



Control Number: 40000



Item Number: 625

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December 4, 2013

Public Utilities Commission of Texas
Re: PUCT Project No. 40000
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, TX 78711

2013 DEC 18 AM 11:00
PUBLIC UTILITY COUNCIL
FILING CLERK

Dear Commissioner,

As a Church leader, it is my responsibility to understand the needs of my congregation. One of these needs is reliable and affordable energy. Recently, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) has predicted a possible shortage of energy due to a decline in operating reserves. According to ERCOT this decline in operating reserves, coupled with the population and economic growth puts the reliability of energy in Texas in jeopardy.

Simply put, the state's rising electricity demand will outstrip electricity supply and generation in the near future. Experiencing rolling brown outs or black outs would be devastating for the members of my congregation. Similarly, increased and volatile electricity costs put each member of my fellowship's financial security in jeopardy.

The Public Utility Council (PUCT) is currently considering reforms to the power market in order to avoid this coming energy shortage. The PUCT commissioned a comprehensive study that came to the conclusion that significant reforms to the power market were needed. I am not an energy expert, but I urge the Commission to make reforms that will ensure long term reliability and ease pricing volatility. We need to anticipate future needs and maintain stability in pricing, which will allow my congregation to be certain that the state's electric grid will work them now, and in the future, as the state continues to grow.

I support the Commission's recent decision to require a mandatory reserve margin as a first step toward long term, reliable electricity. Protecting the life of patients is my primary concern, and, simply put, there is absolutely no reason our services should be compromised due to low electricity reserves.

I strongly hope that Texas seizes this opportunity and continues to provide reliable energy to all its residents.

Sincerely,



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CC:

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Rep. Byron Cook
Rep. Helen Giddings
Sen. Kirk Watson
Sen. Troy Frasier

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst
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