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Blumenthal Substation and 138-kV Transmission Line Project

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Hill Country Alliance Landowner Workshop
Fredericksburg, Texas
September 6, 2014

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Outline

1. **Project Overview**
2. **Project Status**
3. **Next Steps**
4. **Route Evaluation**
5. **PUC Process**
6. **Questions - cards**

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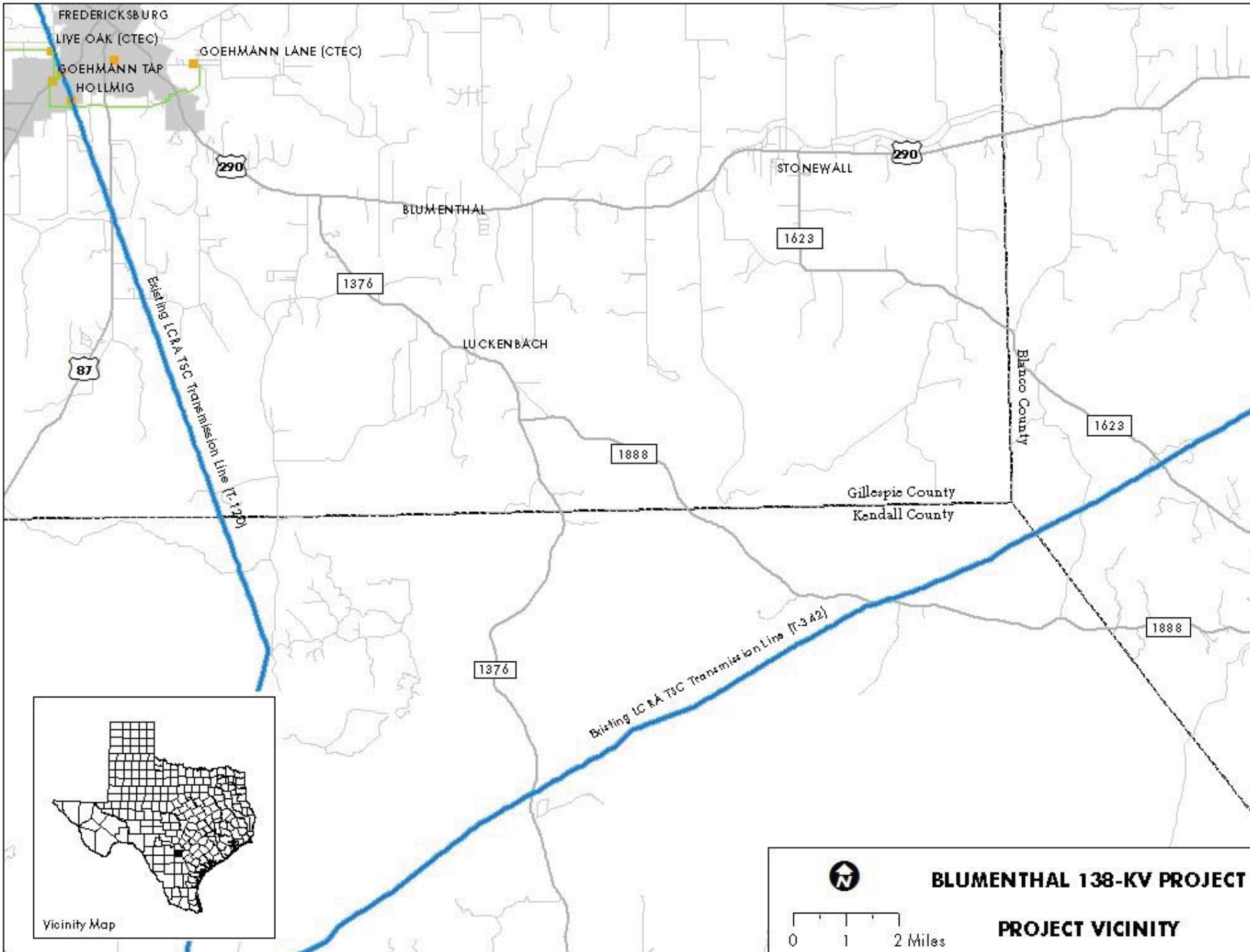
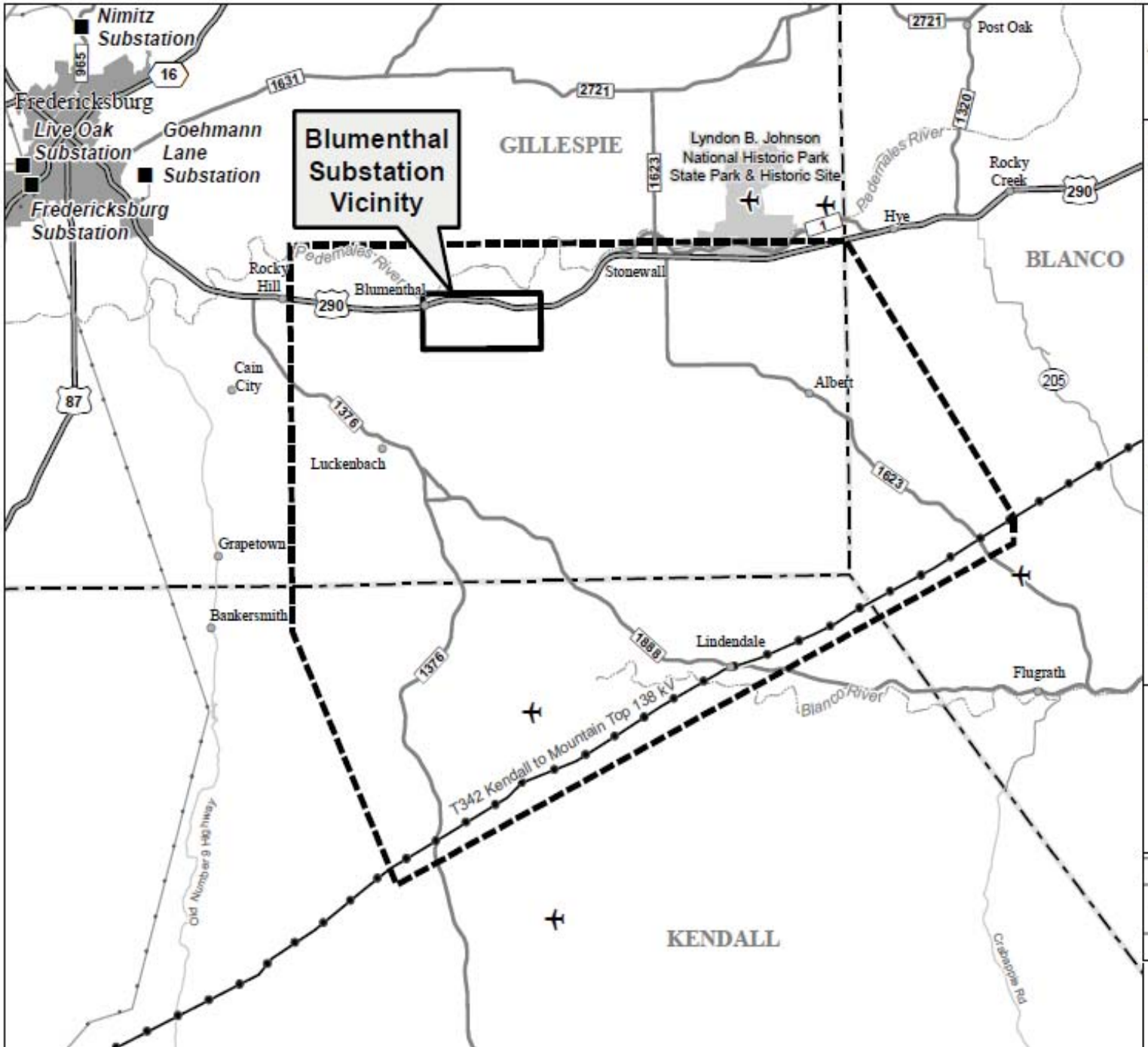
Blumenthal Project Overview

- The Issue
  - Distant substation
  - Distribution lines
  - Electrical load
- Project Components
  - New substation
  - New 138-kV transmission line
- Project Need
  - Electric load growth
  - Meet current and future needs


FREDERICKSBURG
LIVE OAK (CTEC)
GOEHMANN LANE (CTEC)
GOEHMANN TAP
HOLLMIG
290
BLUMENTHAL
STONEWALL
290
1623
1376
LUCKENBACH
87
Existing LCRA TSC Transmission Line (F-3429)
Blanco County
1623
1888
Gillespie County
Kendall County
1888
1376
Existing LCRA TSC Transmission Line (F-3429)
Vicinity Map
BLUMENTHAL 138-KV PROJECT
PROJECT VICINITY
0
1
2 Miles



Blumenthal Substation and 138-kV Transmission Line Proje

Study Area

Legend

Project Components

- Study Area Boundary
- New Substation Vicinity
- Existing Project Transmission Line

Existing Utilities

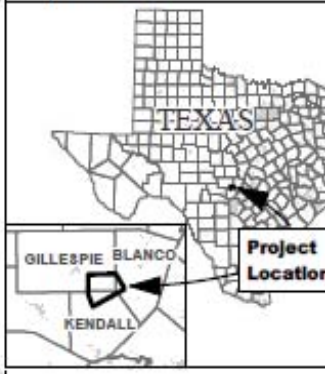
- Existing Substation
- Existing Transmission Line

Administrative Boundaries

- County Boundary
- Town or Community
- City
- State or National Park

Transportation

- Interstate Highway
- US Highway
- State Highway
- Farm to Market Road
- County Road
- Local Road
- Airstrip



0 1 2 3 4

Miles

Project Overview

Single circuit 138-kV

Pole or H-frame or Lattice Structures

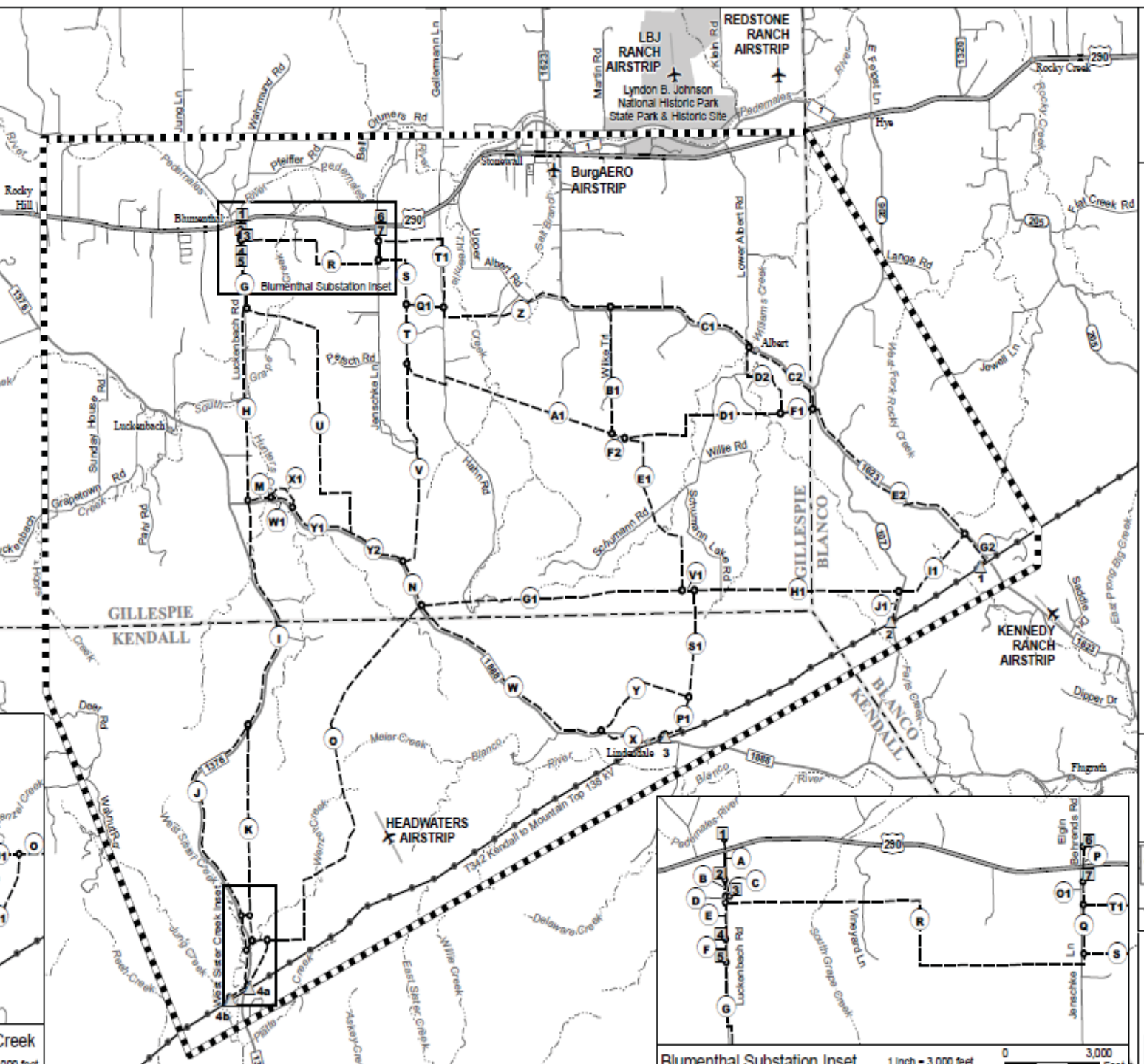
50-125 ft. tall

80-130 ft. ROW

600-1,000 ft. spans

Pre Open House Activities

- Study Area Identification
- Data Collection
- Constraint Mapping
- Preliminary Routes
- Open House – May 15
  - Public Input



Preliminary Alternative Route Segments

Blumenthal Substation and 138-kV Transmission Line Project

Project Components

- Preliminary Alternative Route Segment, Node And Label
- Project Substation Alternative
- Project Tap Point Alternative
- Existing Project Transmission Line
- Study Area Boundary

Administrative Boundaries

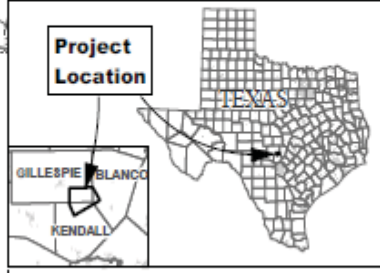
- County Boundary
- Town or Community
- State or National Park

Transportation

- US Highway
- Farm to Market Road
- County Road
- Local Road
- Airstrip

Water Features

- River or Stream



0 1.5 3

Miles

1 In = 1.5 miles

Date: 4/16/2014

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Public Open House – May 15

Inform Public

Data Collection

Post Open House Activities

Synthesize Public Input

Landowner discussions

Refine Routes

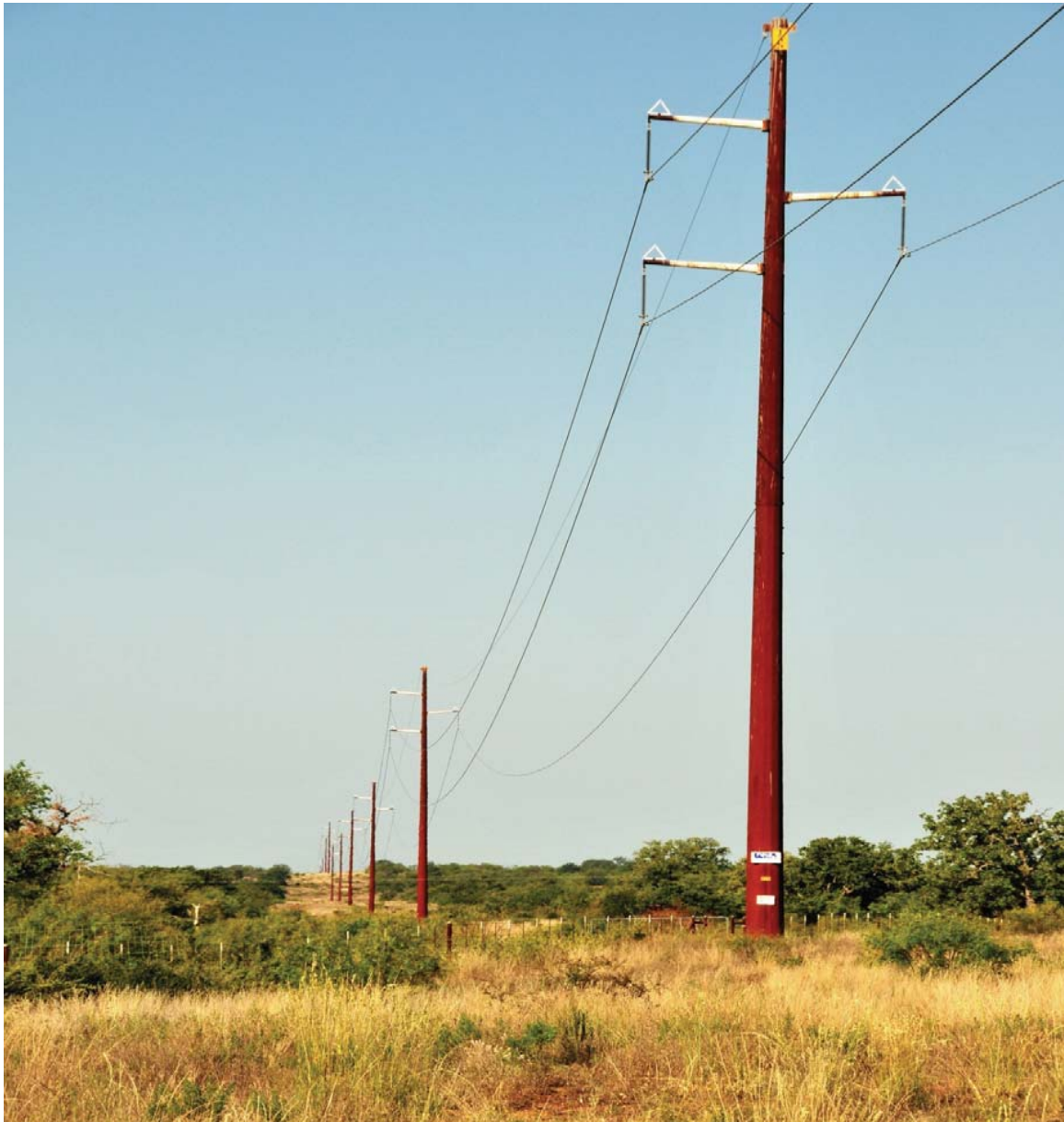
Evaluate Routes – EA/ Routing Study

CCN Application

Evaluating Routes

Route Evaluation Criteria

- **Community Values**
- **Park & Recreation Areas**
- **Archeological & Historical Resources**
- **Aesthetic Values**
- **Environmental Integrity**
- **Engineering Constraints**
- **Costs**
- **Paralleling and Use of Existing ROW**
- **Paralleling of Property Lines**
- **Prudent Avoidance**



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Evaluation Criteria

Land Use

Length of alternative route
Number of habitable structures[1] within 300 feet of the right-of-way (ROW) centerline
Number of newly affected habitable structures[1] within 300 feet of ROW centerline
Length of ROW parallel to apparent property lines[2]
Length of ROW using existing transmission line ROW
Length of ROW parallel to existing transmission line ROW
Length of ROW parallel to other existing ROW (highway, pipelines, railway, etc.)
Length of ROW through parks/recreational areas[3]
Number of additional parks/recreational areas[3] within 1,000 feet of the ROW centerline
Length of ROW through cropland
Length of ROW through pasture/rangeland
Length of ROW through land irrigated by traveling systems (rolling or pivot type)
Number of pipeline crossings
Number of transmission line crossings
Number of U.S. and state highway crossings
Number of farm-to-market (FM) road crossings
Number of cemeteries within 1,000 feet of the ROW centerline
Number of private airstrips within 10,000 feet of the ROW centerline
Number of heliports within 5,000 feet of the ROW centerline
Number of FAA registered airports with at least one runway more than 3,200 feet in length located within 20,000 feet of the ROW centerline
Number of FAA registered airports having no runway more than 3,200 feet in length located within 10,000 feet of the ROW centerline
Number of commercial AM radio transmitters within 10,000 feet of the ROW centerline
Number of FM radio transmitters, microwave towers, and other electronic installations within 2,000 feet of the ROW centerline

Aesthetics

Estimated length of ROW within foreground visual zone[4] of U.S. and State highways
Estimated length of ROW within foreground visual zone[4] of FM roads
Estimated length of ROW within foreground visual zone[4] of park/recreational areas[3]

Ecology

Length of ROW through upland woodlands
Length of ROW through bottomland/riparian woodlands
Length of ROW across potential wetlands
Length of ROW across known habitat of federally listed endangered or threatened species
Length of ROW across open water (lakes, ponds)
Number of stream crossings
Number of river crossings
Length of ROW parallel (within 100 feet) to streams or rivers
Length of ROW across 100-year floodplains
Length of ROW across Edward's Aquifer recharge zone (acres)
Length of ROW across Edward's Aquifer transition zone (acres)
Length of ROW across Edward's Aquifer artesian zone (acres)

Cultural Resources

Number of recorded historic or prehistoric sites crossed by ROW
Number of recorded historic or prehistoric sites within 1,000 feet of ROW centerline
Number of additional National Register listed or determined eligible sites crossed by ROW
Number of additional National Register listed or determined eligible sites within 1,000 feet of ROW centerline
Length of ROW through areas of high archaeological/historical site potential

CCN Filing

- Project Description
- Purpose and Need
- Cost Estimates
- Schedule
- Routing Study/Environ. Assessment
- Other project related information
  - *No "preferred or recommended" route(s)*
- File late 2014

PUC Licensing Phase

- Submit an application to the PUC to amend LCRA Transmission Services Corporation's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN).
- Upon filing of the application, notices will be sent to landowners whose property may be crossed or is within 300 feet of any alternative routes.
- Notices also will be sent to municipalities and electric utilities that are within five miles of the project and to county governments where the project is located.
- Following the filing of the application, interested parties will have an opportunity to participate in an intervention process.

Intervention?

Within 45 days after application is submitted.

NO

PUC Staff Review

PUC staff conducts review and makes recommendation to approve project as submitted or approve with modifications.

YES

Administrative Hearing

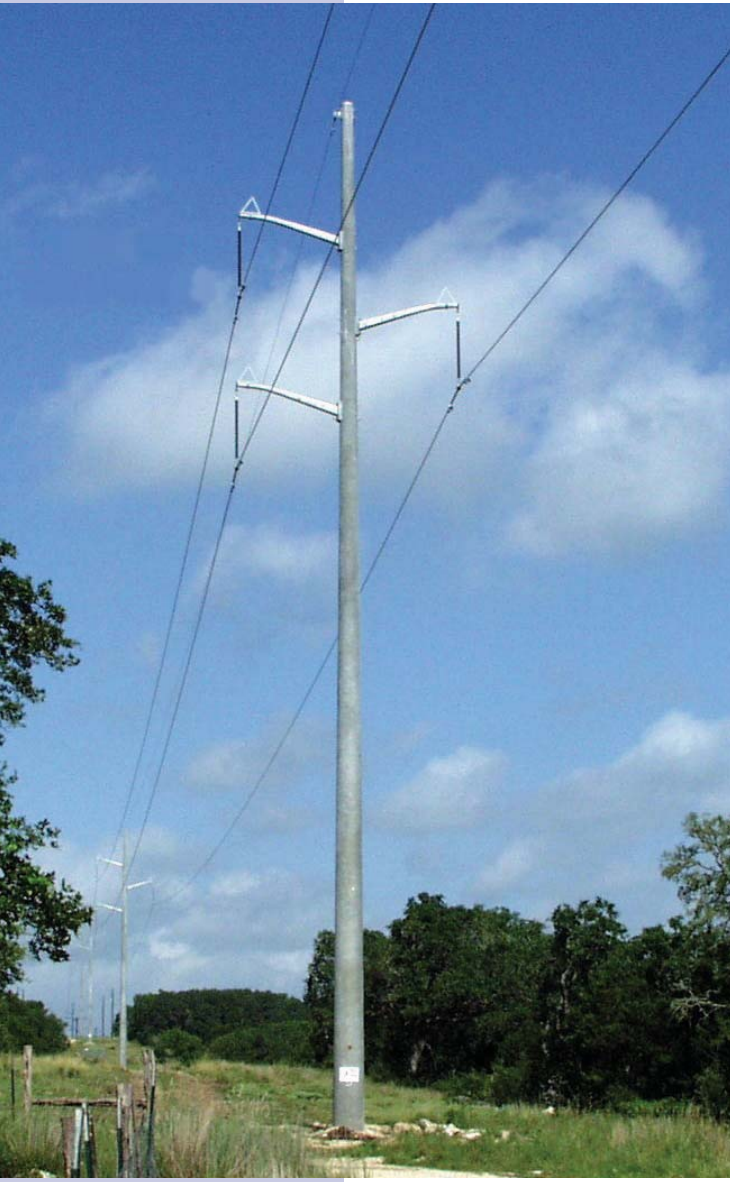
- Technical review of project routing
- Testimony filed by all parties
- Administrative hearing
- Administrative law judge prepares proposed final order

PUC Makes Decision within 12 months

- Approve application
- Approve application with modifications
- Deny application

- PUC approval of a CCN application gives LCRA Transmission Services Corporation the authorization to build the new transmission project along the route selected by the PUC.

Notification



- Letter Notice - mailed
  - ✓Potentially affected landowners
  - ✓Elected officials
  - ✓Counties/Municipalities
  - ✓Electric Utilities
- Newspaper Notice

Intervention Period

- **45 days**
- **Justiciable Interest**
- **Parties**

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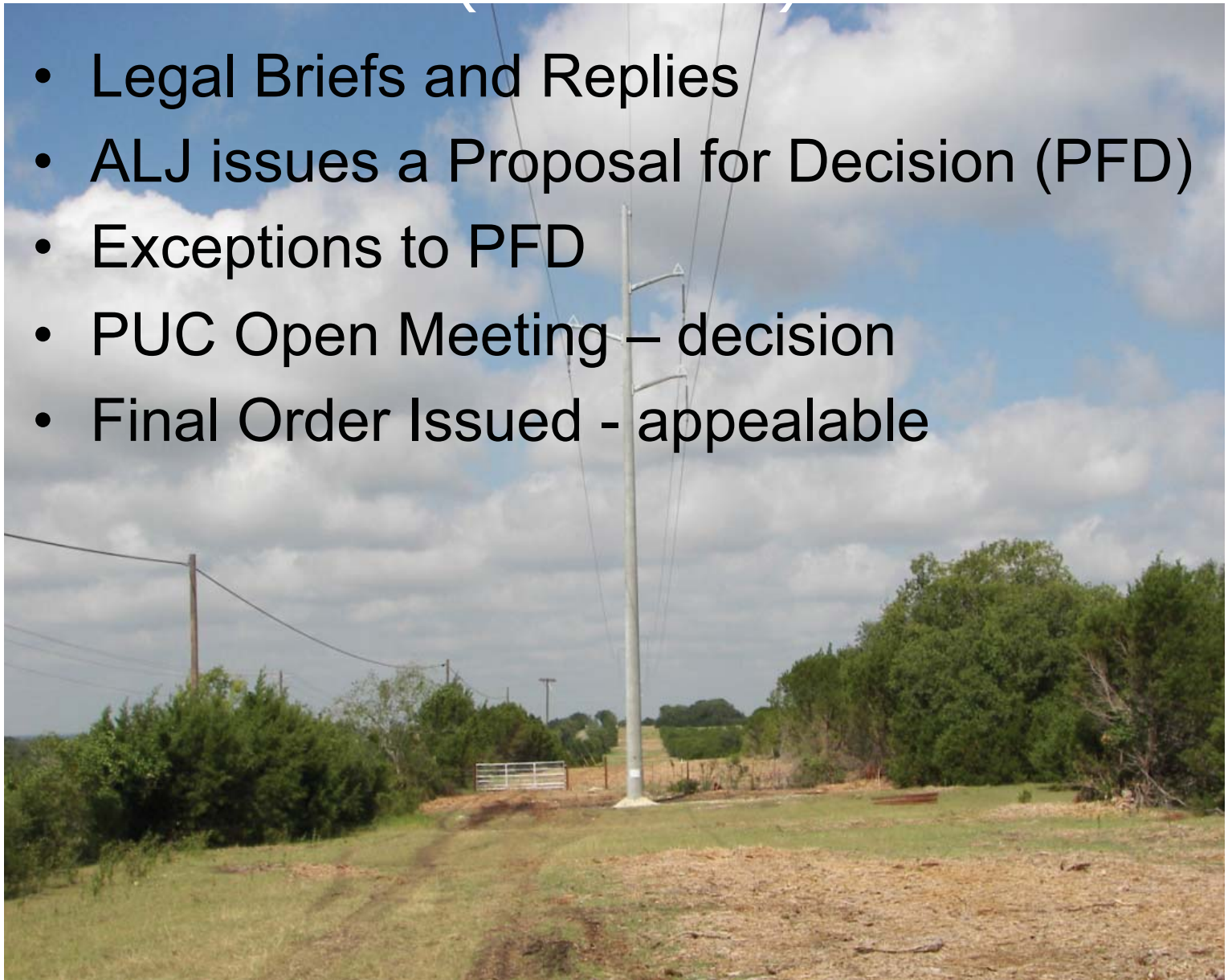
Administrative Hearing Phase

- Prehearing Conference
- Technical Conference
- Route Adequacy Hearing (if needed)
- Discovery Process – written Q/A
- Direct Testimony by Parties
  - LCRA TSC, Intervenors, PUC Staff
- Rebuttal Testimony – LCRA TSC
- Hearing on the Merits – Admin. Law Judge (ALJ)

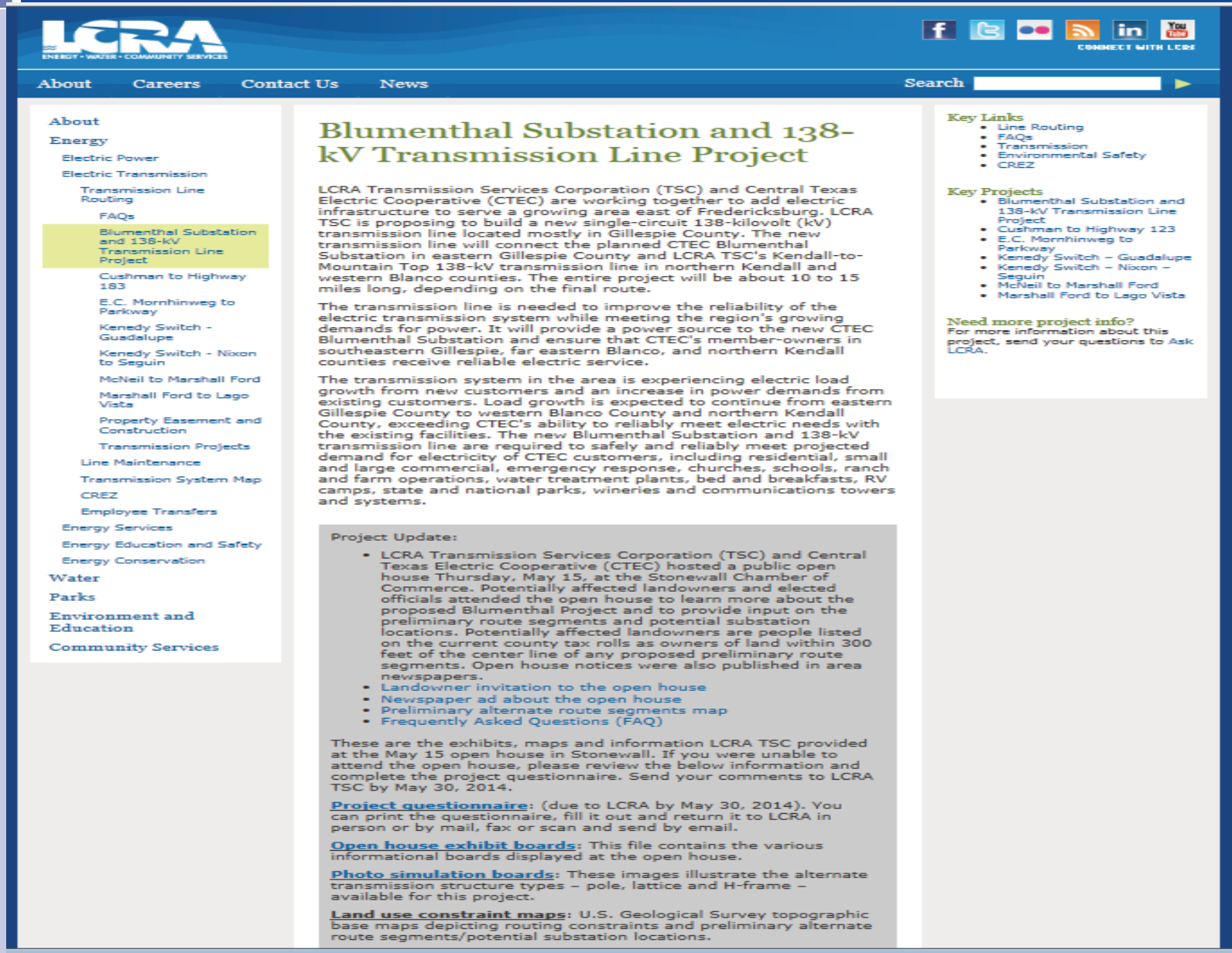
Administrative Hearing Phase (continued)

- Legal Briefs and Replies
- ALJ issues a Proposal for Decision (PFD)
- Exceptions to PFD
- PUC Open Meeting – decision
- Final Order Issued - appealable



Project Web Site (www.lcra.org)

- Maps
- FAQ
- Exhibits
- Project Updates
- CCN Filing
- Link to PUC



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Kenedy Switch - Nixon to Seguin
McNeil to Marshall Ford
Marshall Ford to Lago Vista
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Transmission System Map
CREZ
Employee Transfers
Energy Services
Energy Education and Safety
Energy Conservation
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Community Services

Blumenthal Substation and 138-kV Transmission Line Project

LCRA Transmission Services Corporation (TSC) and Central Texas Electric Cooperative (CTEC) are working together to add electric infrastructure to serve a growing area east of Fredericksburg. LCRA TSC is proposing to build a new single-circuit 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line located mostly in Gillespie County. The new transmission line will connect the planned CTEC Blumenthal Substation in eastern Gillespie County and LCRA TSC's Kendall-to-Mountain Top 138-kV transmission line in northern Kendall and western Blanco counties. The entire project will be about 10 to 15 miles long, depending on the final route.

The transmission line is needed to improve the reliability of the electric transmission system while meeting the region's growing demands for power. It will provide a power source to the new CTEC Blumenthal Substation and ensure that CTEC's member-owners in southeastern Gillespie, far eastern Blanco, and northern Kendall counties receive reliable electric service.

The transmission system in the area is experiencing electric load growth from new customers and an increase in power demands from existing customers. Load growth is expected to continue from eastern Gillespie County to western Blanco County and northern Kendall County, exceeding CTEC's ability to reliably meet electric needs with the existing facilities. The new Blumenthal Substation and 138-kV transmission line are required to safely and reliably meet projected demand for electricity of CTEC customers, including residential, small and large commercial, emergency response, churches, schools, ranch and farm operations, water treatment plants, bed and breakfasts, RV camps, state and national parks, wineries and communications towers and systems.

Project Update:

- LCRA Transmission Services Corporation (TSC) and Central Texas Electric Cooperative (CTEC) hosted a public open house Thursday, May 15, at the Stonewall Chamber of Commerce. Potentially affected landowners and elected officials attended the open house to learn more about the proposed Blumenthal Project and to provide input on the preliminary route segments and potential substation locations. Potentially affected landowners are people listed on the current county tax rolls as owners of land within 300 feet of the center line of any proposed preliminary route segments. Open house notices were also published in area newspapers.
- Landowner invitation to the open house
- Newspaper ad about the open house
- Preliminary alternate route segments map
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

These are the exhibits, maps and information LCRA TSC provided at the May 15 open house in Stonewall. If you were unable to attend the open house, please review the below information and complete the project questionnaire. Send your comments to LCRA TSC by May 30, 2014.

Project questionnaire: (due to LCRA by May 30, 2014). You can print the questionnaire, fill it out and return it to LCRA in person or by mail, fax or scan and send by email.

Open house exhibit boards: This file contains the various informational boards displayed at the open house.

Photo simulation boards: These images illustrate the alternate transmission structure types – pole, lattice and H-frame – available for this project.

Land use constraint maps: U.S. Geological Survey topographic base maps depicting routing constraints and preliminary alternate route segments/potential substation locations.

Key Links
- Line Routing
- FAQs
- Transmission
- Environmental Safety
- CREZ

Key Projects
- Blumenthal Substation and 138-kV Transmission Line Project
- Cushman to Highway 123
- E.C. Mornhinweg to Parkway
- Kenedy Switch – Guadalupe
- Kenedy Switch – Nixon – Seguin
- McNeil to Marshall Ford
- Marshall Ford to Lago Vista

Need more project info?
For more information about this project, send your questions to Ask LCRA.

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Questions?