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**Student
Focus
Education
Consultants**

2013 DEC 18 AM 11:00

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
FILING CLERK

November 25, 2013

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

Dear Commissioner:

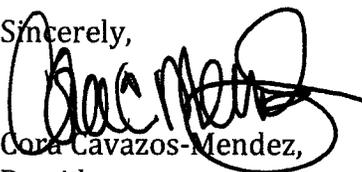
As demand for electricity continues to grow, the level of planning reserves for electricity is expected to dwindle in the upcoming years. I side with Commissioners Donna Nelson and Brandy Marty who seek a solution to this growing problem, as thin electricity margins dramatically increase the threat of rate spikes and rolling blackouts during times of peak demand. Running out of electricity when Texans need it is unacceptable, and both the public and private sectors count on the 100 percent reliability of the grid. Electricity is a base function that powers all businesses and public services alike, and the threat of electrical shortages is an issue that greatly threatens our prosperous economy.

As someone in education, I understand the importance of innovation and reliability. My job as an educational consultant is to inspire innovation for our state's future problem-solving needs. The State of Texas is currently at a crossroads when it comes to the future reliability of our electric grid—a problem that, the majority of our PUC agrees, is of paramount importance to the state and must be addressed.

Texas needs to stay committed to innovation and reliability in the energy market. Without these necessary reforms, our state runs the risk of being "left in the dark" figuratively and literally. Adopting a mandatory reserve margin will help ensure a bright future for Texas.

I implore you take swift and smart action in the electricity market. Implementing a mandatory power reserve margin is a good first step in securing the future reliability of the electricity market in Texas, and the transition to a capacity market will have positive ripple effects felt throughout the Texas economy.

Sincerely,



Cora Cavazos-Mendez,
President

CC: Governor Rick Perry
Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst
Rep. Byron Cook
Rep. Helen Giddings
Sen. Kirk Watson
Sen. Troy Frasier

Rep. Sylvester Turner
Sen. John Carona
Sen. Larry Taylor
Speaker Joe Straus

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