# ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY LLC AND LCRA TRANSMISSION SERVICES CORPORATION PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETINGS FOR THE PROPOSED BIG HILL – SAND LAKE 765 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Monday, June 9, 2025

#### **BIG LAKE**

Reagan County High School
Cafeteria
1111 East 12th Street
Big Lake, Texas

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

# **MCCAMEY**

McCamey 4-H and Community Center 18001 U.S. Highway 67 McCamey, Texas

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

#### **PECOS**

Reeves County Civic Center 1300 S. Cedar Street Pecos, Texas

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Welcome and thank you for taking the time to attend this Public Participation Meeting for Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC (Oncor) and LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's (LCRA TSC's) proposed Big Hill – Sand Lake 765 kilovolt (kV) transmission line project (Project).

For Oncor and LCRA TSC to continue to provide safe and reliable electric service in this area, a new 765 kV transmission line is needed. The Project would connect a new LCRA TSC 765 kV Big Hill Substation, located in close proximity to LCRA TSC's existing Big Hill 345 kV Substation 13 miles northeast of the City of Eldorado in Schleicher County, Texas, and the expansion of Oncor's existing Sand Lake Switch, located 6 miles northeast of the City of Pecos in Ward County, Texas. The Proposed Transmission Line Project is currently planned for completion in summer 2030.

The purpose of this Public Participation Meeting is to present information, receive ideas and comments, and answer questions about the Project. The questions and answers below provide general information about the Project. There are subject matter stations with associated exhibits located around the room. Oncor and LCRA TSC representatives, as well as representatives from Oncor and LCRA TSC's environmental and routing consultants, Kimley-Horn and Associates (Kimley-Horn) and Halff Associates, Inc. (Halff), and Oncor's and LCRA TSC's property abstractor, Integra Realty Resources (Integra), are located at each station and can provide answers to specific questions about the Project. Oncor, LCRA TSC, Kimley-Horn, Halff, and Integra representatives are subject-matter experts who can provide information concerning their respective areas of expertise as they relate to the Project. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to talk with the various representatives.

The stations are arranged in a particular order that is designed to give a better understanding of the Project and the planning, development, and approval processes. We recommend that you visit the stations in order, spending as much time as you need at each station to ensure that we can answer your questions and address any concerns you may have. However, please feel free to visit the stations in the order of your choice based on the issues important to you. Since this is an informal, "come-and-go" format, there may be times when one particular exhibit is crowded. We will make every attempt to answer your questions in a timely manner.





#### Who is Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC?

Oncor is an electric transmission and distribution utility regulated by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT). Oncor constructs, owns, and operates power lines that move electric power between different points of the electric transmission and distribution system, connecting electric power producers with electric power consumers. Oncor does not own power plants and does not buy or sell electric power. Oncor operates the largest transmission and distribution system in Texas, providing power to more than 3.7 million electric delivery points over more than 139,000 miles of transmission and distribution lines. Oncor operates in a service area that covers portions of East, West, and North Central Texas, serving more than 408 communities and 98 counties.

#### Who is LCRA Transmission Services Corporation?

LCRA TSC is a nonprofit electric utility that provides safe, reliable and environmentally responsible electric transmission services in Texas. LCRA TSC's transmission lines and substations play a vital role in the transmission of electricity between power generation plants and local electric service providers. LCRA TSC owns or operates more than 5,400 miles of transmission lines, about 430 substations and a System Operations Control Center. Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) staff operate and maintain those facilities for LCRA TSC, which provides wholesale transmission services to customers across South, West and Central Texas.

#### What does the transmission system do?

The electric transmission system is a network of transmission lines, switching stations, and substations. Transmission lines transport high-voltage electricity from power generation facilities to substations, where the electricity is converted to a lower voltage. Distribution lines then transport that electricity to residences and businesses.

In order for Oncor and LCRA TSC to provide safe and reliable electric service, they must work with other utilities and state organizations to ensure that the electric transmission network is designed in such a way that the temporary loss of a power generation plant, a substation, or a transmission line will not result in a major electrical outage. For example, without appropriate planning and subsequent system improvements, damage to a single transmission line due to incidents such as tornadoes, lightning, ice storms, or equipment failure could result in significant disruptions to the delivery of electricity.

# Why must a new transmission line be constructed in this area?

The Project is one of numerous reliability projects identified in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas' (ERCOT) Permian Basin Reliability Plan, which was recently approved by the PUCT. Electric demand, or "load," on the transmission system in West Texas continues to grow as the area experiences increases in oil and gas production and related activities. The addition of new load places strain on the transmission grid, which can impact electric service reliability. A new 765 kV transmission line is needed to accommodate load growth and mitigate reliability issues identified by Oncor, LCRA TSC, and ERCOT. The Project will help to address those issues by connecting Oncor's existing Sand Lake Switch and LCRA TSC's new 765 kV Big Hill Substation. In addition to addressing previously identified reliability concerns, the Project will increase import capacity to move power efficiently to and from West Texas and improve Oncor's and LCRA





TSC's ability to serve new and existing customers. The location of the Project is shown on the attached map.

# What is the approximate location of the proposed transmission line?

The locations of the preliminary route segments currently being evaluated for the Project are shown on the attached map. Your input will help us fully evaluate these preliminary route segments. Once the routing options for the transmission line are fully reviewed and evaluated, the final route segments and resulting routes will be included in Oncor and LCRA TSC's joint application to the PUCT to for approval to construct, own, and operate the Project, which is referred to as application to amend their respective certificates of convenience and necessity (CCNs). The application will be submitted to the PUCT for approval of the need of the Project and selection of a final end-to-end route from among the numerous proposed alternatives. Upon their submission, all routes and route segments included in the CCN amendment application will be available for selection and approval by the PUCT.

#### How long will the transmission line be?

The proposed transmission line will be approximately 195-270 miles long, depending on the route that is ultimately approved by the PUCT.

# What type of transmission structures will be used?

Oncor and LCRA TSC continually evaluate different transmission structure types to select structures that satisfy specific project requirements. These evaluations consider factors such as transmission line voltage, double or single circuit, cost, physical location, and characteristics of the surrounding land area, to name a few. For the Project, Oncor and LCRA TSC have chosen a self-supporting, steel lattice tower structure. A representative drawing of this type of structure is attached.

#### Who will benefit from the new transmission line?

The completion of the Project will benefit all customers and wholesale market participants in the ERCOT region of Texas, including your community. The Project will improve the electric system and enhance reliability to allow Oncor and LCRATSC to continue providing the reliable electric service consumers expect, as well as adding necessary transmission capacity to support the continuing development and economic growth of communities in these areas. The Project will also add necessary transmission capacity to support the continuing development and economic growth of Crane, Crockett, Irion, Pecos, Reagan, Reeves, Schleicher, Tom Green, Upton, and Ward Counties.

# Will environmental studies be conducted to determine the impact of the Project?

Yes. Kimley-Horn and Halff, well-respected environmental consulting and engineering firms located in Fort Worth and Richardson, Texas, are preparing an Environmental Assessment and Routing Analysis to support Oncor and LCRA TSC's joint application for CCN amendments from the PUCT. The Environmental Assessment and Routing Analysis will assess the potential impacts of the Project on existing environmental and land uses.





# How can property owners or other interested persons find out additional information regarding the status of the Project and the results of the certification process?

There are several ways members of the public can: (1) be made aware of Oncor and LCRA TSC's filing of their application at the PUCT; (2) participate or provide comments in the certification process; (3) monitor the proceeding as it progresses; and (4) help determine the PUCT's actions regarding the Project.

First, a written notice will be provided (via first-class mail) to any property owner whose land is crossed by a proposed route for the Project as part of Oncor and LCRA TSC's formal application to the PUCT to construct the Project. In addition, a written notice will be provided (via first-class mail) to any property owner who has a habitable structure within 500 feet of the centerline of the Project. In accordance with rules of the PUCT, property ownership for this notice is determined by reviewing the appropriate County Tax Appraisal District records.

Second, public notice of the application filing for the Project will be published in newspaper(s) of general circulation within the appropriate counties in the week following the filing of the application at the PUCT.

Once the application is filed, further information about the application and the proceedings at the PUCT can be obtained on the PUCT's online filings Interchange. The PUCT website provides free access to documents that are filed with the PUCT regarding the Project. The docket number of a case (also called a control number on the PUCT website) is a key piece of information used in locating documents filed in association with the application. You can access the Interchange by visiting the PUCT's website home page at www.puc.texas.gov.

Interested persons who are impacted by the Project can further elect to become involved in an application proceeding before the PUCT as an "intervenor." An intervenor is a person who demonstrates a legal interest that permits them to become a party to the proceeding. Such legal interests may include, among others, having a property crossed by a proposed route, or having a home within a certain distance of a proposed route. Intervenors in the proceeding can make legal arguments, conduct discovery, file testimony, and crossexamine witnesses. If an intervenor provides testimony, they may also be subject to crossexamination by the other parties in the case. For more information and rules about PUCT's participating as an intervenor, please visit the website https://www.puc.texas.gov/agency/rulesnlaws/participate.aspx.

If an interested person does not wish to fully participate as an intervenor in this proceeding, they may instead chose to participate as a "commentor." Commentors are not formal parties to the case and would not conduct discovery, cross-examine witnesses, or present a direct case. Commentors can, however, make a written or verbal statement for the record in support of or in opposition to the CCN application or a particular routing issue or other issue in the proceeding, or otherwise provide information to the PUCT staff that they believe may be helpful. If a person intends to be a protestor, they can either send written comments stating their position or views, or if the process progresses to a formal hearing, a statement can be made on the record at the hearing, as allowed and directed by the





presiding official. Although public comments are not sworn and, therefore, are not treated as evidence, they help to inform the PUCT and its staff of the public's views and identify issues to be explored. The PUCT welcomes such participation in its proceedings.

Finally, if the Project is approved by the PUCT, another written notice (via first-class mail) will be sent to the property owners who were previously provided formal notice of the filing of the application. This final notice will inform property owners that a Final Order has been issued by the PUCT and either (1) that their property is affected by the selected route, or (2) that their property is no longer subject to a proceeding at the PUCT.

# When will construction of the proposed transmission line begin?

Before construction can begin, Oncor and LCRA TSC must seek and receive approval from the PUCT. A description of this process, along with typical time frames for each step of the process, is provided in the attached document titled **Licensing Process for New Transmission Facilities**. Based on an in-service date of summer 2030, it is anticipated an application for the Project will be filed at the PUCT in December 2025, which, if approved in a timely manner, would allow construction to begin in summer 2027.

#### If I have additional questions following this meeting, who should I contact?

Additional information concerning this and other Oncor and LCRA TSC transmission line projects can be obtained at the following websites: <a href="www.oncor.com/transmissionprojects">www.oncor.com/transmissionprojects</a> or <a href="www.lcra.org/BHSL">www.lcra.org/BHSL</a>. You may also contact the project managers for this project, Mr. Miguel Alvarado at Oncor by phone at (214) 486-3560 or by email at <a href="mailto:transmissionprojects@oncor.com">transmissionprojects@oncor.com</a>, or Ms. Kelly Wells at LCRA TSC by phone at 512-578-1446 or by email at <a href="mailto:BHSL@LCRA.org">BHSL@LCRA.org</a>.

Thank you again for attending this Public Participation Meeting!



