

BYRON THEODOSIS
COUNTY JUDGE

KIM WELLS
DISTRICT AND COUNTY CLERK

OTIS JUDKINS
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RICKEY LUSTY
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2

KENLEY KROLL
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3

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COUNTY ATTORNEY



COUNTY OF SAN SABA
SAN SABA, TEXAS 76877

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LESUF DAWSON
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

GUILFORD L. JONES III & DAN V. MILLS
DISTRICT JUDGE

SAM OATMAN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FRED HARDY
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Resolution # 2009-07

Resolution Concerning Appropriate Transmission Line Route
From Brown to Newton County

WHEREAS, the State of Texas is pursuing an aggressive strategy to increase the electricity generating capacity from renewable energy technologies; and

WHEREAS, the San Saba County Commissioners Court supports the pursuit of renewable energy sources and recognizes the need to deliver the energy to market; and

WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Commission of Texas ("PUC") has tasked ONCOR with finding an appropriate transmission line route from Brown to Newton; and

WHEREAS, a plan was developed by the Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUC) to construct transmission capacity to deliver generated power from the five designated Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ's) to electric customers in the metropolitan area, said plan containing massive structures and transmission lines that might cross over portions of San Saba County; and

WHEREAS, the PUC has selected the to construct and operate and segments of the transmission line plan that might be located in San Saba County; and

WHEREAS, the specified the use of lattice structures in its bid to the PUC, and that such lattice structures have a huge footprint and will maximize the negative visual impact and economic consequences of the transmission lines in our beautiful, Hill Country County; and

WHEREAS, reasonable straight-line segments between the two terminals do not cross the relatively undeveloped and wild and scenic Colorado River which bounds San Saba County north and east; and


WHEREAS, the San Saba County Commissioners Court encourages San Saba County residents to make their public comments concerning the routing of the CREZ right-of-way directly; and


WHEREAS, San Saba County Commissioners Court strongly encourages citizens within 500 feet to give comment to ONCOR and the PUC prior to the October 2009 deadline.


WHEREAS, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this day, the 28th of September, 2009, San Saba County Commissioners Court has consolidated the various opinions of our San Saba Citizens, and the Court wishes to express this both to ONCOR and the Public Utility Commission.


1. That the PUC and ONCOR recognize and abide by the fact that the greater public good for citizens and ratepayers of the State of Texas is accomplished by choosing the relative straightest path which never crosses the wild Colorado River and bypasses San Saba County; and
2. That many of our citizens are extremely concerned with health issues that may result, or increase over time from the operation of a 345 KV transmission line in the proximity of their homes or businesses; and
3. That, if a route were to be selected that crosses San Saba County, that land owners be fully compensated for their easements for the construction and operation of a transmission line, including some future consideration based on an incremental value of the transmission line, production, or some other criteria; and
4. That San Saba County Commissioners Court urges the PUC and ONCOR to respect the input of the citizens of Central Texas, to act as responsible stewards of our Texas landscape, and to help us maintain the beauty and integrity of our environment by burying all transmission lines underground that will cross San Saba County in developed, populated, historical, watershed and recreational areas, as part of the CREZ transmission line plan and by minimizing the visual impacts to the maximum extent possible; and
5. That the San Saba County Commissioners Court urges the PUC and ONCOR to adopt rules dictating that any and all 345 KV transmission lines constructed through San Saba County now must maintain a minimum distance of 1,400 feet from the centerline of the proposed route or easement to any existing habitable structure and/or its surrounding buildings and structures; and
6. That the use of monopoles be part of any plan as an alternative to lattice structures; and
7. That existing right of way be used to reduce the impact on the natural landscape of San Saba County; and
8. That any route selected should consider the long term negative impact on ecotourism, and be planned to minimize the loss of value of property, tourism, and aesthetics of Our Texas Hill Country; and
9. For PUC and ONCOR to consider public comment as an extremely high priority in the selection or development of any transmission route or plan choice that goes through San Saba County.


PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 28TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2009.


Byron Theodosios, Judge


Otis Judkins, Commissioner Pct. 1


Kenley Kroll, Commissioner Pct. 3


Rickey Lusty, Commissioner Pct. 2


Roger McGehee, Commissioner Pct. 4

Attest: 
Kim Wells, County Clerk