## **Texas Wildlife Association**

"Working for tomorrow's wildlife ... TODAY!"

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July 14, 2010

The Honorable Barry T. Smitherman, Chairman Public Utility Commission of Texas Central Records P.O. Box 13326 Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Re: Re-evaluation of all CREZ line segments impacting Texas, requesting delay in CCN pending re-evaluation.

Dear Mr. Smitherman:

The Texas Wildlife Association (TWA) and its 6,000 members are landowners, land managers, hunters and conservationists who own or control over 35 million acres of private land in Texas. We are writing to express our grave concern over the proposed routes of LCRA transmission lines through the Hill Country. TWA strongly recommends the Commission react to concerns of landowners and locally affected communities across Texas and re-evaluate proposed CREZ lines and delay issuance of CCNs until the re-evaluations have been completed.

For example, it is our understanding that the July 15, 2010 Public Utility Commission agenda will discuss Hill Country segments and consider re-evaluation. We encourage commissioners to vote to re-evaluate the three LCRA TSC CREZ segments that will impact the Hill Country, including McCamey D to Kendall, Kendall to Gillespie, and Gillespie to Newton (we understand that a review has already been requested in this case). We would also request the Commission delay the projected July 28, 2010 CCN filing date for the LCRA TSC CREZ McCamey D to Kendall to Gillespie project until the re-evaluation of the need has been completed. We believe this provides greater efficiencies in process, will reduce cost and would be based on re-evaluation of the need.

Indeed, the process itself is confusing for potentially impacted landowners and local communities, and it has created a huge amount of anxiety across Texas. Providing a reevaluation of the need for all proposed CREZ lines would be a tremendous good faith effort on the part of the Commission to demonstrate that the concerns of rural Texans are being heard and acted upon.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and we sincerely hope that you will seriously consider our recommendations during your deliberations. If you need any further information or wish to discuss recommendations, please feel free to call at 210/213-2805 or email to k\_brown@texas-wildlife.org.

Sincerely,

Kirby Brown

Vice President for Public Policy