

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Electric Utility Defines Project

- Conduct research and review studies to determine need.
- Identify needed facilities and end points of the project.

Electric Utility Conducts Environmental Assessment and Routing Analysis

- Establish study area based on project definition.
- Gather data about study area and map environmental and land use constraints in study area.
- Determine preliminary transmission line segments.
- Hold open house to gather public input.
- Analyze data and feedback from the public to develop primary transmission line routes, including multiple alternatives.
- Prepare an Environmental Assessment Report.

Electric Utility Applies for CCN Amendment

- Submit application to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) to amend Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN).
- Send notices to landowners whose properties may be crossed or who own a habitable structure within 500 feet of route alternatives at the time CCN application is filed.
- Send notices to municipalities and electric utilities within five miles of the project and to local government entities where the project will potentially be located.

Public Participation

- After the CCN application is filed, people who are potentially impacted by the project have an opportunity to participate in the application proceeding at the PUC by filing a request to participate (intervene) within 45 days.
- If no parties intervene in the proceeding, the PUC staff conducts a review and issues a recommendation to the PUC.
- If parties have intervened in the proceeding, testimony may be filed, an administrative hearing may be held, and an administrative law judge will prepare a recommendation to the PUC regarding the application.

PUC Decision

- Within 6 months of the CCN application filing, the PUC will approve or deny the application, or approve it with modifications.
- PUC approval directs the electric utility to build the new transmission line along the route selected by the PUC.