



COMMENTS FROM THE INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED WITH POTENTIAL TASK FORCE MEMBERS RELATED TO THE SCREENING PROCESS

THE COMMENTS ARE GROUPED INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

Property Being Divided

- It will separate their property. You need to see it as a covered building. You're going through a business.
- If they split the property, need concessions of payment for that.

Access and Right of Way Issues

- We have the LCRA line going through our property – why not go along the line?
- I don't have any problems with the outcomes except the [location of the line related to the] power plant.
- When you split property you have parcels with no access.
- Can't do it on that route. Ingle Road doesn't meet the right of way needs for a County Road. It doesn't make sense there. There are too many homes.

Screening Criteria

- There were concerns about properties, want to be protective of them.
- They found out about a cemetery on the property they didn't know about.
- Once TxDOT, RJ Rivera and Kennedy came in to do the study there were six to eight alignments and it went down and down. In January 2008, they had things pretty well done.
- They were going to take thousands of people at first and then they are going through the rural areas and only take two houses or something. It's a good solid study.
- They're going through rural lands. There was all this abandoned land and all of a sudden the farmers were saying these were farms.
- None of the people understand the value of the rural property destroyed. There are lots of historic farms that have been productive for over a hundred years.
- They are trying to find the best route for TxDOT to pick without disturbing cemeteries, schools, homes and affecting the fewest people.
- I was involved in the study and there was a criteria worksheet with priorities listed. We rated the priorities and got ratings from the public also. Based on what people

said, they did the choosing. Ninety-nine percent chose people's homes as the first priority.

- People are looking at dots on a map that can be random trailers.
- The loop goes right around the trailer park and cuts off their [the property owner's] access to the river.
- It would be more logical to use the existing right of way instead of new roadway. Some of the route parallels existing roadway; it's a less destructive alternative.
- TxDOT has the boundary lines and have misinformation about the location of homes.
- Farmers and ranchers are being pushed out. TxDOT and the consultants are saying it's only open space. They [the farms] are businesses and they aren't seen that way. Just because you don't see anything doesn't mean nothing is there.
- They were asked which one would be preferred. There were dual concerns.
- There were sensitive issues on the north side of 46 where development is happening. There are people with large tracts of land that will be affected.
- They applied their rules well when it came to selecting and preserving homes. They were always asking for input on churches and homes to make the route. People were marking the maps.
- Lots of things were identified in the area- environmentally sensitive areas, historic areas, and cemeteries. There was a lot done to put us further ahead so next time around it will be easier.
- Identified the best places the loop should go.
- They went from 15 lines to two. They fine-tuned it.
- They tried to interfere as little as possible with cemeteries and schools. They went to vacant land.
- The fact they applied priorities to avoid houses [was a positive aspect of the study].
- It goes back to the environmental things that are discovered to adjust them [the alternative routes].
- They have dots on a map and they're avoiding houses and stuff they have to avoid. I value open spaces more than subdivisions, but I don't want to kick people out of their homes.
- The subdivision growth on 306 causes concerns about having to buy up already existing facilities.

Route Decisions That Were Not Clear

- Two people from Rivera's group came to my house and visited with me. At the next public meeting the route was completely changed and we were the only ones impacted.
- At the follow-up meetings after the study was complete some were uncomfortable with one of the routes chosen and then it was modified. They changed it to avoid the property of a wealthy landowner.
- [Person's name] got the people from the study to his property to talk them out of putting it through his property and moved to mine.
- It could have gone through the existing right of way for the transmission lines.

- It doesn't make economic sense to land lock the power plant. Eighty percent of the Santa Clara tax base is the power plant. There is rivalry with New Braunfels about the power plant being in the Santa Clara tax base and when it was pointed out that the power plant would be landlocked, they put the line there anyway.

General Concerns

- They should get a general understanding of the recharge, tributaries and then go forward. Acknowledge these as an issue that needs to be addressed.
- They had too many different routes. It confused people.