



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 14, 2008

Commissioner Barry Smitherman
Commissioner Paul Hudson
Commissioner Julie Parsley
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Dear Commissioners:

We write to express our support for building the maximum level of new transmission infrastructure necessary for Texas to tap into the vast renewable energy sources in our great state. Texas is growing rapidly, and our energy infrastructure is not keeping pace with growing demand. This causes exorbitant electricity rates for countless North Texans tethered to power generated with skyrocketing fossil fuels. We ask that you act boldly to diversify our energy supplies.

North Texans are very concerned about high energy prices. They want more affordable sources of electricity and new alternatives to \$4 gasoline such as plug-in hybrid vehicles. Many are very concerned about air quality, climate change issues and future water supplies. Additionally, a growing number of Texans want to start careers or own businesses specializing in new energy technologies. It is our belief that rapid deployment of renewable energy is an essential component of Texas' long-term energy solution.

Further development of the vast wind and solar fields of West Texas (or new combustion-based power plants located outside the airshed of our population centers) will require greatly expanded transmission infrastructure. While our constituents will largely pay for these new transmission lines, they will also be the primary beneficiaries of reduced energy costs and reduced pollution. The numbers that we have seen from ERCOT show that, even under Scenario 2, spending \$1 billion per year for new transmission lines will result in more than \$3 billion per year in reduced power costs to consumers. This is a very good investment for our constituents, even without considering the enormous environmental and economic development benefits that many Texans value dearly.

Because we share your concern of ensuring that our electric system is safe and reliable, it was of great reassurance to know that ERCOT stated that it can and will maintain system reliability under any of the CREZ scenarios you are considering.

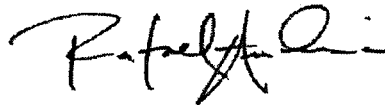
For these reasons, we ask that your commission ensure Texas a continued leadership role in meeting the challenges of transitioning to the diverse energy system of the future by adopting CREZ Scenario 3.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our letter and your leadership on these critical issues.

Sincerely,



Lon Burnam
State Representative
House District 90



Rafael Anchia
State Representative
House District 103



Brian McCall
State Representative
House District 66



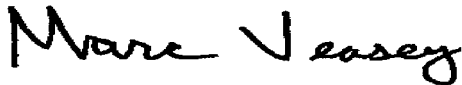
Jim Pitts
State Representative
House District 10



Allen Vaught
State Representative
House District 107



Dan Barrett
State Representative
House District 97



Marc Veasey
State Representative
House District 95



Paula Pierson
State Representative
House District 93