

10/1/14

Rules Coordinator
Office of General Counsel
Railroad Commission of Texas
P.O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967

Re: Proposed Amendments to 16 TAC §3.70, relating to Pipeline Permits Required; Gas Utilities
Docket No. 10366

To Whom it May Concern,

The proposed amendments to the above referenced section are misguided. They undermine the simple fact that the State of Texas is one where property rights are and always have been respected by sovereign entities despite "progressive" legislation. Increasing the burden on gas companies to prove "common carrier" status is a welcome change if coupled with one major co-requirement. It is irresponsible and unrealistic to place the burden of notice on the landowner by requiring them to remain current on every permit application for common carrier status submitted to the Texas Railroad Commission, even limited to only those within the county(ies) where their property is situated. Direct notice with proof of receipt should be provided to the owners of any land described in a submitted permit for a new line. Not providing landowners with clear notice that their land is the subject of a permit application between a Pipeline Company and the Railroad Commission of Texas is hardly transparent and moreover, unethical. Please consider that this proposed amendment is not sufficient in its current form and should be modified to include a requirement of actual notice to potentially affected landowners. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Charles Brackett

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