

Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Re: Opposition to the Howard–Solstice 765-kV Transmission Line and Request for Additional Time to Consider Routing Alternatives

Dear Governor Abbott,

I am writing to express my opposition and concern to the proposed routing of the Howard-Solstice 765-kilovolt transmission line through areas of the Texas Hill Country and West Texas. I strongly oppose any transmission routes that cut through pristine river basins, intact ranchlands, and sensitive groundwater resources that define this region.

The Hill Country and Southwest Texas contain some of the most ecologically significant and economically valuable landscapes in our state. These areas support working, multi-generational ranches; tourism and recreation economies; wildlife corridors; and critical water resources. The permanent fragmentation caused by large-scale transmission infrastructure would result in irreversible harm to landowners, rural communities, and natural systems.

Given the unprecedented size and long-term consequences of this project, I respectfully urge you to use your power to slow the approval process and allow additional time to evaluate alternative routing options. The following Representatives and Senators: Rep. Wes Virdell, Rep. Eddie Morales, Jr., Rep. Don McLaughlin, Rep. Drew Darby, Rep. Ken King, Rep. Charlie Green, Rep. Brad Buckley, Rep. Stan Lambert, Sen. Roland Gutierrez, Sen. Pete Flores, Rep. Charles Cunningham, Rep. David Cook, Rep. Harris Davila, Rep. James Frank, Rep. Richard Hayes, Rep. Hillary Hickland, Rep. Janis Holt, Rep. Carrie Isaac, Rep. Jeff Leach, Rep. Terri Leo Wilson, Rep. Shelly Luther, Rep. Brent Money, Rep. Matt Morgan, Rep. Tom Oliverson, Rep. Kersa Richardson, Rep. Joanne Shofner, Rep. Valoree Swanson, Rep. Ellen Troxclair, Rep. Cody Vasut, Rep. Terry Wilson and Rep. Chip Roy of Congress, have expressed their concerns with letters to PUCT requesting to slow the process down. Local government agencies in many affected counties have also expressed their concern by filing Resolutions via Commissioner's Court and River Authorities and Groundwater Districts. The Public Utility Commission needs time for a more deliberate review to allow for meaningful public engagement and thoughtful consideration of additional transmission route links that better align with existing infrastructure and avoid sensitive river basins and aquifer recharge zones. Please consider requesting a special session to address this major project with our Representatives and Senators.

Thousands of Texans like myself are concerned about the impact of these lines to our land, livelihood and future. We are coming to you as constituents asking for your help. These transmission lines will forever change and impact the future of all residents in Texas.

Texas can meet its energy reliability needs without sacrificing its most iconic landscapes and water resources. Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the State of Texas.

Sincerely,