



## **Filing Receipt**

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**Item Number - 729**

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**Date: 4/19/26**

Public Utility Commission of Texas  
William B Travis Building  
1701 N Congress Avenue, Suite 7-110  
Austin, TX 78701

**RE: Protest Letter Against Oncor & LCRA Bell County East to Big Hill 765kV Transmission Project (Docket 59475)**

Dear Chairman Gleeson and Commissioners,

Thank you for your service to our state and for your continued commitment to protecting Texas communities from irresponsible infrastructure projects.

I am writing today to express my **protest** against the Bell County East to Big Hill 765kV transmission project proposed by Oncor and LCRA.

I retired in 2020 after a career as a Business Analyst in Austin, purchased property in Burnet County in 2021, and moved into my forever home in the scenic Texas Hill Country in 2022. My property overlooks the historic Cloudwood Ranch.

Not only does the proposed project bring no benefit to our area, it also poses serious risks, including the following:

- It will permanently mar the scenic and historic Hill Country landscape, which is an irreplaceable part of our county's identity.
- The proximity to homes, like mine, raises safety, health, and quality-of-life concerns for families who have built their lives here.
- It will destroy historic ranches (like Cloudwood Ranch), archaeological sites, and valuable cultural resources that help define the legacy of our region.
- The economic impacts, including decreased property values, reduced county tax revenue, and increased costs from road degradation during construction will all impact me personally.
- And safety concerns, including increased wildfire risk and the loss of the safe airspace needed for EMS helicopter access during emergencies is concerning.

Given the magnitude of these concerns, and the overwhelming **lack of public support**, I respectfully request that you **deny** any future applications for amendment to the current CCN for this project.

Thank you again for your time and dedication to our state. I appreciate your consideration on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Brian J Smith