

BRENT HINCKLEY Mayor
JOHN PALACIO CITY ADMINISTRATOR
PATTIE GROTE City Secretary
P.O. Box 68
124 Moody Street
Mason, TX 76856



Commissioners:
JARED CARTER District 1
ANNA VELEZ District 2
BOB VACEK District 3
WILLIAM BEATY, JR District 4

RECEIVED
JUL 16, 2010
Chairman's Office

July 13, 2010

Public Utilities Commission of Texas
Chairman Barry T. Smitherman
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Ref: Docket No. 37049

Dear Chairman Smitherman,

Enclosed is a signed Resolution of the Mason City Commission that states our local opposition to any routing of this transmission line through Mason County as identified in this Docket. We sincerely believe that this route would have a grave and negative impact on the natural beauty and environment of the Texas Hill Country, and would significantly harm the property values and economic viability of our community. We appreciate the consideration of these issues by the members of the Public Utility Commission and staff, as you evaluate the proposals of LCRA-TSC for this transmission route in the coming weeks.

We sincerely request that the Public Utilities Commission consider the necessity for this line in the electric grid for Texas and verify that the transmission of the generation capacity of the West Texas wind farms cannot be met through other means. We believe that the burden of this transmission line within our community and through our County will have considerable negative impacts on the scenic heritage, economic development and the environmental integrity, and we ask that you seriously consider these impacts on our County and throughout the Hill Country before coming to a decision that will be with us for generations to come. If additional time is necessary to gather the complete information to make a wise decision, I encourage you to delay any presentations and commitments so that all factors can be carefully considered.

I appreciate your consideration of the concerns of the citizens of Mason County and the City of Mason as you evaluate the proposals of LCRA-TSC when they file their application for this transmission line.

Sincerely,

Brent Hinckley, Mayor City of Mason

RESOLUTION # 10-261

WHEREAS, the State of Texas is pursuing an aggressive strategy to increase the electricity generating capacity from renewable energy technologies, and a plan was developed by the Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUC) to construct transmission capacity to deliver power from the designated Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) to electric customers in the metropolitan areas; and,

WHEREAS, the PUC has selected the Lower Colorado River Authority Transmission Service Corporation (LCRA TSC) to construct and operate the McCamey D to Kendall transmission line with a possible routing through Mason County which would impact property and commerce in Mason; and,

WHEREAS, the Mason City Commission recognizes that such a project will have a significant detrimental impact on the environment, historical and cultural values, along with an adverse effect on our local economy; and,

WHEREAS, the land, rivers, natural habitat and aesthetic beauty of Mason County constitute one of the most scenic and unspoiled counties in the State of Texas, and this natural beauty would be forever altered and damaged by the construction of such a transmission line; and,

WHEREAS, the Mason City Commission recognizes that individual private property rights are one of the fundamental rights set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America; and,

WHEREAS, the route crossing Mason County has a negative impact on every factor identified in Texas Utilities Code, Chapter 37 that guides the PUC in granting a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity based on factors such as: "community values; recreational and park areas; historical and aesthetic values; environmental integrity; the probable improvement of service or lowering of cost to the consumers in the area if the certificate is granted" and therefore the CCN should not be granted for this routing; and,

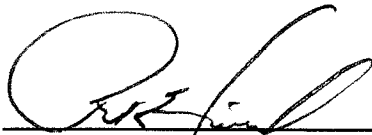
WHEREAS, the Public Utility Commission approves the final route of the proposed LCRA TSC transmission line, and there has been significant public input and concern about this project and possible routing of the line; now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this day, the 12th of July, 2010 the Mason City Commissioners have considered and strongly opposes the McCamey D-Kendall 345KV transmission line alternative through Mason County and requests that the Public

Utilities Commission consider the following in reaching a decision or giving further direction to LCRA TSC in actions affecting this specific CREZ transmission route:

- A. Verify that ERCOT planning staff have thoroughly reevaluated the need for this transmission route in meeting the goals of the CREZ Transmission project, and that the renewable energy generation capacity in West Texas will require this increased transmission load in addition to all other transmission capabilities,
- B. Use as a primary consideration of route selection the principal that Condemnation or the threat of Condemnation should not be used by LCRA TSC. Private property rights must be respected, and transmission lines should only be located on property where the owners voluntarily enter into agreements with LCRA TSC at fair market value.
- C. Recognize and give significant consideration to the burden on all affected local communities and private landowners of the reduction in property values, the negative impacts on economic development and tourism, and the considerable adverse effect upon the scenic beauty and environmental integrity of the Hill Country and specifically those areas least corrupted by development and expanding populations.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 12TH DAY OF JULY, 2010.



Brent Hinckley, Mayor City of Mason



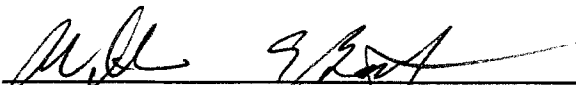
Jared Carter, Commissioner District 1



Anna Vetez, Commissioner District 2

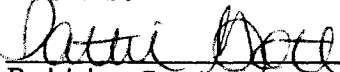


Bob Vacek, Commissioner District 3



William Beaty, Commissioner District 4

ATTEST:



Pattie Grote, City Secretary