

### **1. What will happen if SOAH sides with Oncor? What are the next steps?**

If the SOAH Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) side with Oncor, the ALJs will issue a Proposal for Decision (PFD) recommending approval of the project and routing for the 765-kV line. The parties can then file objections (called “Exceptions”) to the PFD, pointing out legal or factual errors in the PFD. The PFD then goes to the PUC, which makes the final decision on whether the project meets the statutory requirements. The PUC Commissioners can adopt, modify, or reject SOAH’s recommendation – and will issue a Final Order based on their decision. After the PUC issues a final order, any party to the hearing has the opportunity to challenge the PUC’s decision in court.

So – in summary – even if SOAH rules in Oncor’s favor, the case is far from over.

### **2. If SOAH rules in favor of Oncor, is this fight over?**

No. A SOAH ruling is an important step, but it is not the final word. The PUC must still decide whether Oncor has satisfied the legal standards, including whether the project is necessary and represents the most reasonable solution for reliability.

Even after a PUC decision, there will be additional avenues for rehearing and appealing to district court. So this is a multi-stage process, and we will continue to advocate for solutions that best serve Texas landowners.

### **3. Why should this fight matter to every Texan?**

Because the 765-kV transmission line project makes no sense whatsoever—and it will cost ratepayers a fortune and trample property rights through condemnation in the process.

The project will build three massive 765-kV lines—none of which have *ever* been built in Texas—to move electricity from east Texas to the Permian Basin in west Texas. The Permian Basin is the most energy rich area not just in Texas, but in the United States and probably the world. It makes no sense to build these massive towers through the Hill Country and west Texas to the most energy rich place on the planet at the cost of billions of dollars. If more electricity is actually needed in the Permian Basin (which is debatable), build the generation facilities there! Obviously, there is plenty of energy in the Permian Basin to fuel the generators and then distribution can be handled locally.

As we have said, *this is akin to hauling water to the ocean*. These proposed transmission lines would permanently impact landowners’ property, yet the decision is being rushed in just 180 days. Texas landowners and ratepayers deserve a process that safeguards communities, defends property rights, and does not waste billions on a boondoggle project hauling water to the ocean.