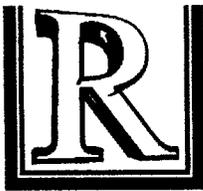


Control Number: 40000



Item Number: 622

Addendum StartPage: 0



Law  
Offices  
of

Janeri Jael Rivero

November 21, 2013

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

2013 DEC 18 AM 10:59  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
FILING CLERK

Dear Commissioner:

As a small business owner, I have been closely following the debate surrounding our waning energy supply. I understand first hand, the importance of reliable and affordable energy for a small business. It is no secret that Texas has led the way in business development during the recession. As a result of this success we have seen an increase in population and economic development in Texas. This is a positive for our state but does create new problems, specifically in the energy market.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) has recently predicted that a decline in operating reserves will threaten the long-term reliability of the Texas power supply. The Texas energy market faces future concerns regarding reliability, as demand for power will continue to increase. Simply put, the state's rising electricity demand will outstrip electricity supply and generation in the near future.

In 2012, the PUCT commissioned a comprehensive analysis of the conditions facing the state's electricity market. They concluded, in no uncertain terms, that if the State of Texas hopes to maintain reliability and bring online enough new generation and load resources to meet energy demand in the years to come, then market reforms are essential.

Recently, the Public Utility Commission of Texas held a hearing to discuss revising the state's wholesale electricity market in a manner that better prepares for a future of growing electricity demand. A majority of the Commission expressed their intent to require a mandatory power reserve margin so that electricity supply is there when demand is highest. Commissioners Donna Nelson and Brandy Marty should be applauded for supporting this. Without action, rising electricity demand is on pace to outstrip our current system's capacity for producing energy, leaving the state vulnerable to business-killing blackouts and rate spikes during periods of particularly high demand.

There is no better time than right now for Texas to reform the energy market and provide the necessary improvements needed to meet the growing demand of power across the state. We hope that the Public Utility Commission of Texas will take advantage of this great opportunity to ensure that Texas has the electricity reserves to "keep the lights on" moving forward.

Sincerely,

  
Janeri Jael Rivero,  
Attorney

CC: Governor Rick Perry  
Rep. Byron Cook  
Rep. Sylvester Turner  
Rep. Helen Giddings  
Sen. John Carona  
Sen. Kirk Watson  
Sen. Larry Taylor  
Speaker Joe Straus  
Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst

622