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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 17, 2010

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SENATOR FRASER ANNOUNCES GILLESPIE-NEWTON TRANSMISSION LINE UNNECESSARY

Senator Troy Fraser (R-Horseshoe Bay) announced on Tuesday that the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) has determined that the Gillespie to Newton transmission line is not necessary to solve congestion problems as part of the Competitive Renewable Energy Zone project.

"I am pleased that Chairman Barry Smitherman asked ERCOT to determine if the Gillespie to Newton project was still needed as part of the CREZ project," said Fraser. "By taking another look at this project and finding other options we have also reduced the cost to the ratepayers."

In re-evaluating the Gillespie to Newton CREZ line, ERCOT was able to solve the north-south congestion issues that the line was planned to alleviate by making minor adjustments to the existing transmission grid.

"The decision by the Public Utility Commission last April to reject the original filing on this project was the right one," said Fraser. "It is imperative that the state takes the time to get these decisions right."

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Senator Troy Fraser (R - Horseshoe Bay) represents 21 counties in the geographic center of Texas. He serves as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and sits on the Senate Committees on Business & Commerce, State Affairs, Nominations, and International Relations and Trade.