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**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-25-22942
PUC DOCKET NO. 58264**

APPLICATION OF AEP TEXAS INC.	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
TO AMEND ITS CERTIFICATE OF	§	
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR	§	OF
THE ARANSAS PASS-TO-GREGORY	§	
138-KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN SAN	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
PATRICIO COUNTY	§	

**COMMISSION STAFF’S RECOMMENDATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE
COMPLETENESS AND NOTICE**

On July 2, 2025, AEP Texas Inc. (AEP Texas) filed an application to amend its certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) for the Aransas Pass-to-Gregory 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in San Patricio County.

On July 8, 2025, the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) administrative law judge (ALJ) filed SOAH Order No. 1, requiring the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) to file comments on the sufficiency of the application and sufficiency of AEP Texas’ proposed notice by July 23, 2025. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

I. RECOMMENDATION ON SUFFICIENCY OF APPLICATION

Staff has reviewed the application and, as detailed in the attached memorandum from Eduardo Acosta of the Engineering Division, recommends that the application be found sufficient for further processing. This recommendation does not address the merits of the application.

II. RECOMMENDATION ON SUFFICIENCY OF NOTICE

On July 17, 2025, AEP Texas filed an affidavit attesting to the provision of notice of the application as required under 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 22.52(a). Staff has reviewed AEP Texas’ proof of notice documents and, as supported by Mr. Acosta’s attached memorandum, recommends that AEP Texas’ direct and published notices included all required information and were provided in compliance with the requirements of 16 TAC § 22.52(a). Therefore, Staff recommends that AEP Texas’ notice be found sufficient.

III. CONCLUSION

Staff respectfully requests the entry of an order consistent with the foregoing recommendations.

Dated: July 23, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

Marisa Lopez Wagley
Division Director

Andy Aus
Managing Attorney

/s/ Arnett D. Caviel
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, notice of the filing of this document will be provided to all parties of record via electronic mail on July 23, 2025, in accordance with the Second Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

/s/ Arnett D. Caviel
Arnett D. Caviel

Public Utility Commission of Texas

Memorandum

TO: Arnett Caviel
Legal Division

FROM: Eduardo Acosta
Infrastructure Division

DATE: July 23, 2025

RE: Docket No. 58264, *Application of AEP Texas, Inc. to Amend Its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for the Aransas Pass to Gregory 138-kV Transmission Line in San Patricio County*

On July 2, 2025, AEP Texas, Inc. (AEP Texas) filed an application to amend its certificate of convenience and necessity to replace the existing Aransas Pass to Gregory 69-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in San Patricio County, Texas (Project), with a double-circuit capable 138-kV concrete and steel structure transmission line to address reliability of transmission service needs in this area due to increasing load growth. The Project will be constructed between the existing AEP Texas Gregory 69/138-kV Substation and the existing AEP Texas Aransas Pass 138-kV Substation. The new 138-kV capable transmission line will be between approximately 1.65 and 1.96 miles in length, depending on the Alternative Route approved, and will require a 100-foot-wide right-of-way (ROW).

I have reviewed the Application for deficiencies and the affidavits of notice for compliance with the notice requirements.

Application Sufficiency

- I have reviewed the Application and additional documents submitted by AEP Texas on July 2, 2025, and found no material deficiencies. Therefore, I find the Application sufficient.

Compliance of Notice

- I have reviewed the notices sent to the landowners, utilities, county and municipal authorities, the Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse, Office of Public Utility Counsel and the Texas Parks and Wildfire Department. These notices were included with the Application as Attachments 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 as well as the proof of notice filed on July 17, 2025. I found no material deficiencies in the proof of notice or in the Application. The title of the PUC brochure for notice was recently updated from "Guide for Landowners Affected by a New Electric Transmission Line Route" to "Landowners and Transmission Line Cases at the PUC", AEP Texas used the previous version. However, the content of both versions of the brochure are the same.

- I have reviewed the newspaper notice that was included with the Application as an Attachment and the proof of published notice filed on July 17, 2025. I found no material deficiencies with the newspaper notice.

Recommendation Regarding Application Sufficiency and Compliance of Notice

- I recommend that AEP Texas's Application be deemed sufficient, and the mailed and published notices be deemed compliant with the notice requirements of 16 TAC § 22.52(a).