

A/R



January 24, 2025

Transmitted via email: countyjudge@burnetcountytexas.org

Burnet County
220 S. Pierce Street
Burnet, Texas 78611

Re: *Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC's and LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's proposed Bell County East Switch (Oncor) – Big Hill Substation (LCRA TSC) 765 kV Transmission Line*

Dear :

Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) and LCRA Transmission Services Corporation (LCRA TSC) are evaluating the construction of a new 765 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between the expansion of Oncor's existing Bell County East Switch, located 5.5 miles southeast of the City of Temple in Bell County, to a new LCRA TSC 765 kV Big Hill Substation that will be located in close proximity to LCRA TSC's existing Big Hill Substation located 13 miles northeast of the City of Eldorado in Schleicher County, Texas (the "Project"). Please refer to the attached map depicting the Project study area, endpoints, and regional road network and landmarks relative to the endpoints.

The Permian Basin Reliability Plan, which was approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) on October 7, 2024, contains numerous reliability projects, including five 345 kV import paths and, as an alternative option, three 765 kV import paths (one of which is the subject of this letter). Currently, ERCOT is considering the benefits of 765 kV elements being part of the Texas electric grid. However, the decision has not yet been made whether to move the electric grid towards a 765 kV backbone or to continue with 345 kV. As a result, the PUC ordered transmission service providers, like Oncor and LCRA TSC, to begin routing efforts for all Permian Basin import path projects while the voltage options are being considered. Once the decision has been made, Oncor and LCRA TSC will continue with the projects that they were jointly assigned that are in line with the decision made by state leadership – either this 765 kV project or the LCRA TSC-Oncor designated joint 345 kV import path projects identified in the Permian Basin Reliability Plan.

The Permian Basin Reliability Plan is the State's largest undertaking of new transmission projects since the Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) plan in 2010-2013. The Permian Basin Reliability Plan may, in fact, be larger than the CREZ plan, with over 4,000 miles of new transmission lines currently being considered. Accordingly, you may have already received and/or could receive additional letters relating to other Oncor or LCRA TSC Permian Basin Reliability Plan projects or other projects involving other transmission providers that request information from your agency/office.

Oncor and LCRA TSC are sponsoring an Environmental Assessment and Alternative Route Analysis to support a joint application to amend their Certificates of Convenience and Necessity to add the new transmission line. On behalf of Oncor and LCRA TSC, Kimley-Horn and Halff are currently gathering data on the existing environment and identifying environmental land use constraints within the study area for use in creating an environmental and land use constraints map. Oncor's and LCRA TSC's team will identify potential alternative routes that consider environmental and land use constraints.

We are requesting that your agency/office provide information concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest to your agency/office within the study area. Your comments will be an important consideration in the assessment of potential impacts. If your jurisdiction has approvals and/or permits that could apply to this Project, please identify them in response to this inquiry. If permits are or may be required from your office, Oncor and LCRA TSC will contact your office following Project approval by the PUC.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (682) 207-5952. Electronic data or responses may also be shared at BelCountyEast-BigHill@kimley-horn.com. We would greatly appreciate your response by **February 14, 2025**. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this Project.

Sincerely,

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Jones".

Julie Jones, P.E.
Attachment – Map of the Project Study Area

Halff Associates, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Marusak".

Russell Marusak

