

Comments in Docket No. 37448

If you want to be a PROTESTOR only, please complete this form. Although public comments are not treated as evidence, they help inform the PUC and its staff of the public concerns and identify issues to be explored. The PUC welcomes such participation in its proceedings.

Mail this completed form and 10 copies to:

Public Utility Commission of Texas
Central Records Attn: Filing Clerk
1701 N. Congress Ave.

P.O. Box 13326 Austin,
TX 78711-3326

First Name: _____ Last Name: Save Our Scenic Hill Country Environment, Inc.

Phone Number: 830-685-3063 Fax Number: 830-685-3063

Address, City, State: 10212 Ranch Road 965, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

I am NOT requesting to intervene in this proceeding. As a PROTESTOR, I understand the following:

- I am NOT a party to this case;
- My comments are not considered evidence in this case; and
- I have no further obligation to participate in the proceeding.

Please check one of the following:

- I own property with a habitable structure located near one or more of the utility's proposed routes for a transmission line.
- One or more of the utility's proposed routes would cross my property.
- Other. Please describe and provide comments. You may attach a separate page, if necessary.

Save Our Scenic Hill Country Environment, Inc. (SOSHCE), an organization based in Gillespie and surrounding counties with more than 500 members, strongly protests LCRA TSC's planned predominate use of lattice tower structures and continued ordering of lattice materials. The Hill Country is recognized as being a uniquely scenic part of the state by LCRA TSC as well as residents and visitors. LCRA TSC acknowledges that landowners, organizations and public officials have demanded that the aesthetic impacts of the project be minimized and that monopoles be utilized in general rather than lattice structures. There are precedents that clearly indicate monopoles can and should be utilized in this area. The PUC has recognized that monopole structures have reduced visual impact and lessened aesthetic and economic degradation relative to lattice structures. Even if monopoles are more costly, the price is extremely small compared to the visual impact and accompanying loss in property values caused by the permanent scarring that will occur in the Hill Country. The consumers outside of this area that will get most of the benefit should be expected to at least help reduce the negative impacts. Underground transmission lines should be utilized in especially unique areas for the very short distances that would be involved. LCRA TSC should be ordered to immediately stop the ordering of lattice structure materials, particularly with the recent delays in the CCN filing dates for other LCRA TSC projects. Additional information and related letters SOSHCE sent to the PUC and LCRA TSC are attached.

Signature of person submitting comments :

R. M. Weatherford

Robert M. Weatherford, President

Date: 12/23/09