No. 57152; or (2) for which a dispute was filed in Project No. 57152, but for which the relevant TSPs have since made a joint report indicating that their dispute has been resolved (collectively, the undisputed projects).

The parties to this proceeding are Commission Staff; Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC; Wind Energy Transition Texas, LLC (WETT); AEP Texas Inc.; the City of Garland, whose municipally owned electric utility operates under the name of Garland Power & Light (Garland); LCRA Transmission Services Corporation (LCRA TSC); Lone Star Transmission, LLC; the City of San Antonio, acting by and through the City Public Service Board (CPS Energy); South Texas

¹ Reliability Plan for the Permian Basin Under PURA § 39.167, Project No. 55718, ERCOT Permian Basin Reliability Plan Study (Jul. 25, 2024).

² Identifying Transmission Service Providers for Implementing the Permian Basin Reliability Plan, Project No. 57152, Report of ERCOT Identifying Transmission Service Providers Responsible for Implementing the Permian Basin Reliability Plan (Oct. 18, 2024).

Electric Cooperative, Inc. (STEC); Texas-New Mexico Power Company (TNMP), and ERCOT. All parties other than ERCOT support the issuance of this Order. ERCOT does not oppose the issuance of this Order.

The Commission approves the assignment to various TSPs of the responsibility to own, construct, and operate the undisputed Reliability Plan projects, subject to any applicable CCN filing requirements, to the extent described in this Order.

I. Findings of Fact

The Commission makes the following findings of fact.

Legislation Requiring Reliability Plan for the Permian Basin Region

 In 2023, the Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 5066, codified at PURA³ §§ 39.166– .167, which required the Commission to direct ERCOT to develop a reliability plan for the Permian Basin Region.

<u>The Reliability Plan</u>

- On July 25, 2024, in Project No. 55718, ERCOT filed the Reliability Plan in accordance with PURA § 39.167. On September 11, 2024, ERCOT filed an addendum to the Reliability Plan.
- 3. On October 5, 2024, the Commission signed, in Project No. 55718, an Order approving the Reliability Plan, including the addendum, and directed ERCOT to issue the ERCOT Report in Project No. 57152 identifying the TSPs who ERCOT proposed would be responsible for the ownership, construction, and operation of the projects identified in the Reliability Plan.⁴

<u>The ERCOT Report</u>

4. On October 18, 2024, ERCOT filed the ERCOT Report in Project No. 57152. The ERCOT Report identified the TSPs which ERCOT proposed should be responsible for the ownership, construction, and operation of the projects identified in the Reliability Plan and conditionally approved by the Commission in Project No. 55718.⁵

³ Public Utility Regulatory Act, Tex. Util. Code §§ 11.001-66.016.

⁴ The Order was signed on October 5 and filed on October 7, 2024.

⁵ Identifying Transmission Service Providers for Implementing the Permian Basin Reliability Plan, Project No. 57152, Report of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc., Identifying Transmission Service Providers Responsible for Implementing the Permian Basin Reliability Plan (Oct. 18, 2024).

5. On October 18, 2024, under the authority delegated by the Commission in its Order filed on October 7, 2024 in Project No. 55718, Commission Staff filed, in Project No. 57152, a memorandum laying out the process for TSPs to dispute ERCOT's identification of TSP responsibility for Permian Basin projects.

Commission Staff's Petition

- 6. On December 16, 2024, Commission Staff filed its petition in this docket, which seeks Commission approval of the assignments proposed in the ERCOT Report for those projects for which either: (a) no dispute was filed in Project No. 57152; or (b) for which the applicable TSPs have made a joint report indicating that their dispute as to project ownership had been resolved. The petition also asks that the Commission direct the approved TSPs to make a filing in this docket identifying which of the projects require amendments to the relevant TSPs' certificates of convenience and necessity (CCNs).
- 7. In Order No. 1 filed on December 16, 2024, the administrative law judge (ALJ) required TSPs to offer evidence supporting their right to own, construct, and operate each undisputed project to which they were assigned in the ERCOT Report, offer evidence of an agreement with respect to shared interests for projects where multiple TSPs assert joint rights, and file a statement of position as to whether a CCN amendment will be required for the project.
- 8. On February 14, 2025, each of the TSP parties—CPS Energy, Lone Star, STEC, LCRA TSC, Garland, WETT, AEP Texas, Oncor, and TNMP—filed evidence related to their right to own, construct, and operate the undisputed projects, evidence of agreements with respect to shared interests for joint projects, and statements of position as to whether CCN amendments are currently expected to be required for those projects.

<u>Notice</u>

- On January 6, 2025, Commission Staff affirmed that notice of the petition was provided, on December 16, 2024, to ERCOT and to all TSPs identified in the ERCOT Report in Project No. 57152.
- 10. In Order No. 2 filed on January 27, 2025, the ALJ found the notice sufficient.

<u>Intervenors</u>

- In Order No. 2 filed on January 27, 2025, the ALJ granted the motions to intervene filed by AEP Texas and Lone Star.
- 12. In Order No. 3 filed on February 3, 2025, the ALJ granted the motions to intervene filed by LCRA TSC; Garland; STEC; CPS Energy; and ERCOT.
- In Order No. 4 filed on February 10, 2025, the ALJ granted the motions to intervene filed by TNMP, WETT, and Oncor.

<u>Evidentiary Record</u>

- 14. In Order No. 7 filed on April 11, 2025, the ALJ admitted the following evidence into the record of this proceeding:
 - a. Commission Staff's petition filed on December 16, 2024;
 - CPS Energy's statement of position and submission of supporting evidence filed on February 14, 2025;
 - c. Lone Star's response to Order No. 1 filed on February 14, 2025;
 - d. STEC's response regarding its assigned Permian Basin Reliability Plan Project filed on February 14, 2025;
 - e. LCRA TSC's statement of position, evidence, and proposed ordering language filed on February 14, 2025;
 - f. Garland's evidence and information supporting its right to own, construct, and operate consolidated petition projects filed on February 14, 2025;
 - g. WETT's evidence in support of ownership and statement of position filed on February 14, 2025;
 - h. AEP Texas's filing in response to Order No. 1 filed on February 14, 2025;
 - i. Oncor's affidavit in response to Order No. 1 filed on February 14, 2025;
 - j. TNMP's response to Order No. 1 and statement of position filed on February 14, 2025; and

- k. Joint filing for Planned Permian Basin Reliability Plan CCN Filing Schedule filed on February 20, 2025.
- 15. On February 20, 2025, Oncor filed the Joint Filing for Planned Permian Basin Reliability Plan CCN Filing Schedule on behalf of the movants, which provided an approximate agreed CCN filing schedule.

Undisputed Facts

- On March 14, 2025, the parties other than ERCOT filed a joint proposed order concerning responsibility for the undisputed Permian Basin Reliability Plan projects addressed by this Order.
- 17. There are no remaining disputes over ownership for the projects listed in attachment A to the ERCOT Report, with the exception of Import A1, identified as upgrade ID: Import_A1. The dispute regarding project Import A1, identified as upgrade ID: Import_A1, is currently pending in Docket No. 57384⁶ and is not addressed in this Order.

Projects with Single TSP Designation

- 18. Oncor is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: L1A; L1B; L1C; L1D; L2A; L2B; L2C; L5A; L5B; L5D; L5E; L16A; L16B; L16C; L17; L18; L19; L20A; L20B; L20C; L20D; L20E; L20F; L20G; L20H; L20I; L21A; L21B; L22A; L22B; L22C; L22D; L22E; L22F; L23; L24A (except for upgrades to LCRA TSC's existing Bitter Creek Station); L24B; L25A; L25B; L25C; L25D; L25E; 345_Import_1A; 345_Import_1B; 345_Import_1C; 345_Import_1D; 345_Import_1E; 345_Import_1F; 345_Import_3A; 765_Import_1A; 765_Import_1C; 765_Import_1D; 765_Import_2A; and 765_Import_2C.
- AEP Texas is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: L4 (new load bus 900108 and Cryo substation); L5G (Solstice substation); L7A (Creosote 138-kilovolt (kV) substation and Creosote 345/138-kV substation); L7C (Creosote 345/138-kV substation); L8 (Creosote

⁶ Petition of LCRA Transmission Services Corporation for Permian Basin Reliability Plan Project Authorization Under PURA § 39.167, SOAH Docket No. 473-25-14210, PUC Docket No. 57384 (pending).

138-kV substation); L9A (Ft. Stockton switch 138-kV substation and Ft. Stockton switch 345/138-kV substation); L9B (Solstice station, Ft. Stockton switch 345/138-kV substation, and loop the existing Solstice-Bakersfield 345-kV double-circuit line into the new Ft. Stockton switch 345-kV substation); L10; L11; L26; L27A; L27B (Sterling County station); L27C; L28; L29; L30A; L30B (Pandale station); 345_Import 4D (Solstice station); and 765_Import_3B.

- 20. Garland is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: L7B (King Mountain station); L14A (Nevill Road station and upgrade the existing Bakersfield–Nevill Road 345-kV transmission line); L14B (Nevill Road station and upgrade the existing Nevill Road North McCamey 345-kV transmission line); 345_Import_2C (King Mountain station); 345_Import_3D (Nevill Road station); and 345_Import_3F (Nevill Road station).
- LCRA TSC is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, identified by upgrade ID: L15 (upgrade of existing Bakersfield, Cedar Canyon, Noelke, and Schneeman Draw stations); L24A (upgrade of existing Bitter Creek station); L30B (new Stockman station); 345_Import_3B, 3C, 3D (New Substation 1); 345_Import_3E, 3F (new Lynx substation); and 765_Import_2B, 2D, 2E (new 765/345-kV Big Hill substation).
- 22. CPS Energy is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following project, identified by upgrade ID: 765_Import_3A.
- 23. STEC is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following project, identified by upgrade ID: L15 (upgrades to STEC's existing double-circuit Bakersfield–Schneeman Draw 345-kV transmission line).
- TNMP is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: L4 (Faulkner substation); L5C; L5G (Faulkner 345/138-kV substation); L6; L8 (Trans Pecos Tap and 138-kV transmission line); L12; L13A; L13B; L13D; L13E; L13F; L13G; and 345_Import_4D (Bottlebrush substation).

Joint Projects with Shared TSP Designation

- Oncor and LCRA TSC are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: 765_Import_2E; 765_Import_2D; 345_Import_3C; and 345_Import_2B.
- 26. Oncor and Lone Star are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following project, identified by upgrade ID: 345_Import_2A.
- 27. Oncor and WETT are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following project, identified by upgrade ID: Import_A2.
- 28. Oncor and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: L7C (Creosote-to-Toyah Creek 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); and L27B (Sterling County-to-Chalk 69-kV to 138-kV conversion).
- 29. Oncor and TNMP are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: L3 and L5F.
- 30. LCRA TSC and TNMP are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following project, identified by upgrade ID: L13C.
- 31. LCRA TSC and Garland are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, identified by upgrade IDs: L14A (add a second circuit to the Bakersfield–Nevill Road 345-kV transmission line); L14B (add a second circuit to the Nevill Road–North McCamey 345-kV transmission line); 345_Import_2C (Twin Buttes–King Mountain 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); 345_Import_3D (New Substation 1 Nevill Road 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); and 345_Import_3F (Nevill Road–Lynx 345-kV double-circuit transmission line).
- 32. LCRA TSC and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following project, identified by upgrade ID: L30B (Pandale-to-Stockman 138-kV tie).
- 33. TNMP and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: L4 (Faulkner-to-Cryo 138-kV single-circuit transmission line); L5G (Solstice-to-Faulkner 345-kV double-circuit

transmission line); and 345_Import_4D (Bottlebrush-to-Solstice 345-kV double-circuit transmission line).

- 34. TNMP and CPS Energy are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following projects, listed by upgrade ID: 345_Import_4A;
 345_Import_4B; 345_Import_4C; and 345_Import_4E.
- 35. CPS Energy and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following project, identified by upgrade ID: 765_Import_3C.
- 36. Garland and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following project, identified by upgrade ID: L7B (King Mountain-to-Creosote 345-kV double-circuit transmission line).
- 37. Unless otherwise specified by written agreement between the affected TSP parties, the following ownership structures will apply for joint projects, according to project description:
 - a. for upgrades of existing facilities, ownership of upgrades will remain consistent with current facility ownership; and
 - b. where applicable, projects will be split into separate and discrete equal parts, in accordance with PURA § 37.056.
- 38. Projects requiring joint CCN applications must, in accordance with Commission practice, designate the precise location of ownership division (including identifying the location and ownership of the dividing structure, where applicable) in the CCN proceeding before issuance of the Commission's final order approving the project and its route.

Expectations Regarding Projects Requiring or Not Requiring CCN Amendments

- 39. On February 14, 2025, each TSP party filed a statement of position as to whether a CCN amendment is currently expected for the project(s) for which the TSP asserts ownership rights.
- 40. On February 20, 2025, the following TSP parties jointly filed a planned CCN filing schedule for certain projects identified in the Reliability Plan: Oncor, WETT, AEP Texas, Garland, LCRA TSC, Lone Star, CPS Energy, and TNMP.

- 41. On March 14, 2025, all parties other than ERCOT filed a joint proposed order, which reflects their positions regarding projects currently expected to require CCN amendments. ERCOT does not oppose the proposed order.
- 42. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in Oncor's filings in this proceeding, Oncor currently expects that it will be required to file a sole or joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L1B, L1C, L2C, L3, L5D, L5E, L5F, L7C (Creosote-to-Toyah Creek 345-kV double-circuit transmission line), L16A, L16B, L16C, L20D, L20F, L25D, 345_Import_1B, 345_Import_1C, 345_Import_1D, 345_Import_1E, 345_Import_1F, 345_Import_2A, 345_Import_2B, 345_Import_3A, 345_Import_3C, Import_A2, 765_Import_1D, 765_Import_1E, 765_Import_2D, and 765_Import_2E.
- 43. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in Oncor's filings in this proceeding, Oncor currently expects that it will not be required to file an application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for its sole or joint responsibility for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L1A, L1D, L2A, L2B, L5A, L5B, L17, L18, L19, L20A, L20B, L20C, L20E, L20G, L20H, L20I, L21A, L21B, L22A, L22B, L22C, L22D, L22E, L22F, L23, L24A (except for upgrades to LCRA TSC's existing Bitter Creek station), L24B, L25A, L25B, L25C, L25E, L27B, 345_Import_1A, 765_Import_1A, 765_Import_1B, 765_Import_1C, 765_Import_2A, and 765_Import_2C.
- 44. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in WETT's filings in this proceeding, WETT currently expects that it will be required to file a joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: Import_A2.
- 45. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in AEP Texas's filings in this proceeding, AEP Texas currently expects that it will be required to file a sole or joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L4 (Faulkner to Cryo 138-kV single-circuit transmission line); L5G (Solstice to Faulkner 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); L7B (King Mountain to Creosote 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); L7C (Creosote to Toyah Creek 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); L26 (add a second circuit to the existing

Bluff Creek to Abilene Mulberry Creek 345-kV line); L28 Big Lake to 900052 138-kV transmission line); L30B (Pandale to Stockman 138-kV transmission line); 345_Import_4D (Bottlebrush to Solstice 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); and 765_Import_3C.

- 46. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in AEP Texas's filings in this proceeding, AEP Texas currently expects that it will not be required to file an application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for its sole or joint responsibility for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L4 (new load bus 900108 and Cryo substation); L5G (Solstice substation); L7A (Creosote 138-kV substation and Creosote 345/138-kV substation); L7B (Creosote 345/138-kV substation); L7C (Creosote 345/138-kV substation); L8 (Creosote 138-kV substation); L9A (Ft. Stockton switch 138-kV substation and Ft. Stockton switch 345/138-kV substation); L9B (Solstice station, Ft. Stockton switch 345/138-kV substation); L10; L11; L26 (Bluff Creek station, Mulberry Creek station, upgrade of Bluff Creek-to-Mulberry Creek 345-kV transmission line); L27A; L27B; L27C; L28 (Big Lake station and new load bus 900052); L29; L30A; L30B (Pandale station); 345_Import 4D (Solstice station); and 765_Import_3B.
- 47. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in Garland's filings in this proceeding, Garland currently expects that it will be required to file a sole or joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L7B (King Mountain–Creosote 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); L14A (add a second circuit to the Bakersfield–Nevill Road 345-kV transmission line); L14B (add a second circuit to the Nevill Road–North McCamey 345-kV transmission line); 345_Import_2C (Twin Buttes–King Mountain 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); 345_Import_3D (New substation–Nevill Road 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); and 345_Import_3F (Nevill Road–Lynx 345-kV double-circuit transmission line).
- 48. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in Garland's filings in this proceeding, Garland currently expects that it will not be required to file a sole or joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for its sole or joint responsibility for

the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L7B (King Mountain station); L14A (Nevill Road station and upgrade the existing Bakersfield–Nevill Road 345-kV transmission line); L14B (Nevill Road station and upgrade the existing Nevill Road–North McCamey 345-kV transmission line); 345_Import_2C (King Mountain station); 345_Import_3D (Nevill Road station); and 345_Import_3F (Nevill Road station).

- 49. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in LCRA TSC's filings in this proceeding, LCRA TSC currently expects that it will be required to file a sole or joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L13C; L14A; L14B; 345_Import_2B; 345_Import_2C; 345_Import_3C; 345_Import_3D; 345_Import_3F; 765_Import_2D; 765_Import_2E; and possibly L30B (Pandale-to-Stockman 138-kV tie).
- 50. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in LCRA TSC's filings in this proceeding, LCRA TSC currently expects that it will not be required to file an application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for its sole or joint responsibility for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L15 (upgrade of existing Bakersfield, Cedar Canyon, Noelke, and Schneeman Draw stations); L24A (upgrade of existing Bitter Creek station); L30B (new Stockman station); 345_Import_3B, 3C, 3D (New Substation 1); 345_Import_3E, 3F (new Lynx substation); and 765_Import_2B, 2D, 2E (new 765/345-kV Big Hill substation).
- 51. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in Lone Star's filings in this proceeding, Lone Star currently expects that it will be required to file a joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for the following Reliability Plan projects, identified by upgrade ID: 345_Import_2A.
- 52. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in CPS Energy's filings in this proceeding, CPS Energy currently expects that it will be required to file a sole or joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for the following Reliability Plan projects, identified by upgrade ID: 765_Import_3C; 345_Import_4B; and 345_Import_4C.
- 53. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in CPS Energy's filings in this proceeding, CPS Energy currently expects that it will not be required to file an application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for its sole or joint responsibility for the

following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: 345_Import_4A; 345_Import_4E; and 765_Import_3A.

- 54. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in STEC's filings in this proceeding, no CCN amendment is required for STEC's Reliability Project, identified by upgrade ID: L15 (upgrading STEC's existing double-circuit Bakersfield-Schneeman Draw 345-kV transmission line), because the upgrade will be completed under 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 25.101(c)(5)(B) regarding routine activities without the need for, or use of, additional rights-of-way.
- 55. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in TNMP's filings in this proceeding, TNMP currently expects that it will be required to file a sole or joint application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L3; L4; L5F; L5G; L13C; L13D; 345_Import_4B; 345_Import_4C; and 345_Import_4D.
- 56. Based on the evidence and arguments presented in TNMP's filings in this proceeding, TNMP currently expects that it will not be required to file an application with the Commission seeking approval to amend its CCN for its sole or joint responsibility for the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L5C; L6; L8; L12; L13A; L13B; L13E; L13F; L13G; 345_Import_4A; and 345_Import_4E.
- 57. The TSP parties have reasonably identified the Reliability Plan projects which they currently expect will require, and which projects they currently expect will not require, a CCN application filing.

Good Cause Exception

58. It is appropriate to consider the proposed order at the earliest open meeting available; therefore, good cause exists to waive the requirement in 16 TAC § 22.35(b)(2) that a proposed order be served on the parties at least 20 days before the Commission is scheduled to consider the proposed order in an open meeting.

Informal Disposition

59. More than 15 days have passed since the completion of notice provided in this docket.

- 60. Commission Staff, Oncor, WETT, AEP Texas, Garland, LCRA TSC, Lone Star, CPS Energy, STEC, TNMP, and ERCOT are the only parties to this proceeding.
- 61. No person filed a protest.
- 62. No party requested a hearing and no hearing is necessary.
- 63. Commission Staff recommended approval of the application.
- 64. This decision is not adverse to any party.

II. Conclusions of Law

The Commission makes the following conclusions of law.

- 1. The Commission has authority over this matter under PURA §§ 14.001 and 39.166–.167.
- 2. Oncor, WETT, AEP Texas, LCRA TSC, Lone Star, and TNMP are public utilities as defined in PURA § 11.004(1) and electric utilities as defined in PURA § 31.002(6).
- Garland and CPS Energy are municipally owned utilities as defined in PURA § 11.003(11) and 16 TAC § 25.5(71), as well as transmission service providers as defined in 16 TAC § 25.5(141).
- 4. STEC is an electric cooperative as defined in PURA § 11.003(9) and a transmission service provider as defined in 16 TAC § 25.5(141).
- 5. Commission Staff provided notice of the petition that complies with 16 TAC § 22.55.
- 6. The TSP parties that are solely or jointly responsible for the Reliability Plan projects identified in this Order will, subject to the Commission's grant of a CCN amendment if required under Chapter 37 of PURA, have the rights to construct, own, and operate those projects, in accordance with PURA § 37.056.
- 7. All Reliability Plan projects identified in this Order, including those for which CCN amendment applications are not expected to be required, remain subject to the requirements under Chapter 37 of PURA requiring the grant of certificates of convenience and necessity for qualifying transmission facilities.

- The Commission processed this docket in accordance with the requirements of PURA, the Administrative Procedure Act,⁷ and Commission rules.
- 9. There is good cause under 16 TAC § 22.5(b) to grant an exception to the 20-day notice requirement in 16 TAC § 22.35(b)(2).
- 10. The requirements for informal disposition in 16 TAC § 22.35 have been met in this proceeding.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

In accordance with these findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Commission issues the following orders.

- The Commission approves the assignment to various TSPs the responsibility to own, construct, and operate the undisputed Reliability Plan projects, subject to any applicable CCN filing requirements, to the extent described in this Order.
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, Oncor is solely responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L1A; L1B; L1C; L1D; L2A; L2B; L2C; L5A; L5B; L5D; L5E; L16A; L16B; L16C; L17; L18; L19; L20A; L20B; L20C; L20D; L20E; L20F; L20G; L20H; L20I; L21A; L21B; L22A; L22B; L22C; L22D; L22E; L22F; L23; L24A (except for upgrades to LCRA TSC's existing Bitter Creek station); L24B; L25A; L25B; L25C; L25D; L25E; 345_Import_1A; 345_Import_1B; 345_Import_1C; 345_Import_1D; 345_Import_1E; 345_Import_1A; 765_Import_1A; 765_Import_1C; 765_Import_1C; 765_Import_1E; 765_Import_2A; and 765_Import_2C.
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, Oncor and LCRA TSC are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: 765_Import_2E; 765_Import_2D; 345_Import_3C; and 345_Import_2B.

⁷ Tex. Gov't Code §§ 2001.001-.903.

- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, Oncor and Lone Star are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: 345_Import_2A.
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, Oncor and WETT are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: Import_A2.
- 6. Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, Oncor and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L7C (Creosote-to-Toyah Creek 345-kV double-circuit transmission line) and L27B (Sterling County-to-Chalk 69-kV to 138-kV conversion).
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, Oncor and TNMP are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L3 and L5F.
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, LCRA TSC is solely responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade IDs: L15 (upgrade of existing Bakersfield, Cedar Canyon, Noelke, and Schneeman Draw stations); L24A (upgrade of existing Bitter Creek station); L30B (new Stockman station); 345_Import_3B, 3C, 3D (New Substation 1); 345_Import_3E, 3F (new Lynx substation); and 765_Import_2B, 2D, 2E (new 765/345-kV Big Hill substation).
- 9. Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, LCRA TSC and TNMP are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: L13C.
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, LCRA TSC and Garland are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade IDs: L14A (add a second circuit to the Bakersfield--Nevill Road 345-kV transmission line); L14B (add a second circuit to the Nevill Road-North McCamey 345-kV transmission line); 345_Import_2C (Twin Buttes--King Mountain 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); 345_Import_3D (New Substation 1-Nevill Road 345-kV)

double-circuit transmission line); and 345_Import_3F (Nevill Road-Lynx 345-kV double-circuit transmission line).

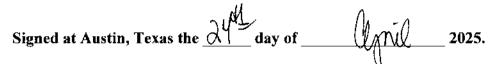
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, LCRA TSC and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: L30B (Pandale-to-Stockman 138-kV tie).
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, TNMP is solely responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L4 (Faulkner substation); L5C; L5G (Faulkner 345/138-kV substation); L6; L8 (Trans Pecos Tap and 138-kV transmission line); L12; L13A; L13B; L13D; L13E; L13F; L13G; and 345_Import_4D (Bottlebrush substation).
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, TNMP and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L4 (Faulkner-to-Cryo 138-kV single-circuit transmission line); L5G (Solstice-to-Faulkner 345-kV double-circuit transmission line); and 345_Import_4D (Bottlebrush-to-Solstice 345-kV double-circuit transmission line).
- 14. Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, TNMP and CPS Energy are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: 345_Import_4A; 345_Import_4B; 345_Import_4C; and 345_Import_4E.
- 15. Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, CPS Energy is solely responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: 765_Import_3A.
- 16. Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, CPS Energy and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: 765_Import_3C.
- 17. Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, Garland is solely responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L7B (King Mountain station); L14A (Nevill Road Station and upgrade the existing Bakersfield-Nevill Road 345-kV transmission line); L14B (Nevill Road station

and upgrade the existing Nevill Road-North McCamey 345-kV transmission line); 345_Import_2C (King Mountain station); 345_Import_3D (Nevill Road station); and 345_Import_3F (Nevill Road station).

- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, Garland and AEP Texas are jointly responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: L7B (King Mountain-to-Creosote 345-kV double-circuit transmission line).
- Subject to any applicable CCN filing requirement, AEP Texas is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan projects, listed by upgrade ID: L4 (new load bus 900108 and Cryo substation); L5G (Solstice substation); L7A (Creosote 138-kV substation and Creosote 345/138-kV substation); L7C (Creosote 345/138-kV substation); L8 (Creosote 138-kV substation); L9A (Ft. Stockton switch 138-kV substation and Ft. Stockton switch 345/138-kV substation); L9B (Solstice station, Ft. Stockton switch 345/138-kV substation, and loop the existing Solstice-Bakersfield 345-kV double-circuit line into the new Ft. Stockton Switch 345-kV Substation); L10; L11; L26; L27A; L27B (Sterling County station); L27C; L28; L29; L30A; L30B (Pandale station); 345_Import 4D (Solstice station); and 765_Import_3B.
- 20. STEC is the sole TSP responsible for the construction, ownership, and operation of the following Reliability Plan project, identified by upgrade ID: L15 (upgrades to STEC's existing double-circuit Bakersfield-Schneeman Draw 345-kV transmission line), and the Commission authorizes STEC to implement this upgrade project to increase the line's capacity as required by the Permian Basin Reliability Plan.
- 21. The authorizations in this Order for the 345-kV and 765-kV import path projects remain subject to the Commission's conditions for such authorizations as identified in ordering paragraph 4 of its Order Approving the Reliability Plan for the Permian Basin Region filed on October 7, 2024, in Project No. 55718.
- 22. The Commission is not determining in this proceeding that any of the Reliability Plan projects identified in this Order do not require a CCN amendment.

- 23. The TSPs that are solely or jointly responsible for the Reliability Plan projects in accordance with this Order are authorized to file CCN applications for those projects, to the extent they are required to do so under Chapter 37 of PURA.
- 24. If a TSP subsequently determines that it is required to file a CCN application for a project that it identified in this proceeding as one for which a CCN application was not expected, it must report that determination to the Commission in Project No. 57151.⁸
- 25. If a TSP subsequently determines that it is not required to file a CCN application for a project that it identified in this proceeding as one for which a CCN application was expected, it must report that determination to the Commission in Project No. 57151.
- 26. TSP parties may subsequently agree, in accordance with PURA § 37.056, to apportion responsibilities for project construction, ownership, or operation that differ from those identified in this Order, but the relevant TSP parties must report that agreement to the Commission in Project No. 57151.
- 27. The Commission grants a good-cause exception under 16 TAC § 22.5(b) to the requirement in 16 TAC § 22.35(b)(2) that a proposed order be served on all parties no less than 20 days before the Commission is scheduled to consider the application in open meeting.
- 28. The Commission denies all other motions and any other requests for general or specific relief that have not been expressly granted

⁸ Oversight of Completion of the Permian Basin Reliability Plan, Project No. 57151 (pending).



PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

THOMAS J. GLEESON, CHAIRMAN

LEEN JACKSON, COMMISSIONER KATÍ

Courtney K. H. H. H. H. H. COMMISSIONER

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