Legal Notices

Application of Southwestern Public Service Company to Amend a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for a Proposed 115-kV Transmission Line within Terry and Gaines Counties, Texas

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS DOCKET NO. 41222

Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS), a subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc., intends to amend its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) in order to construct and operate a new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line within Terry and Gaines Counties, Texas. Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS) has filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission or PUC) (Docket No. 41222 - **Application of Southwestern Public Service Company to Amend a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for a Proposed 115-kV Transmission Line within Terry and Gaines Counties, Texas**) and is requesting the approval of the Commission for this project. This transmission line is needed for reliability purposes.

The proposed 115-kV transmission line will be single circuit. However, depending upon the route selected, some sections will be double circuit. The transmission line will be constructed utilizing primarily single-pole steel structures requiring a smaller surface area than H-frame structures and eliminating the need for guy wires for corner structures. It is possible that some H-frame or double-circuit structures also will be utilized. The proposed transmission line will be constructed entirely on new right-of-way (ROW) with a proposed easement width of 70 feet. The proposed transmission line is presented with 14 alternative routes consisting of a combined 45 segments and is estimated to be approximately 12 to 18 miles in length depending on which route is chosen. The Diamondback Substation to Sulphur Springs Substation project will consist of a new 115/69-kV 84 MVA substation (Diamondback Substation), located in northeastern Gaines County, and a proposed 115-kV transmission line that will extend to the existing Sulphur Springs Substation located in southern Terry County.

Depending on the route chosen, the total cost of the project, including the transmission line and substation costs, is estimated to be between approximately $17.3 million and $20.5 million.

Persons with questions about the transmission line may contact SPS's representatives Scott Morris at 806-378-2738 or James Bagley at 806-378-2868. Enclosed are a copy of a written description of the segments to be used for the alternative routes and a map of the proposed project. The same detailed routing map may be reviewed at SPS's offices at Chase Tower, 600 S. Tyler Street, Suite 2700, Amarillo, Texas, 79101. Information about the proposed project is also accessible on Xcel Energy's website Power for the Plains at http://www.powerfortheplains.com.

All routes and route segments included in this notice are available for selection and approval by the Commission.

Persons who are affected by the proposed transmission line and wish to intervene in the docket or comment on the applicant's application should mail the original and 10 copies of their request to intervene or their comments to:

Public Utility Commission of Texas
Central Records
Attn: Filing Clerk
1701 N. Congress Ave.
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Persons who wish to intervene in the docket must also mail a copy of their request for intervention to all parties in the docket and all persons that have pending motions to intervene, at or before the time the request for intervention is mailed to the PUC. **The only way to fully participate in the PUC's decision on where to locate the transmission line is to intervene in the docket. It is important for an affected person to intervene because the utility is not obligated to keep affected persons informed of the PUC's proceedings and cannot predict which route may or may not be approved by the PUC.**

The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is April 22, 2013, and the PUC should receive a letter from anyone requesting intervention by that date.

The PUC has a brochure titled "Landowners and Transmission Line Cases at the PUC." Copies of the brochure are available from Scott Morris 806-378-2738 or may be downloaded from the PUC's website at www.puc.state.tx.us. To obtain additional information about this docket, you may contact the PUC's Customer Assistance Hotline at 512-936-7120 or 888-782-8477. Hearing-and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the PUC's Customer Assistance Hotline at 512-936-7136 or toll free at 800-735-2989. In addition to the intervention deadline, other important deadlines may already exist that affect your participation in this docket. You should review the orders and other filings already made in the docket.

Diamondback Substation to Sulphur Springs Substation

Segment Descriptions

Alternative Route	Segments	Length (miles)
A	2 – 7 – 16 – 22 – 25 – 35 – 43 – 48 – 49	11.60
B	2 – 7 – 11 – 12 – 18 – 24 - 30 – 38 – 41 – 44 – 49	13.51
C	2 – 7 – 16 – 20 – 23 – 27 – 29 – 34 – 35 – 43 – 48 – 49	13.55
D	5 – 9 – 10 – 16 – 20 – 23 – 27 – 29 – 36 – 40 – 48 – 49	11.77
E	5 – 9 – 10 – 16 – 22 – 25 – 34 – 36 – 40 – 48 – 49	11.81
F	2 – 7 – 16 – 22 – 26 – 27 – 28 – 30 – 37 – 40 – 48 – 49	12.78
G	2 – 7 – 16 – 22 – 26 – 27 – 29 – 36 – 40 – 48 – 49	11.68
H	5 – 9 – 10 – 11 – 12 – 18 – 24 – 30 – 37 – 40 – 48 – 49	12.76
I	2 – 7 – 11 – 17 – 21 – 24 – 30 – 37 – 40 – 48 – 49	12.78
J	5 – 8 – 33 – 39 – 42 – 43 – 48 – 49	15.62
K	5 – 8 – 32 – 39 – 45 – 47 – 49	17.52
L	5 – 9 – 10 – 11 – 12 – 13 – 19 – 31 – 41 – 46 – 47 – 49	16.84
M	1 – 4 – 12 – 13 – 19 – 31 – 41 – 44 – 49	17.09
N	2 – 6 – 15 – 25 – 35 – 43 – 48 – 49	11.61

Segment 1
Segment 1 originates at the southeast corner of the new Diamondback Substation located immediately northwest of the County Road (CR) 143/CR 120 intersection in the southeast corner of Section 15 in Gaines County. Segment 1 leaves the new substation to the south immediately crossing CR 120, enters the northeast corner of Section 16 and crosses an existing 69-kV transmission line. The segment travels south parallel to the eastern boundary of Section 16 for approximately 0.7 mile where it crosses an unnamed stream. From this point it continues south on the west side of a pipeline another 0.3 mile to the southeastern corner of Section 16. At the southeast corner of Section 16 the segment turns west and parallels the southern boundary of Section 16 on the north side of a pipeline for approximately 1.0 mile, where it crosses an existing 69-kV transmission line and angles southwest into Section 30. At this point the segment terminates at its junction with Segment 4, in the northeast corner of Section 30 and on the south side of CR 118.

Segment 2
Segment 2 originates at the southwestern corner of the new Diamondback Substation, located immediately northwest of the CR 143/CR 120 intersection in the southeast corner of Section 15 in Gaines County. From the substation, Segment 2 runs west along the southern boundary of Section 15, paralleling the north side of CR 120 for approximately 0.5 mile where it crosses an unnamed stream. From this point it continues west for another approximately 0.3 mile along the southern boundary of Section 15 where it terminates at the junction of segments 6 and 7 on the north side of CR 120 and in the southwest corner of Section 15.

Segment 4
Segment 4 begins at its junction with Segment 1, in the northeast corner of Section 30 and on the south side of CR 118 in Gaines County. It extends west, parallel to the south side of CR 118 along the northern boundary of Section 30, for approximately 0.4 mile, where it crosses an existing pipeline. The segment continues west, still paralleling the south side of CR 118 along the northern boundary of Section 30, for approximately 0.6 mile, where it crosses into Section 29. The segment continues west, paralleling the south side of CR 118 and the northern boundary of Section 29, for approximately 1.0 mile, crossing into the northeast corner of Section 43. There the segment turns north, crossing CR 118 into Section 42 and parallels to the eastern boundary of Section 42 for approximately 0.4 mile where it crosses a pipeline. The segment continues north, paralleling the eastern boundary of Section 42, for approximately 0.6 mile where it crosses an existing 69-kV transmission line and CR 120, respectively, into Section 41. The segment extends north paralleling the eastern boundary of Section 41, for approximately 1.0 mile, where it crosses into the southeast corner of Section 40 and terminates at the junction of segments 11, 12, and 17.

Segment 5
Segment 5 begins at the northeast corner of the new Diamondback Substation located in the southeastern corner of Section 15, immediately northwest of the intersection of CR 120/CR 143 in Gaines County. It extends north, paralleling the west side of CR 143 and the eastern boundary of Section 15 for approximately 0.7 mile where it crosses an unnamed stream. From this point it continues north, still paralleling the west side of CR 143 and the eastern boundary of Section 15 for approximately 200 feet where it terminates at the junction of segments 8 and 9, on the west side of CR 143 and in the northeast corner of Section 15.

Segment 6
Segment 6 begins at the junction of segments 2 and 7, on the north side of CR 120 in the southwest corner of Section 15 in Gaines County. It extends north, parallel to the western boundary of Section 15, for approximately 0.3 mile, where it crosses an unnamed stream. The segment continues north, parallel to the western boundary of Section 15, for approximately 0.7 mile where it crosses into the southeast corner of Section 35 and terminates at the junction of segments 9 and 10.

Segment 7
Segment 7 begins at the junction of segments 2 and 6, on the north side of CR 120 in the southwest corner of Section 15 in Gaines County. It extends west into Section 34, paralleling the north side of CR 120 along the southern boundary of Section 34 for approximately 1.0 mile. Just east of the CR 120/CR 139 intersection, the segment turns north and parallels the east side of CR 139 and the western boundary of Section 34 for approximately 1.0 mile, where it angles northwest across CR 139 into the southeastern corner of Section 36. There the segment terminates at the junction of segments 10, 11, and 16, in the southeast corner of Section 36.

Segment 8
Segment 8 begins at the junction of segments 5 and 9, on the west side of CR 143 in the northeast corner of Section 15 in Gaines County. It extends east, crossing CR 143 and an existing 69-kV transmission line, respectively, into Section 10 where it parallels the northern boundary of Section 10 for approximately 0.5 mile. The segment then angles northeast into Section 11 for approximately 0.2 mile, then extends east for approximately 0.4 mile into Section 2. The segment then turns north, paralleling the western boundary of Section 2, for approximately 0.2 mile, where it veers northeast, crossing Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1067. The segment then proceeds north, paralleling the east side of FM 1067, along the western boundary of Section 2, for approximately 0.7 mile into Section 1, to a point just south of an existing pipeline ROW. The segment then turns east, paralleling the south side of the existing pipeline ROW and the southern boundary of Section 1, for approximately 1.0 mile, where it crosses into Section 117. The segment then turns north, crossing the pipeline ROW and paralleling the western boundary of Section 117, for approximately 1.0 mile, where it crosses into Section 21 and parallels the western boundary of Section 21 for approximately 0.5 mile. The segment then angles northwest for less than 0.1 mile into Section 1, where it turns north, paralleling the eastern boundary of Section 1 for approximately 0.4 miles. It then angles northeast and crosses State Highway (SH) 83 into Section 2, just east of CR 147. In Section 2, the segment proceeds north, paralleling the east side of CR 147 and the western boundary of Section 2 for approximately 0.25 mile, crossing a pipeline and proceeding another approximately .25 mile. The segment then angles northwest, crossing CR 147 into Section 3, before turning north and paralleling the west side of CR 147 and the eastern boundary of Section 3 for approximately .5 mile. From there the segment crosses into Section 10 and proceeds north, parallel to the west side of CR 147 and the eastern boundary of Section 10 for approximately .7 miles where it crosses an existing pipeline ROW. The segment then proceeds approximately .3 mile where it crosses CR 132 into Section 15 and terminates at the junction of segments 32 and 33, in the southeast corner of Section 15.

Segment 9
Segment 9 begins at the junction of segments 5 and 8, on the west side of CR 143 in the northeast corner of Section 15 in Gaines County. This segment angles northwest into Section 14, then extends west, paralleling the southern boundary of Section 14, for approximately 1.0 mile where it crosses into Section 35 and terminates at the junction of segments 6, 10, and 15, in the southeast corner of Section 35.

Segment 10
Segment 10 begins at the junction of segments 6, 9, and 15 in the southeast corner of Section 35 in Gaines County. From this junction, segment 10 extends west, paralleling the southern boundary of Section 35, for approximately 1.0 mile, where it crosses CR 139 into the southeastern corner of Section 36. From there the segment terminates at the junction of segments 7, 11, and 16, in the southeast corner of Section 36 immediately on the west side of CR 139.

Segment 11
Segment 11 begins at the junction of segments 7, 10, and 16, in the southeast corner of Section 36 immediately west of CR 139 in Gaines County. It extends west paralleling the southern boundary of Section 36 for approximately 1.0 mile, crossing into the southeastern corner of Section 40. From there the segment terminates at the junction of segments 4, 12, and 17, in the southeast corner of Section 40.

Segment 12
Segment 12 begins at the junction of segments 4, 11, and 17, in the southeast corner of Section 40 in Gaines County. From this point it extends west, paralleling the southern boundary of Section 40 for approximately 1.0 mile. From there segment 12 terminates at the junction of segments 13 and 18 in the southwest corner of Section 40.

Segment 13
Segment 13 begins at the junction of segments 12 and 18, in the southwest corner of Section 40 in Gaines County. From there it extends west into Section 57, paralleling the southern boundary of Section 57 for approximately 1.0 mile to the east side of CR 133. From there segment 13 terminates at the junction with Segment 19, immediately east of CR 133, in the southwest corner of Section 57.

Segment 15
Segment 15 begins at the junction of segments 6, 9, and 10, in the southeast corner of Section 35 in Gaines County. From there it extends north, paralleling the eastern boundary of Section 35, for approximately 1.0 mile, where it crosses into Section 37. The segment continues north paralleling the eastern boundary of Section 37, for less than 0.1 mile, where it crosses a pipeline ROW, and continues north for another 0.9 mile to the south side of CR 126 in the northeast corner of Section 37. The segment turns west and parallels the south side of CR 126 and the northern boundary of Section 37 for approximately 1.0 mile, where it crosses CR 139 into Section 38. The segment terminates at the junction of segments 22, 25, and 26, in the northeast corner of Section 38, southwest of the CR 126/CR 139 intersection.

Segment 16
Segment 16 begins at the junction of segments 7, 10, and 11, in the southeast corner of Section 36 west of CR 139 in Gaines County. It extends north, paralleling the west side of CR 139 and the eastern boundary of Section 36 for approximately 1.0 mile where it terminates at the junction of segments 20 and 22, west of CR 139 and in the northeast corner of Section 36.

Segment 17
Segment 17 begins at the junction of segments 4, 11, and 12, in the southeast corner of Section 40 in Gaines County. From there it extends north paralleling the eastern boundary of Section 40, for approximately 1.0 mile where it terminates at the junction of segments 20, 21, and 23, in the northeast corner of Section 40.

Segment 18
Segment 18 begins at the junction of segments 12 and 13 in the southwest corner of Section 40 in Gaines County. From there it extends north paralleling the western boundary of Section 40, for approximately 1.0 mile where it terminates at the junction of segments 21 and 24, in the northwest corner of Section 40.

Segment 19
Segment 19 begins at its junction with Segment 13, east of CR 133 in the southwest corner of Section 57 in Gaines County. From there it extends north paralleling the east side of CR 133 and the western boundary of Section 57 for approximately 1.0 mile where it crosses into Section 58. It continues north paralleling the east side of CR 133 and the western boundary of Section 58, for less than 0.1 mile, where it crosses a pipeline. The segment continues north for approximately 0.1 mile where it crosses another pipeline. The segment continues north, paralleling the east side of CR 133 and the western boundary of Section 58, for approximately 0.8 mile, where it crosses CR 126 into Section 7. It continues north paralleling the east side of CR 133 and the western boundary of Section 7, for approximately 1.0 mile, where it angles northwest crossing SH 83 into the southeast corner of Section 4. The segment continues north parallel to the eastern boundary of Section 4, for approximately 0.9 mile where it crosses a pipeline. The segment continues north for less than 0.1 mile, where it terminates at its junction with Segment 31, in the northeast corner of Section 4.

Segment 20
Segment 20 begins at the junction of segments 16 and 22 west of CR 139 in the northeast corner of Section 36 in Gaines County. It extends west, paralleling the northern boundary of Section 36, for approximately 1.0 mile crossing into the northeast corner of Section 40 where it terminates at the junction of segments 17, 21, and 23.

Segment 21
Segment 21 begins at the junction of segments 17, 20, and 23, in the northeast corner of Section 40 in Gaines County. It extends west, paralleling the northern boundary of Section 40 for approximately 1.0 mile. The segment terminates at the junction of segments 18 and 24, in the northwest corner of Section 40.

Segment 22
Segment 22 begins at the junction of segments 16 and 20 on the west side of CR 139 in the northeast corner of Section 36 in Gaines County. It extends north into Section 38 paralleling