

**TEXAS SCORECARD**Robert Montoya <rmontoya@texasscorecard.com>

Media Inquiry—Bell County Line

Ellie Breed <ellie.breed@puuc.texas.gov>

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To: Robert Montoya <rmontoya@texasscorecard.com>

Robert, answers to your questions below.

Thanks!

All transmission projects under the Permian Basin Reliability Plan follow the PUCT's standard application and review process. This process is outlined in the flowchart I'm attaching to this email as well as on the PUCT's PBRP webpage: [Permian Basin Reliability Plan](#).

Notice to Landowners

Per PUCT rules, public and landowner notification is the responsibility of the utility that applies for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) for a new transmission line. Any notification materials a landowner or member of the public receives are from the utility managing the project, and questions about specific routes should be directed to the utility.

[PUCT Rule §22.52](#) outlines the specific notice requirements utilities must meet in detail. Utilities must host public informational meetings and invite affected landowners, publish notice in newspapers in affected counties, and notify all affected landowners by mail on the date the application is filed.

Intervention Deadlines and Public Participation

Once an application has been filed with the PUCT, all members of the public have the option to protest or request to intervene. Requests to intervene must be filed within 30 days of the application being filed with the PUCT, per [§22.104](#). Per state law, the PUCT has 180 days from the date an application is filed to review and approve, modify, or deny it.

The Bell County East to Bill Hill transmission line application was filed with the PUCT on March 26, 2026, which means all members of the public have until Monday, April 27 to file a request to intervene.

The PUCT strongly encourages Texans to fully participate in our decision making and planning process for transmission line route selection. Public input is critical. We have many ways for Texans to have a voice and be a part of the process online, in-person, and through traditional mail. Texans can:

- File protests
 - Oppose proposed routes
 - Propose reasons for/against certain proposed routes
 - Suggest alternative routes.
- Apply to be an intervenor
- Personally address commissioners during the public speaking period at regularly scheduled open meetings, [calendar here](#)
- Request assistance from the PUCT's Office of Public Engagement (OPE, <https://www.puc.texas.gov/agency/about/ope/>)

More information on how to participate is on our PBRP webpage: [Permian Basin Reliability Plan](#)

Factors Considered When Selecting a Final Route

By statute, the PUCT has 180 days from the date an application for a transmission project is filed to review the application, which includes proposed routes, and approve, modify, or deny it. This process involves a full legal hearing before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH), where participating parties can introduce evidence, provide testimony, and cross-examine witnesses.

PUCT Commissioners consider a number of factors when ultimately selecting a final route for the project:

- The number of affected habitable structures
- The adequacy of existing service and need for additional service
- Recreational and park areas
- Community values
- Historical and aesthetic values
- Environmental integrity

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Public participation for New Transmission Facilities (1) (1).png
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