

From: [Samuel Vasquez](#)
To: [Santos, Anastacia](#)
Subject: Proposed Stewart Road 345kV Transmission Line, Hidalgo County.
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:48:42 AM

Ms. Santos,

Good Morning. I am in receipt of your letter dated February 16th, 2017 requesting information concerning environmental and land use constraints. Unfortunately, from the map you submitted, I am not able to tell if this is within our flood way easement with great certainty, so it is difficult for me to tell you one way or another if we have any interest in this area. My gut feeling is that your project does fall within the flood way easement USIBWC acquired, I'm just not sure the exact location. Please provide a better map so we can make a determination.

Vr

Sam

Samuel O. Vasquez

**Chief, Boundary and Realty Office
U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission
4171 N. Mesa St., Suite C-100
El Paso, TX 79902
(915) 832-4156**

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From: [Trant, Angela G CIV USARMY CESWG \(US\)](#)
To: [Santos, Anastacia](#)
Cc: [Pattillo, Mark E CIV CESWG CESWD \(US\)](#)
Subject: Proposed Stewart Road 345-kV Transmission Line, Hidalgo Co., Texas
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 12:06:10 PM

Dear Ms. Santos,

We received your determination request on behalf of Electric Transmission Texas, LLC on March 14, 2017. It has been assigned Corps of Engineers file number SWG-2017-00173 and has been assigned to Mr. Mark Pattillo. Mr. Pattillo may be reached by telephone at 361-814-5847 (ext 1004) or by e-mail at Mark.E.Pattillo@usace.army.mil.

Please be advised that all requests received in this office are assigned based on perceived complexity of the action and on a first-come, first-served basis. We ask that you please allow the Corps regulator assigned this action time to review this action and note that he will contact you if further information is required.

Please reference the above number on any future correspondence to this office.

Thank you.

Ms. Angela Trant
Legal Instruments Examiner
US Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Field Office
5151 Flynn Parkway, Suite 306
Corpus Christi, TX 78411-4318
361-814-5847 phone, ext 1001
361-814-5912 fax

To assist us in improving our service to you, please complete the survey found at https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__corpsmapu.usace.army.mil_cm-5Fapex_f-3Fp-3D136-3A4-3A0&d=DwIFAg&c=H8S5wzIwo-7G_Ou9dg8E0MfTp0Xd5uFLOwdyvjb0JwY&r=tJbqI3NiAVC79Hadkfn6sYmaS-9ywHDlgWwa-DNlf4w&m=e2XAOM26DoGLPNSSR_s5G7Mm4T_b_ZVTbGOzQ3vKs0Q&s=83gPk0RAWps7tnIoBCI7uzqPzmFlmQx4HpXQWi1dV3Q&e=

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CORPUS CHRISTI REGULATORY FIELD OFFICE
5151 FLYNN PARKWAY, SUITE 306
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78411-4318

April 18, 2017

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Corpus Christi Regulatory Field Office

SUBJECT: Permit Application No. SWG-2017-00173; Approved Jurisdictional Determination

POWER Engineers, Inc.
ATTN: Ms. Anastacia Santos
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Ste. 100
San Diego, California 92123-4426

Dear Ms. Santos:

This is in regard to your letter, submitted on behalf of Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) and dated February 16, 2017, in which you requested our comments on a proposed double-circuit 345-kilovolt transmission line. Enclosed is an approved jurisdictional determination for the Donna Main Canal located within the area of ETT's potential project right-of-way (ROW). The project area is defined as a 5-mile-long, corridor between the existing Stewart Road Substation, located south of Alamo east of Farm-to-Market Road 2557/Stewart Road, to a tap along the existing North Edinburg-Palmito 345-kV Transmission Line in Hidalgo County, Texas, as shown in the attached plan on one sheet.

The specific route for ETT's project corridor was not specified in your letter; therefore, we have only general comments to submit. We have determined that the La Cruz Resaca is a water of the United States (U.S.), subject to our jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This water occurs within EET's proposed project area. The Corps of Engineers regulates the placement of structures and/or work performed in/or affecting navigable waters of the U.S. (i.e. bulkheads, piers, etc.) under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. The Corps also regulates the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S., including navigable waters, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Therefore, any discharge of dredged or fill material into this water of the U.S. will require a Department of the Army permit. Other palustrine bodies of water were noted in the defined study area of the proposed utility line that may be subject to our jurisdiction. If it is determined that the proposed work will cause the discharge of fill material into waters in addition to the La Cruz Resaca, project plans should be submitted for our review prior to the initiation of the project.

-2-

Corps determinations are conducted to identify the limits of the Corps Clean Water Act jurisdiction for particular sites. This determination may not be valid for the wetland conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. If ETT or its tenant are USDA program participants, or anticipate participation in USDA programs, ETT should request a certified wetland determination from the local office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service prior to starting work.

This letter contains an approved jurisdictional determination for your subject site, which is valid for 5 years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants a revision prior to the expiration date. If you object to this determination, you may request an administrative appeal under Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.5. Also enclosed are a combined Notification of Administrative Appeal Options and Process (NAP) and Request for Appeal (RFA) form. If you request to appeal this determination you must submit a completed RFA to the Southwestern Division Office at the following address:

Mr. Elliott Carman
Regulatory Appeals Officer
Southwest Division USACE (CESWD-PD-O)
1100 Commerce Street, Suite 831
Dallas, Texas 75242-1317
Telephone: 469-487-7061; FAX: 469-487-7199

In order for an RFA to be accepted by the Corps, the Corps must determine that it is complete; that it meets the criteria for appeal under 33 CFR Part 331.5, and that it has been received by the Division Office within **60 days** of the date of the NAP. It is not necessary to submit an RFA form to the Division office if you do not object to the determination in this letter.

Please note, this is **not authorization to begin work in jurisdictional areas**. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Pattillo at 361-814-5847 ext. 1004.

Sincerely,



Matthew Kimmel
Supervisor
Corpus Christi Regulatory Field Office

Enclosures

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NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL OPTIONS AND PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR APPEAL		
Applicant: Electric Transmission Texas, LLC	File Number: SWG-2017-00173	Date: 18 Apr 2017
Attached is:		See Section below
	INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	A
	PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	B
	PERMIT DENIAL	C
X	APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	D
	PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	E
<p>SECTION I - The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/RegulatoryProgramandPermits/appeals.aspx or Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.</p>		
<p>A: INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or object to the permit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACCEPT: If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit. • OBJECT: If you object to the permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may request that the permit be modified accordingly. You must complete Section II of this form and return the form to the district engineer. Your objections must be received by the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice, or you will forfeit your right to appeal the permit in the future. Upon receipt of your letter, the district engineer will evaluate your objections and may: (a) modify the permit to address all of your concerns, (b) modify the permit to address some of your objections, or (c) not modify the permit having determined that the permit should be issued as previously written. After evaluating your objections, the district engineer will send you a proffered permit for your reconsideration, as indicated in Section B below. 		
<p>B: PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or appeal the permit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACCEPT: If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit. • APPEAL: If you choose to decline the proffered permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may appeal the declined permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice. 		
<p>C: PERMIT DENIAL: You may appeal the denial of a permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.</p>		
<p>D: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACCEPT: You do not need to notify the Corps to accept an approved JD. Failure to notify the Corps within 60 days of the date of this notice, means that you accept the approved JD in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the approved JD. • APPEAL: If you disagree with the approved JD, you may appeal the approved JD under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice. 		
<p>E: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You do not need to respond to the Corps regarding the preliminary JD. The Preliminary JD is not appealable. If you wish, you may request an approved JD (which may be appealed), by contacting the Corps district for further instruction. Also you may provide new information for further consideration by the Corps to reevaluate the JD.</p>		

SECTION II - REQUEST FOR APPEAL or OBJECTIONS TO AN INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT		
REASONS FOR APPEAL OR OBJECTIONS: (Describe your reasons for appealing the decision or your objections to an initial proffered permit in clear concise statements. You may attach additional information to this form to clarify where your reasons or objections are addressed in the administrative record.)		
Empty space for reasons for appeal or objections		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The appeal is limited to a review of the administrative record, the Corps memorandum for the record of the appeal conference or meeting, and any supplemental information that the review officer has determined is needed to clarify the administrative record. Neither the appellant nor the Corps may add new information or analyses to the record. However, you may provide additional information to clarify the location of information that is already in the administrative record.		
POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION:		
If you have questions regarding this decision and/or the appeal process you may contact: Mr. Mark Pattillo Project Manager/Regulatory Specialist (CESWG-RD-CC) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 5151 Flynn Parkway, Suite 306 Corpus Christi, Texas 78411-4318 361-814-5847 ext. 1004	If you only have questions regarding the appeal process you may also contact: Mr. Elliott Carman Administrative Appeals Review Officer (CESWD-PD-O) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1100 Commerce Street, Suite 831 Dallas, Texas 75242-1317 469-487-7061	
RIGHT OF ENTRY: Your signature below grants the right of entry to Corps of Engineers personnel, and any government consultants, to conduct investigations of the project site during the course of the appeal process. You will be provided a 15 day notice of any site investigation, and will have the opportunity to participate in all site investigations.		
_____ Signature of appellant or agent.	Date:	Telephone number:



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

State Office

101 S. Main Street
Temple, TX 76501
Voice 254.742.9800
Fax 254.742.9819

March 3, 2017

Power Engineers, Inc.
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Ste. 100
San Diego, California 92123

Attention: Anastacia Santos, Project Manager

Subject: Stewart Road 345-kV Transmission Line
Project No. 145192
NEPA/FPPA Evaluation
Hidalgo County, Texas

We have reviewed the information provided in your correspondence dated February 17, 2017 concerning the proposed transmission line installation located Hidalgo County, Texas. This review is part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) evaluation for the Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUC). We have assembled an environmental assessment of resources along evaluated the proposed site as required by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA).

The proposed site may involve soils designated as areas of Prime Farmland; however, we consider the installation of utility poles and transmission lines as a minimal activity. Due to these reasons, the proposed project is exempt from provisions of FPPA and no further consideration from protection is required.

Please find the attached Custom Soil Resources Report. The soil physical and chemical properties are presented, along with additional restrictions or interpretations for the project area.

Along the project area, vehicle trafficability is limited in areas of high shrink-swell potential. These areas should be avoided while transporting construction equipment and efforts should be made to reduce general construction traffic to reduce soil erosion and protect water quality in adjacent levees or irrigation canals. Refer to the soils report for additional resources concerning limitations.

The proposed site does not involve USDA-NRCS floodwater retarding structures (FRS) or Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) conservation easements on or near the project area.

If you have further questions, please contact me at 254.742.9836 or by email at carlos.villarreal@tx.usda.gov.

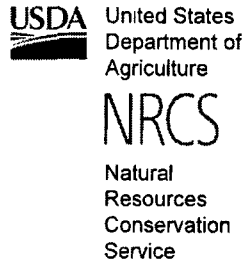
Sincerely,

CARLOS
VILLARREAL

Digitally signed by CARLOS
VILLARREAL
DN: c=US, o=US Government,
ou=Department of Agriculture,
cn=CARLOS VILLARREAL,
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Date: 20170303 14:56:18 -0600

Carlos J. Villarreal
NRCS Soil Scientist

Attachment: **Stewart Road 345-kV Transmission Line_Soil Report**



A product of the National Cooperative Soil Survey, a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies, State agencies including the Agricultural Experiment Stations, and local participants

Custom Soil Resource Report for Hidalgo County, Texas

Stewart Road 345-kV Transmission Line



March 3, 2017

Preface

Soil surveys contain information that affects land use planning in survey areas. They highlight soil limitations that affect various land uses and provide information about the properties of the soils in the survey areas. Soil surveys are designed for many different users, including farmers, ranchers, foresters, agronomists, urban planners, community officials, engineers, developers, builders, and home buyers. Also, conservationists, teachers, students, and specialists in recreation, waste disposal, and pollution control can use the surveys to help them understand, protect, or enhance the environment.

Various land use regulations of Federal, State, and local governments may impose special restrictions on land use or land treatment. Soil surveys identify soil properties that are used in making various land use or land treatment decisions. The information is intended to help the land users identify and reduce the effects of soil limitations on various land uses. The landowner or user is responsible for identifying and complying with existing laws and regulations.

Although soil survey information can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning, onsite investigation is needed to supplement this information in some cases. Examples include soil quality assessments (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/health/>) and certain conservation and engineering applications. For more detailed information, contact your local USDA Service Center (<https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs>) or your NRCS State Soil Scientist (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/contactus/?cid=nrcs142p2_053951).

Great differences in soil properties can occur within short distances. Some soils are seasonally wet or subject to flooding. Some are too unstable to be used as a foundation for buildings or roads. Clayey or wet soils are poorly suited to use as septic tank absorption fields. A high water table makes a soil poorly suited to basements or underground installations.

The National Cooperative Soil Survey is a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies, State agencies including the Agricultural Experiment Stations, and local agencies. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has leadership for the Federal part of the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

Information about soils is updated periodically. Updated information is available through the NRCS Web Soil Survey, the site for official soil survey information.

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alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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How Soil Surveys Are Made

Soil surveys are made to provide information about the soils and miscellaneous areas in a specific area. They include a description of the soils and miscellaneous areas and their location on the landscape and tables that show soil properties and limitations affecting various uses. Soil scientists observed the steepness, length, and shape of the slopes; the general pattern of drainage; the kinds of crops and native plants; and the kinds of bedrock. They observed and described many soil profiles. A soil profile is the sequence of natural layers, or horizons, in a soil. The profile extends from the surface down into the unconsolidated material in which the soil formed or from the surface down to bedrock. The unconsolidated material is devoid of roots and other living organisms and has not been changed by other biological activity.

Currently, soils are mapped according to the boundaries of major land resource areas (MLRAs). MLRAs are geographically associated land resource units that share common characteristics related to physiography, geology, climate, water resources, soils, biological resources, and land uses (USDA, 2006). Soil survey areas typically consist of parts of one or more MLRA.

The soils and miscellaneous areas in a survey area occur in an orderly pattern that is related to the geology, landforms, relief, climate, and natural vegetation of the area. Each kind of soil and miscellaneous area is associated with a particular kind of landform or with a segment of the landform. By observing the soils and miscellaneous areas in the survey area and relating their position to specific segments of the landform, a soil scientist develops a concept, or model, of how they were formed. Thus, during mapping, this model enables the soil scientist to predict with a considerable degree of accuracy the kind of soil or miscellaneous area at a specific location on the landscape.

Commonly, individual soils on the landscape merge into one another as their characteristics gradually change. To construct an accurate soil map, however, soil scientists must determine the boundaries between the soils. They can observe only a limited number of soil profiles. Nevertheless, these observations, supplemented by an understanding of the soil-vegetation-landscape relationship, are sufficient to verify predictions of the kinds of soil in an area and to determine the boundaries.

Soil scientists recorded the characteristics of the soil profiles that they studied. They noted soil color, texture, size and shape of soil aggregates, kind and amount of rock fragments, distribution of plant roots, reaction, and other features that enable them to identify soils. After describing the soils in the survey area and determining their properties, the soil scientists assigned the soils to taxonomic classes (units). Taxonomic classes are concepts. Each taxonomic class has a set of soil characteristics with precisely defined limits. The classes are used as a basis for comparison to classify soils systematically. Soil taxonomy, the system of taxonomic classification used in the United States, is based mainly on the kind and character of soil properties and the arrangement of horizons within the profile. After the soil

Custom Soil Resource Report

scientists classified and named the soils in the survey area, they compared the individual soils with similar soils in the same taxonomic class in other areas so that they could confirm data and assemble additional data based on experience and research.

The objective of soil mapping is not to delineate pure map unit components; the objective is to separate the landscape into landforms or landform segments that have similar use and management requirements. Each map unit is defined by a unique combination of soil components and/or miscellaneous areas in predictable proportions. Some components may be highly contrasting to the other components of the map unit. The presence of minor components in a map unit in no way diminishes the usefulness or accuracy of the data. The delineation of such landforms and landform segments on the map provides sufficient information for the development of resource plans. If intensive use of small areas is planned, onsite investigation is needed to define and locate the soils and miscellaneous areas.

Soil scientists make many field observations in the process of producing a soil map. The frequency of observation is dependent upon several factors, including scale of mapping, intensity of mapping, design of map units, complexity of the landscape, and experience of the soil scientist. Observations are made to test and refine the soil-landscape model and predictions and to verify the classification of the soils at specific locations. Once the soil-landscape model is refined, a significantly smaller number of measurements of individual soil properties are made and recorded. These measurements may include field measurements, such as those for color, depth to bedrock, and texture, and laboratory measurements, such as those for content of sand, silt, clay, salt, and other components. Properties of each soil typically vary from one point to another across the landscape.

Observations for map unit components are aggregated to develop ranges of characteristics for the components. The aggregated values are presented. Direct measurements do not exist for every property presented for every map unit component. Values for some properties are estimated from combinations of other properties.

While a soil survey is in progress, samples of some of the soils in the area generally are collected for laboratory analyses and for engineering tests. Soil scientists interpret the data from these analyses and tests as well as the field-observed characteristics and the soil properties to determine the expected behavior of the soils under different uses. Interpretations for all of the soils are field tested through observation of the soils in different uses and under different levels of management. Some interpretations are modified to fit local conditions, and some new interpretations are developed to meet local needs. Data are assembled from other sources, such as research information, production records, and field experience of specialists. For example, data on crop yields under defined levels of management are assembled from farm records and from field or plot experiments on the same kinds of soil.

Predictions about soil behavior are based not only on soil properties but also on such variables as climate and biological activity. Soil conditions are predictable over long periods of time, but they are not predictable from year to year. For example, soil scientists can predict with a fairly high degree of accuracy that a given soil will have a high water table within certain depths in most years, but they cannot predict that a high water table will always be at a specific level in the soil on a specific date.

After soil scientists located and identified the significant natural bodies of soil in the survey area, they drew the boundaries of these bodies on aerial photographs and

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identified each as a specific map unit. Aerial photographs show trees, buildings, fields, roads, and rivers, all of which help in locating boundaries accurately.

Soil Map






























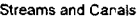





The soil map section includes the soil map for the defined area of interest, a list of soil map units on the map and extent of each map unit, and cartographic symbols displayed on the map. Also presented are various metadata about data used to produce the map, and a description of each soil map unit.

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Custom Soil Resource Report

MAP LEGEND		MAP INFORMATION
<p>Area of Interest (AOI)</p> <p> Area of Interest (AOI)</p> <p>Soils</p> <p> Soil Map Unit Polygons</p> <p> Soil Map Unit Lines</p> <p> Soil Map Unit Points</p> <p>Special Point Features</p> <p> Blowout</p> <p> Borrow Pit</p> <p> Clay Spot</p> <p> Closed Depression</p> <p> Gravel Pit</p> <p> Gravelly Spot</p> <p> Landfill</p> <p> Lava Flow</p> <p> Marsh or swamp</p> <p> Mine or Quarry</p> <p> Miscellaneous Water</p> <p> Perennial Water</p> <p> Rock Outcrop</p> <p> Saline Spot</p> <p> Sandy Spot</p> <p> Severely Eroded Spot</p> <p> Sinkhole</p> <p> Slide or Slip</p> <p> Sodic Spot</p>	<p> Spoil Area</p> <p> Stony Spot</p> <p> Very Stony Spot</p> <p> Wet Spot</p> <p> Other</p> <p> Special Line Features</p> <p>Water Features</p> <p> Streams and Canals</p> <p>Transportation</p> <p> Rails</p> <p> Interstate Highways</p> <p> US Routes</p> <p> Major Roads</p> <p>Background</p> <p> Aerial Photography</p>	<p>The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:20,000.</p> <p>Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.</p> <p>Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL: Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG 3857)</p> <p>Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.</p> <p>This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.</p> <p>Soil Survey Area: Hidalgo County, Texas Survey Area Data: Version 13, Sep 15, 2016</p> <p>Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.</p> <p>Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Dec 10, 2010—Feb 18, 2015</p> <p>The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.</p>

Custom Soil Resource Report

Map Unit Legend

Hidalgo County, Texas (TX215)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
2	Benito clay	212.1	1.4%
7	Cameron silty clay	63.4	0.4%
15	Grulla clay	5.8	0.0%
19	Harlingen clay	11,226.9	72.6%
20	Harlingen clay, saline	826.2	5.3%
28	Hidalgo sandy clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	275.4	1.8%
29	Hidalgo sandy clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	5.8	0.0%
45	Pits, borrow	36.7	0.2%
55	Reynosa silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	40.3	0.3%
64	Runn silty clay	2,280.3	14.7%
65	Runn silty clay, saline	58.0	0.4%
LEVEE	Levee	264.0	1.7%
M-W	Miscellaneous water	35.5	0.2%
W	Water	131.7	0.9%
Totals for Area of Interest		15,462.0	100.0%

Map Unit Descriptions

The map units delineated on the detailed soil maps in a soil survey represent the soils or miscellaneous areas in the survey area. The map unit descriptions, along with the maps, can be used to determine the composition and properties of a unit.

A map unit delineation on a soil map represents an area dominated by one or more major kinds of soil or miscellaneous areas. A map unit is identified and named according to the taxonomic classification of the dominant soils. Within a taxonomic class there are precisely defined limits for the properties of the soils. On the landscape, however, the soils are natural phenomena, and they have the characteristic variability of all natural phenomena. Thus, the range of some observed properties may extend beyond the limits defined for a taxonomic class. Areas of soils of a single taxonomic class rarely, if ever, can be mapped without including areas of other taxonomic classes. Consequently, every map unit is made up of the soils or miscellaneous areas for which it is named and some minor components that belong to taxonomic classes other than those of the major soils.

Most minor soils have properties similar to those of the dominant soil or soils in the map unit, and thus they do not affect use and management. These are called noncontrasting, or similar, components. They may or may not be mentioned in a particular map unit description. Other minor components, however, have properties

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and behavioral characteristics divergent enough to affect use or to require different management. These are called contrasting, or dissimilar, components. They generally are in small areas and could not be mapped separately because of the scale used. Some small areas of strongly contrasting soils or miscellaneous areas are identified by a special symbol on the maps. If included in the database for a given area, the contrasting minor components are identified in the map unit descriptions along with some characteristics of each. A few areas of minor components may not have been observed, and consequently they are not mentioned in the descriptions, especially where the pattern was so complex that it was impractical to make enough observations to identify all the soils and miscellaneous areas on the landscape.

The presence of minor components in a map unit in no way diminishes the usefulness or accuracy of the data. The objective of mapping is not to delineate pure taxonomic classes but rather to separate the landscape into landforms or landform segments that have similar use and management requirements. The delineation of such segments on the map provides sufficient information for the development of resource plans. If intensive use of small areas is planned, however, onsite investigation is needed to define and locate the soils and miscellaneous areas.

An identifying symbol precedes the map unit name in the map unit descriptions. Each description includes general facts about the unit and gives important soil properties and qualities.

Soils that have profiles that are almost alike make up a *soil series*. Except for differences in texture of the surface layer, all the soils of a series have major horizons that are similar in composition, thickness, and arrangement.

Soils of one series can differ in texture of the surface layer, slope, stoniness, salinity, degree of erosion, and other characteristics that affect their use. On the basis of such differences, a soil series is divided into *soil phases*. Most of the areas shown on the detailed soil maps are phases of soil series. The name of a soil phase commonly indicates a feature that affects use or management. For example, Alpha silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is a phase of the Alpha series.

Some map units are made up of two or more major soils or miscellaneous areas. These map units are complexes, associations, or undifferentiated groups.

A *complex* consists of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas in such an intricate pattern or in such small areas that they cannot be shown separately on the maps. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar in all areas. Alpha-Beta complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes, is an example.

An *association* is made up of two or more geographically associated soils or miscellaneous areas that are shown as one unit on the maps. Because of present or anticipated uses of the map units in the survey area, it was not considered practical or necessary to map the soils or miscellaneous areas separately. The pattern and relative proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar. Alpha-Beta association, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

An *undifferentiated group* is made up of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas that could be mapped individually but are mapped as one unit because similar interpretations can be made for use and management. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas in a mapped area are not uniform. An area can be made up of only one of the major soils or miscellaneous areas, or it can be made up of all of them. Alpha and Beta soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

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Some surveys include *miscellaneous areas*. Such areas have little or no soil material and support little or no vegetation. Rock outcrop is an example.

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Hidalgo County, Texas

2—Benito clay

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: dbkw
Elevation: 30 to 70 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 22 to 31 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 73 to 75 degrees F
Frost-free period: 320 to 350 days
Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Benito and similar soils: 90 percent
Minor components: 10 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit

Description of Benito

Setting

Landform: Stream terraces
Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Concave
Parent material: Calcareous clayey alluvium

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 7 inches: clay
H2 - 7 to 56 inches: clay
H3 - 56 to 65 inches: clay
H4 - 65 to 69 inches: clay

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Natural drainage class: Poorly drained
Runoff class: High
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Very low to moderately low (0.00 to 0.06 in/hr)
Depth to water table: About 0 inches
Frequency of flooding: Rare
Frequency of ponding: Occasional
Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 20 percent
Salinity, maximum in profile: Slightly saline to strongly saline (4.0 to 16.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum in profile: 30.0
Available water storage in profile: Low (about 4.9 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 4w
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 6s
Hydrologic Soil Group: D
Ecological site: SALTY PRAIRIE 22-35" PZ (R083DY515TX)
Hydric soil rating: Yes

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Minor Components

Unnamed

Percent of map unit: 10 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

7—Cameron silty clay

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: dbmn
Elevation: 30 to 50 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 28 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 73 to 75 degrees F
Frost-free period: 330 to 365 days
Farmland classification: All areas are prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Cameron and similar soils: 90 percent
Minor components: 10 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Cameron

Setting

Landform: Stream terraces
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Concave
Parent material: Calcareous clayey alluvium

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 30 inches: silty clay
H2 - 30 to 65 inches: silt loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Natural drainage class: Moderately well drained
Runoff class: Low
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.57 in/hr)
Depth to water table: About 60 to 72 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 30 percent
Salinity, maximum in profile: Nonsaline to slightly saline (0.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum in profile: 2.0
Available water storage in profile: High (about 9.6 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 2s

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Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2s
Hydrologic Soil Group: C
Ecological site: CLAYEY BOTTOMLAND 20-35" PZ (R083DY495TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Unnamed

Percent of map unit: 10 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

15—Grulla clay

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: dbkq
Elevation: 50 to 550 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 19 to 25 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 73 degrees F
Frost-free period: 314 to 341 days
Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Grulla and similar soils: 90 percent
Minor components: 10 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Grulla

Setting

Landform: Oxbows, sloughs
Down-slope shape: Concave
Across-slope shape: Concave
Parent material: Calcareous clayey alluvium

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 7 inches: clay
H2 - 7 to 65 inches: clay

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Natural drainage class: Somewhat poorly drained
Runoff class: High
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Very low to moderately low (0.00 to 0.06 in/hr)
Depth to water table: About 0 inches
Frequency of flooding: Frequent
Frequency of ponding: Occasional
Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 5 percent
Salinity, maximum in profile: Nonsaline to slightly saline (0.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm)
Available water storage in profile: High (about 9.0 inches)

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Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 4w
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 4w
Hydrologic Soil Group: D
Ecological site: CLAYEY BOTTOMLAND 20-35" PZ (R083DY495TX)
Hydric soil rating: Yes

Minor Components

Unnamed

Percent of map unit: 10 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

19—Harlingen clay

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: dbkv
Elevation: 20 to 120 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 25 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 73 degrees F
Frost-free period: 325 to 345 days
Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Harlingen and similar soils: 85 percent
Minor components: 15 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Harlingen

Setting

Landform: Delta plains
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Calcareous clayey alluvium; calcareous clayey alluvium

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 8 inches: clay
H2 - 8 to 35 inches: clay
H3 - 35 to 72 inches: clay

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Natural drainage class: Moderately well drained
Runoff class: High
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Very low to moderately low (0.00 to 0.06 in/hr)
Depth to water table: More than 80 inches
Frequency of flooding: None

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Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 25 percent
Gypsum, maximum in profile: 2 percent
Salinity, maximum in profile: Slightly saline to strongly saline (4.0 to 16.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum in profile: 25.0
Available water storage in profile: Low (about 5.7 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3s
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3s
Hydrologic Soil Group: D
Ecological site: CLAYEY BOTTOMLAND 20-35" PZ (R083DY495TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Unnamed

Percent of map unit: 15 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

20—Harlingen clay, saline

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: dbkx
Elevation: 20 to 50 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 25 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 73 degrees F
Frost-free period: 325 to 345 days
Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Harlingen and similar soils: 85 percent
Minor components: 15 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Harlingen

Setting

Landform: Delta plains
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Calcareous, saline clayey alluvium

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 8 inches: clay
H2 - 8 to 35 inches: clay
H3 - 35 to 72 inches: clay

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent

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Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Natural drainage class: Moderately well drained
Runoff class: High
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Very low to moderately low (0.00 to 0.06 in/hr)
Depth to water table: More than 80 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 25 percent
Gypsum, maximum in profile: 2 percent
Salinity, maximum in profile: Strongly saline (16.0 to 20.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum in profile: 25.0
Available water storage in profile: Very low (about 2.8 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 4s
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 4s
Hydrologic Soil Group: D
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components**Unnamed**

Percent of map unit: 15 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

28—Hidalgo sandy clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes**Map Unit Setting**

National map unit symbol: 2sxl
Elevation: 20 to 500 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 27 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 72 to 74 degrees F
Frost-free period: 300 to 365 days
Farmland classification: All areas are prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Hidalgo and similar soils: 85 percent
Minor components: 15 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Hidalgo**Setting**

Landform: Terraces
Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Calcareous loamy alluvium

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Typical profile

Ap - 0 to 17 inches: sandy clay loam
Bk1 - 17 to 28 inches: sandy clay loam
Bk2 - 28 to 38 inches: clay loam
Ck - 38 to 80 inches: clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Natural drainage class: Well drained
Runoff class: Negligible
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr)
Depth to water table: More than 80 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 35 percent
Salinity, maximum in profile: Nonsaline to slightly saline (0.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum in profile: 10.0
Available water storage in profile: Moderate (about 7.8 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 1
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2c
Hydrologic Soil Group: B
Ecological site: GRAY SANDY LOAM 20-25" PZ (R083DY501TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components**Raymondville**

Percent of map unit: 7 percent
Landform: Terraces
Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Ecological site: CLAY LOAM 20-25" PZ (R083DY493TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

Racombes

Percent of map unit: 6 percent
Landform: Terraces
Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Ecological site: CLAY LOAM 20-25" PZ (R083DY493TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

Willacy

Percent of map unit: 2 percent
Landform: Terraces
Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Ecological site: SANDY LOAM 25-35" PZ (R083DY519TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

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29—Hidalgo sandy clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes**Map Unit Setting**

National map unit symbol: dbl6
Elevation: 20 to 500 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 30 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 70 to 73 degrees F
Frost-free period: 290 to 340 days
Farmland classification: Prime farmland if irrigated

Map Unit Composition

Hidalgo and similar soils: 85 percent
Minor components: 15 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Hidalgo**Setting**

Landform: Delta plains
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Calcareous loamy alluvium

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 17 inches: sandy clay loam
H2 - 17 to 28 inches: sandy clay loam
H3 - 28 to 80 inches: sandy clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 1 to 3 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Natural drainage class: Well drained
Runoff class: Low
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr)
Depth to water table: More than 80 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 35 percent
Salinity, maximum in profile: Nonsaline to slightly saline (0.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum in profile: 10.0
Available water storage in profile: High (about 9.3 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 2e
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2e
Hydrologic Soil Group: B
Ecological site: GRAY SANDY LOAM 20-25" PZ (R083DY501TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

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Minor Components

Unnamed

Percent of map unit: 15 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

45—Pits, borrow

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: dbls
Elevation: 50 to 850 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 41 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 64 to 73 degrees F
Frost-free period: 225 to 325 days
Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Pits: 100 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Pits

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 80 inches: variable

Properties and qualities

Slope: 1 to 30 percent
Natural drainage class: Well drained
Runoff class: Very low
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to very high (0.57 to 19.98 in/hr)
Frequency of flooding: Occasional

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 7e
Hydrologic Soil Group: B
Hydric soil rating: No

55—Reynosa silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: dbm4
Elevation: 700 to 1,200 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 17 to 27 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 70 to 73 degrees F

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Frost-free period: 250 to 270 days

Farmland classification: All areas are prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Reynosa and similar soils: 85 percent

Minor components: 15 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit

Description of Reynosa**Setting**

Landform: Stream terraces

Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread

Down-slope shape: Linear

Across-slope shape: Linear

Parent material: Calcareous loamy alluvium

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 15 inches: silty clay loam

H2 - 15 to 48 inches: silty clay loam

H3 - 48 to 80 inches: silty clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Natural drainage class: Well drained

Runoff class: Negligible

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 30 percent

Salinity, maximum in profile: Nonsaline to slightly saline (0.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm)

Available water storage in profile: High (about 11.8 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 1

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3c

Hydrologic Soil Group: B

Ecological site: LOAMY BOTTOMLAND 20-35" PZ (R083DY505TX)

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components**Unnamed**

Percent of map unit: 15 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

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64—Runn silty clay

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: dbmg
Elevation: 100 to 200 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 27 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 72 to 75 degrees F
Frost-free period: 260 to 320 days
Farmland classification: All areas are prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Runn and similar soils: 85 percent
Minor components: 15 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Runn

Setting

Landform: Delta plains
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Calcareous silty alluvium

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 55 inches: silty clay
H2 - 55 to 65 inches: silty clay

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 1 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Natural drainage class: Moderately well drained
Runoff class: Medium
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)
Depth to water table: More than 80 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 5 percent
Salinity, maximum in profile: Slightly saline to strongly saline (4.0 to 16.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum in profile: 4.0
Available water storage in profile: High (about 10.1 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 2s
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2s
Hydrologic Soil Group: C
Ecological site: CLAYEY BOTTOMLAND 20-35" PZ (R083DY495TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

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Minor Components**Unnamed***Percent of map unit: 15 percent**Hydric soil rating: No***65—Runn silty clay, saline****Map Unit Setting***National map unit symbol: dbmh**Elevation: 50 to 300 feet**Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 26 inches**Mean annual air temperature: 73 to 75 degrees F**Frost-free period: 310 to 335 days**Farmland classification: Not prime farmland***Map Unit Composition***Runn and similar soils: 85 percent**Minor components: 15 percent**Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.***Description of Runn****Setting***Landform: Delta plains**Down-slope shape: Linear**Across-slope shape: Linear**Parent material: Calcareous silty alluvium***Typical profile***H1 - 0 to 55 inches: silty clay**H2 - 55 to 65 inches: silty clay***Properties and qualities***Slope: 0 to 1 percent**Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches**Natural drainage class: Moderately well drained**Runoff class: Medium**Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)**Depth to water table: About 30 to 60 inches**Frequency of flooding: None**Frequency of ponding: None**Calcium carbonate, maximum in profile: 5 percent**Salinity, maximum in profile: Slightly saline to strongly saline (4.0 to 16.0 mmhos/cm)**Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum in profile: 10.0**Available water storage in profile: Low (about 5.4 inches)*

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Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 4s
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 4s
Hydrologic Soil Group: C
Ecological site: CLAYEY BOTTOMLAND 20-35" PZ (R083DY495TX)
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Unnamed

Percent of map unit: 15 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

LEVEE—Levee

Map Unit Composition

Levee: 100 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

M-W—Miscellaneous water

Map Unit Composition

Water, miscellaneous: 100 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

W—Water

Map Unit Composition

Water: 100 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

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United States Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Agency

Control Number FOIA 48-000-000005

Texas State Office

2405 Texas Ave S
College Station
Texas, 77840
Voice 979.680.5150
Fax 844.496.7880

Anastacia Santos
Power Engineers, Inc.
3944 Murphy Canyon Rd, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Ms. Santos:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (copy attached) dated February 16, 2017, control number 48-000-000005.

We have completed our search for responsive records in the Farm Service Agency (FSA) files. No responsive documents were located.

If you believe that there are, in fact, records responsive to your request in files maintained by FSA, you may appeal to the FSA Administrator. The Appeals and Litigation Staff must receive your written appeal within ninety (90) calendar days of the date of this letter. Please include in the appeal the location of the responsive records, if it is known to you, and the reason why you believe that there are records responsive to your request in FSA files. Be sure to include a copy of your initial request letter in your appeal package. You may submit your appeal electronically to FSAFOIAappeal@wdc.usda.gov or by mail. If mailing the appeal, clearly mark both your letter and its envelope with the words "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Mail your appeal package to the following address.

ADMINISTRATOR
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You may seek dispute resolution services from the FSA FOIA liaison. Contact information for the FSA FOIA liaison is:

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
8601 ADELPHI ROAD-OGIS
COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND 20740-6001
PHONE: (202) 741-5770
TOLL FREE: (877) 684-6448
FAX: (202) 741-5769
EMAIL: ogis@nara.gov.

Contacting the FSA FOIA liaison or the Office of Government Information Services does not affect your right to administratively appeal to FSA.

The cost of processing your request is \$0.00, calculated as follows:

Sincerely,



Erasmo Trevino
Acting State Executive Director

Attachment

FEB 23 2017



POWER ENGINEERS, INC.
3944 MURPHY CANYON ROAD
SUITE 100
SAN DIEGO, CA 92123 USA

PHONE 858-810-5300
FAX 858-810-5399

February 16, 2017
(Via USPS)

Ms. Judith Canales
State Executive Director
USDA, FSA Texas State Office
2405 Texas Ave. S
College Station, TX 77840-4699

**Re: Proposed Stewart Road 345-kV Transmission Line, Hidalgo County, Texas
POWER Engineers, Inc. – Project No. 145192**

Dear Ms. Canales:

Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) will be filing an application to amend its existing two Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCNs) with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) to construct a new double-circuit 345-kV transmission line in Hidalgo County. The proposed transmission line project will extend approximately 5 miles between the existing Stewart Road Substation, located south of Alamo east of FM 2557/Stewart Road, to a tap along the existing North Edinburg-Palmito 345-kV Transmission Line.

POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) is preparing an Environmental Assessment to support ETT's CCN applications with the PUC. POWER is gathering data on the existing environment and identifying environmental, cultural and land use constraints within the study area. POWER will identify potential alternative route links between the end points that consider these environmental, cultural and land use constraints and the need to serve electrical load in the area. The location of the study area is shown on the enclosed map.

We are requesting that your agency/office provide information concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues of interest to your agency/office within the study area. Your input will be an important consideration in the evaluation of alternative routes and in the assessment of potential impacts of those routes. In addition, we would appreciate receiving information about any permits, easements, or other approvals by your agency/office that you believe could affect this project, or if you are aware of any major proposed development or construction in the study area. Upon certification of a final route for the proposed project, ETT will identify and obtain necessary permits, if required, from your agency/office.

Thank you for your assistance with this proposed electric transmission line project. Please contact me by phone at 858-810-5368, or by e-mail at anastacia.santos@powereng.com if you have any questions or require additional information. We would appreciate receiving your reply by March 14, 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anastacia Santos".

Anastacia Santos
Project Manager

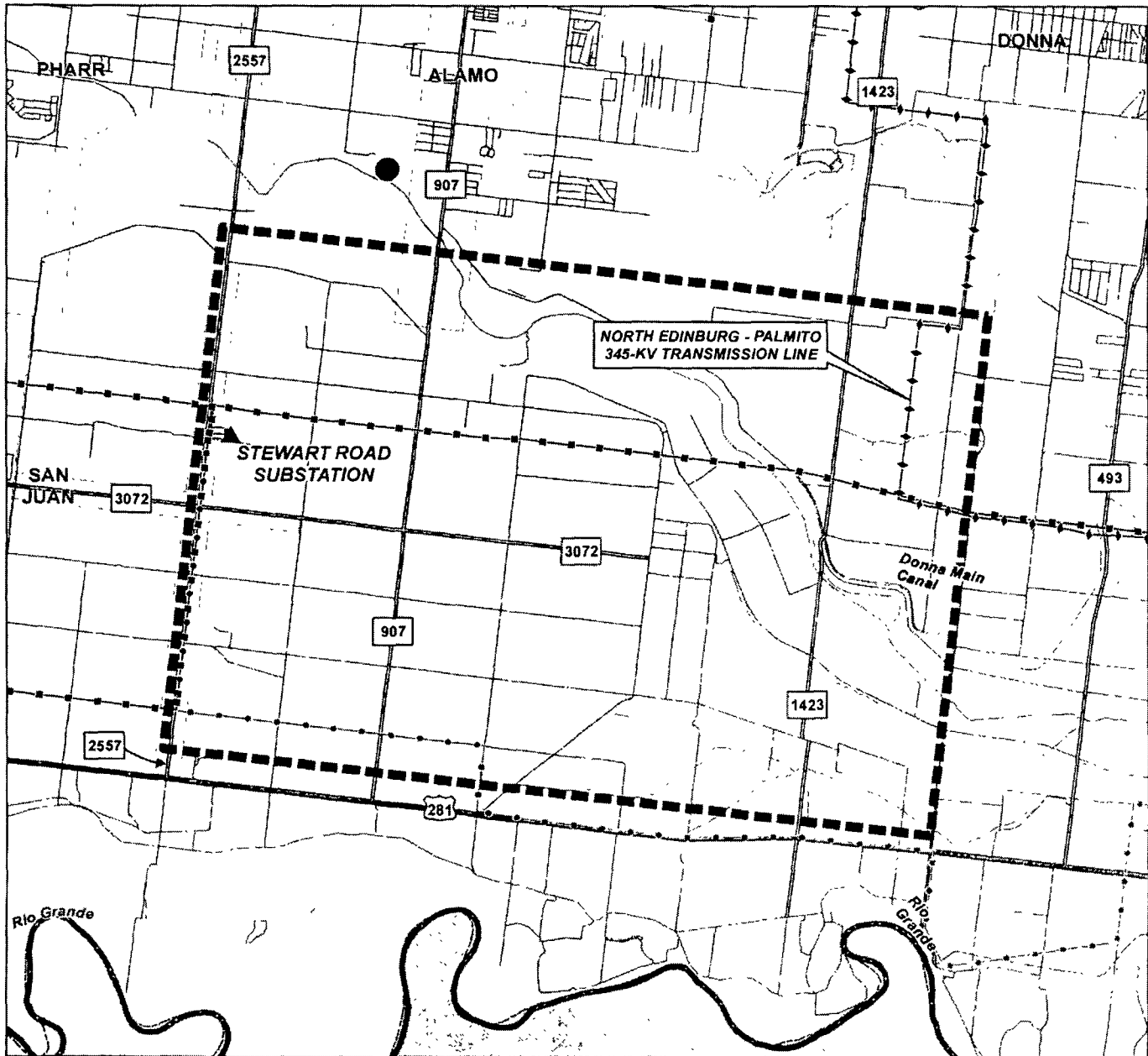
Enclosure(s):
Preliminary Study Area Map

Sent via: USPS

ANA 305-014 (PER 02) ETT 145192 (02/01/2017) YU

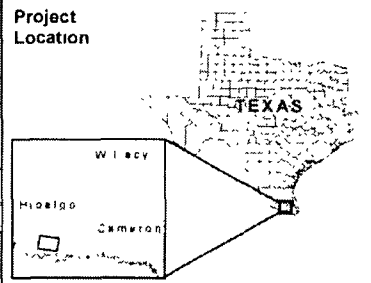
WWW.POWERENG.COM

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**STEWART ROAD
345-KV TRANSMISSION
LINE PROJECT
STUDY AREA BOUNDARY**

- Project Components**
- ▲ Project Substation
 - ▬ Study Area Boundary
- Utility Features**
- Existing 345-kV Transmission Line
 - Existing 138-kV Transmission Line
 - Existing 69-kV Transmission Line
- Transportation Features**
- Private Airstrip
 - 281 US Highway
 - 1423 Farm-to-Market Road
 - County / Local Road
- Surface Waters**
- Canal or Stream Lake
 - Rio Grande River
- Administrative Features**
- City Boundary
 - Mexico



0 0.5 1
Miles

POWER ENGINEERS
Date 2/15/2017

ETT
Electric Transmission Texas

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U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Southwest Region
10101 Hillwood Parkway
Fort Worth, TX 76177

MAR 3 2017

Anastacia Santos
Power Engineers, Inc.
3944 Murphy Canyon Road
Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Ms. Santos:

This is in response to your February 16, 2017 correspondence concerning a proposed new double circuit 345 kilovolt transmission line in Hidalgo County, Texas. You requested information concerning environmental and land use constraints or other issues within the study area. You also requested information regarding any permits, easements, or other approvals by the agency that may affect the project.

As stated in Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) Part 77, Objects that Affect the Navigable Airspace, the prime objectives of the FAA are to promote air safety and the efficient use of the navigable airspace.

To accomplish this mission, aeronautical studies are conducted based on information provided by the proponents on a FAA Form 7460-1, Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration. If your organization is planning to sponsor any construction or alterations which may affect navigable airspace, you must file FAA Form 7460-1 electronically via <https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/portal.jsp>.

For future reference, you may contact the Obstruction Evaluation Group at 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, Texas 76177 or (817) 222-5934.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael P. O'Hara".

for Kelvin L. Solco
Regional Administrator,
Southwest Region

CC: Obstruction Evaluation Group, AJV-15

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United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office

17629 EL CAMINO REAL #211

HOUSTON, TX 77058

PHONE: (281)286-8282 FAX: (281)488-5882

URL: www.fws.gov/southwest/es/TexasCoastal/;
www.fws.gov/southwest/es/ES_Lists_Main2.html

Consultation Code: 02ETTX00-2017-SLI-0825

March 09, 2017

Event Code: 02ETTX00-2017-E-01404

Project Name: Steward Road Transmission Line Project

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) field offices in Clear Lake, Tx, and Corpus Christi, Tx, have combined administratively to form the Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office. A map of the Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office area of responsibility can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/TexasCoastal/Map.html>. All project related correspondence should be sent to the field office responsible for the area in which your project occurs. For projects located in southeast Texas please write to: Field Supervisor; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 17629 El Camino Real Ste. 211; Houston, Texas 77058. For projects located in southern Texas please write to: Field Supervisor; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; P.O. Box 81468; Corpus Christi, Texas 78468-1468.

The enclosed species list identifies federally threatened, endangered, and proposed to be listed species; designated critical habitat; and candidate species that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list is provided by the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

New information from updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changes in habitat conditions, or other factors could change the list. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/> at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species list and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

Candidate species have no protection under the Act but are included for consideration because they could be listed prior to the completion of your project. The other species information should help you determine if suitable habitat for these listed species exists in any of the proposed project areas or if project activities may affect species on-site, off-site, and/or result in "take" of a federally listed species.

"Take" is defined as harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. In addition to the direct take of an individual animal, habitat destruction or modification can be considered take, regardless of whether it has been formally designated as critical habitat, if the activity results in the death or injury of wildlife by removing essential habitat components or significantly alters essential behavior patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering.

Section 7

Section 7 of the Act requires that all Federal agencies consult with the Service to ensure that actions authorized, funded or carried out by such agencies do not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed threatened or endangered species or adversely modify or destroy critical habitat of such species. It is the responsibility of the Federal action agency to determine if the proposed project may affect threatened or endangered species. If a "may affect" determination is made, the Federal agency shall initiate the section 7 consultation process by writing to the office that has responsibility for the area in which your project occurs.

Is not likely to adversely affect - the project may affect listed species and/or critical habitat; however, the effects are expected to be discountable, insignificant, or completely beneficial. Certain avoidance and minimization measures may need to be implemented in order to reach this level of effects. The Federal agency or the designated non-Federal representative should seek written concurrence from the Service that adverse effects have been eliminated. Be sure to include all of the information and documentation used to reach your decision with your request for concurrence. The Service must have this documentation before issuing a concurrence.

Is likely to adversely affect - adverse effects to listed species may occur as a direct or indirect result of the proposed action or its interrelated or interdependent actions, and the effect is not discountable, insignificant, or beneficial. If the overall effect of the proposed action is beneficial to the listed species but also is likely to cause some adverse effects to individuals of that species, then the proposed action "is likely to adversely affect" the listed species. An "is likely to adversely affect" determination requires the Federal action agency to initiate formal section 7 consultation with this office.

No effect - the proposed action will not affect federally listed species or critical habitat (i.e., suitable habitat for the species occurring in the project county is not present in or adjacent to the action area). No further coordination or contact with the Service is necessary. However, if the project changes or additional information on the distribution of listed or proposed species becomes available, the project should be reanalyzed for effects not previously considered.

Regardless of your determination, the Service recommends that you maintain a complete record of the evaluation, including steps leading to the determination of affect, the qualified personnel

conducting the evaluation, habitat conditions, site photographs, and any other related articles.

Please be advised that while a Federal agency may designate a non-Federal representative to conduct informal consultations with the Service, assess project effects, or prepare a biological assessment, the Federal agency must notify the Service in writing of such a designation. The Federal agency shall also independently review and evaluate the scope and contents of a biological assessment prepared by their designated non-Federal representative before that document is submitted to the Service.

The Service's Consultation Handbook is available online to assist you with further information on definitions, process, and fulfilling Act requirements for your projects at: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/esa_section7_handbook.pdf

Section 10

If there is no federal involvement and the proposed project is being funded or carried out by private interests and/or non-federal government agencies, and the project as proposed may affect listed species, a section 10(a)(1)(B) permit is recommended. The Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook is available at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/permits/hcp/hcphandbook.html>.

Service Response

Please note that the Service strives to respond to requests for project review within 30 days of receipt, however, this time period is not mandated by regulation. Responses may be delayed due to workload and lack of staff. Failure to meet the 30-day timeframe does not constitute a concurrence from the Service that the proposed project will not have impacts to threatened and endangered species.

Candidate Species

Several species of freshwater mussels occur in Texas and five are candidates for listing under the ESA. The Service is also reviewing the status of six other species for potential listing under the ESA. One of the main contributors to mussel die offs is sedimentation, which smothers and suffocates mussels. To reduce sedimentation within rivers, streams, and tributaries crossed by a project, the Service recommends that that you implement the best management practices found at: <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/TexasCoastal/FreshwaterMussels.html>.

Candidate Conservation Agreements (CCAs) or Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAAs) are voluntary agreements between the Service and public or private entities to implement conservation measures to address threats to candidate species. Implementing conservation efforts before species are listed increases the likelihood that simpler, flexible, and more cost-effective conservation options are available. A CCAA can provide participants with assurances that if they engage in conservation actions, they will not be required to implement additional conservation measures beyond those in the agreement. For additional information on CCAs/CCAAs please visit the Service's website at <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/what-we-do/cca.html>.

Migratory Birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) implements various treaties and conventions for the protection of migratory birds. Under the MBTA, taking, killing, or possessing migratory birds is unlawful. Many may nest in trees, brush areas or other suitable habitat. The Service recommends activities requiring vegetation removal or disturbance avoid the peak nesting period of March through August to avoid destruction of individuals or eggs. If project activities must be conducted during this time, we recommend surveying for active nests prior to commencing work. A list of migratory birds may be viewed at <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/regulationspolicies/mbta/mbtandx.html>.

The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was delisted under the Act on August 9, 2007. Both the bald eagle and the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) are still protected under the MBTA and BGEPA. The BGEPA affords both eagles protection in addition to that provided by the MBTA, in particular, by making it unlawful to "disturb" eagles. Under the BGEPA, the Service may issue limited permits to incidentally "take" eagles (e.g., injury, interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior nest abandonment). For more information on bald and golden eagle management guidelines, we recommend you review information provided at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/pdf/NationalBaldEagleManagementGuidelines.pdf>

The construction of overhead power lines creates threats of avian collision and electrocution. The Service recommends the installation of underground rather than overhead power lines whenever possible. For new overhead lines or retrofitting of old lines, we recommend that project developers implement, to the maximum extent practicable, the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee guidelines found at <http://www.aplic.org/>.

Meteorological and communication towers are estimated to kill millions of birds per year. We recommend following the guidance set forth in the Service Interim Guidelines for Recommendations on Communications Tower Siting, Construction, Operation and Decommissioning, found online at:

<http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/communicationtowers.html>, to minimize the threat of avian mortality at these towers. Monitoring at these towers would provide insight into the effectiveness of the minimization measures. We request the results of any wildlife mortality monitoring at towers associated with this project.

We request that you provide us with the final location and specifications of your proposed towers, as well as the recommendations implemented. A Tower Site Evaluation Form is also available via the above website; we recommend you complete this form and keep it in your files. If meteorological towers are to be constructed, please forward this completed form to our office.

More information concerning sections 7 and 10 of the Act, migratory birds, candidate species, and landowner tools can be found on our website at:

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/TexasCoastal/ProjectReviews.html>.

Wetlands and Wildlife Habitat

Wetlands and riparian zones provide valuable fish and wildlife habitat as well as contribute to

ood control, water quality enhancement, and groundwater recharge. Wetland and riparian vegetation provides food and cover for wildlife, stabilizes banks and decreases soil erosion. These areas are inherently dynamic and very sensitive to changes caused by such activities as overgrazing, logging, major construction, or earth disturbance. Executive Order 11990 asserts that each agency shall provide leadership and take action to minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial value of wetlands in carrying out the agency's responsibilities. Construction activities near riparian zones should be carefully designed to minimize impacts. If vegetation clearing is needed in these riparian areas, they should be re-vegetated with native wetland and riparian vegetation to prevent erosion or loss of habitat. We recommend minimizing the area of soil scarification and initiating incremental re-establishment of herbaceous vegetation at the proposed work sites. Denuded and/or disturbed areas should be re-vegetated with a mixture of native legumes and grasses. Species commonly used for soil stabilization are listed in the Texas Department of Agriculture's (TDA) Native Tree and Plant Directory, available from TDA at P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711. The Service also urges taking precautions to ensure sediment loading does not occur to any receiving streams in the proposed project area. To prevent and/or minimize soil erosion and compaction associated with construction activities, avoid any unnecessary clearing of vegetation, and follow established rights-of-way whenever possible. All machinery and petroleum products should be stored outside the floodplain and/or wetland area during construction to prevent possible contamination of water and soils.

Wetlands and riparian areas are high priority fish and wildlife habitat, serving as important sources of food, cover, and shelter for numerous species of resident and migratory wildlife. Waterfowl and other migratory birds use wetlands and riparian corridors as stopover, feeding, and nesting areas. We strongly recommend that the selected project site not impact wetlands and riparian areas, and be located as far as practical from these areas. Migratory birds tend to concentrate in or near wetlands and riparian areas and use these areas as migratory ways or corridors. After every effort has been made to avoid impacting wetlands, you anticipate unavoidable wetland impacts will occur; you should contact the appropriate U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office to determine if a permit is necessary prior to commencement of construction activities.

If your project will involve filling, dredging, or trenching of a wetland or riparian area it may require a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE). For permitting requirements please contact the U.S. Corps of Engineers, District Engineer, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, Texas 77553-1229, (409) 766-3002.

Beneficial Landscaping

In accordance with Executive Order 13112 on Invasive Species and the Executive Memorandum on Beneficial Landscaping (42 C.F.R. 26961), where possible, any landscaping associated with project plans should be limited to seeding and replanting with native species. A mixture of grasses and forbs appropriate to address potential erosion problems and long-term cover should be planted when seed is reasonably available. Although Bermuda grass is listed in seed mixtures, this species and other introduced species should be avoided as much as possible. The Service also recommends the use of native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous species that are adaptable, drought tolerant and conserve water.

State Listed Species

The State of Texas protects certain species. Please contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (Endangered Resources Branch), 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744 (telephone 512/389-8021) for information concerning fish, wildlife, and plants of State concern or visit their website at:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/texas_rare_species/listed_species/.

If we can be of further assistance, or if you have any questions about these comments, please contact 281/286-8282 if your project is in southeast Texas, or 361/994-9005 if your project is in southern Texas. Please refer to the Service consultation number listed above in any future correspondence regarding this project.

Attachment



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Steward Road Transmission Line Project

Official Species List

Provided by:

Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office

17629 EL CAMINO REAL #211

HOUSTON, TX 77058

(281) 286-8282

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/TexasCoastal/>

http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/ES_Lists_Main2.html

Consultation Code: 02ETTX00-2017-SLI-0825

Event Code: 02ETTX00-2017-E-01404

Project Type: TRANSMISSION LINE

Project Name: Steward Road Transmission Line Project

Project Description: Transmission Line Project

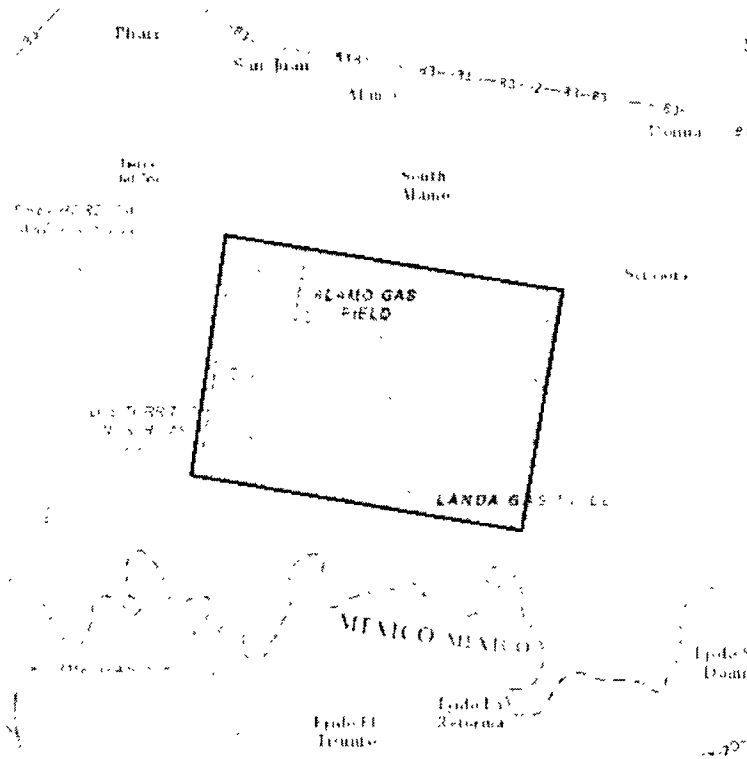
Please Note: The FWS office may have modified the Project Name and/or Project Description, so it may be different from what was submitted in your previous request. If the Consultation Code matches, the FWS considers this to be the same project. Contact the office in the 'Provided by' section of your previous Official Species list if you have any questions or concerns.



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Steward Road Transmission Line Project

Project Location Map:



Project Coordinates: MULTIPOLYGON (((-98.16324949264528 26.092940385908634, -98.07557344436646 26.07981627309837, -98.06525230407716 26.13652268549148, -98.15395832061769 26.14958264856052, -98.16324949264528 26.092940385908634)))

Project Counties: Hidalgo, TX



United States Department of Interior
 Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Steward Road Transmission Line Project

Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of 10 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Note that 3 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Birds	Status	Has Critical Habitat	Condition(s)
Least tern (<i>Sterna antillarum</i>) Population: interior pop	Endangered		Wind Related Projects Within Migratory Route
northern aplomado falcon (<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>) Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population	Endangered		
Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>) Population: except Great Lakes watershed	Threatened	Final designated	Wind related projects within migratory route.
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>) Population: Wherever found	Threatened		Wind Related Projects Within Migratory Route
red-crowned Parrot (<i>Amazona viridigenalis</i>) Population: Wherever found	Candidate		
Flowering Plants			
Star cactus (<i>Astrophytum asterias</i>)	Endangered		



United States Department of Interior
 Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Steward Road Transmission Line Project

Population: Wherever found			
Texas ayenia (<i>Ayenia limitaris</i>) Population: Wherever found	Endangered		
Walker's manioc (<i>Manihot walkerae</i>) Population: Wherever found	Endangered		
Mammals			
Gulf Coast jaguarundi (<i>Herpailurus (=felis) yagouaroundi cacomitli</i>) Population: Wherever found	Endangered		
ocelot (<i>Leopardus (=felis) pardalis</i>) Population: wherever found	Endangered		



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Steward Road Transmission Line Project

Critical habitats that lie within your project area

There are no critical habitats within your project area.

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United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Texas Coastal Ecological Service Field Office
3325 Green Jay Rd
Alamo, TX 78516

In Reply Refer to
FWS/R2/ES/02/TCC/00-2017-1A-0750

March 1, 2017

Ms. Anastacia Santos
Project Manager
Power Engineers
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Ms. Santos:

Thank you for your letter of February 15, 2017, requesting our review of the effects of the proposed 345-kV transmission line on federally listed species in Hidalgo County, Texas. We also evaluated the project with respect to wetlands and other Federal trust fish and wildlife resources. Electric Transmission Texas, LLC proposes to construct a new 5-mile long, double-circuit 345-kV transmission line in Hidalgo County between the Stewart Road Substation, south of Alamo and east of FM 2557/Stewart Road, to a tap along the North Edinburg-Palmito 345-kV Transmission Line. An Environmental Assessment is being prepared and we offer some specific and general recommendations for the project.

The Service specifically requests that the 300 foot right-of-way (ROW) width be reduced as much as possible, with a goal width of no more than 150 feet, to minimize impacts to the landscape and listed species habitat. Right-of-way vegetation pleases the eye, protects against erosion, shelters wildlife, and provides pollination sources. Wild bees in particular can significantly augment and sometimes even replace pollination services provided by the European honey bee. By understanding the landscape and conservation needs of native pollinators like butterflies, humming birds, and other insects, ROW's can provide farmers and ranchers with wild pollinator habitat and enhance pollination services on their farms and ranches. Native pollinators need a diversity of flowering plants and nesting sites. Many of these conservation efforts can be funded through cost-sharing and incentive payments made available through farm bill programs. Among these funding sources are Natural Resources Conservation Service programs such as the Environmental Quality Improvement Program and the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program, as well as the Farm Service Agency Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the CRP State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement program. Carefully implemented vegetation management plans can also help make ROW's more useful and attractive to wildlife by having native plants, forbs and low growing shrubs instead of invasive species like buffel grass and other exotic species.

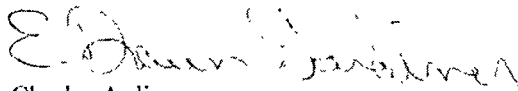
A vegetative buffer strip is an area maintained in permanent vegetation that helps control air, soil, and water quality along with other environmental problems, primarily on land in agriculture and ROW's. Buffer strips can be simply native grass or combinations of grass, forbs, and shrubs. Buffer strips are very important for providing habitat for many species of wildlife in a landscape dominated by open farm lands in the Rio Grande Valley where over 90% of the dense woodlands have been cleared. With much of the land open on farms and ROW's having a corridor or habitat patch allows a safe-haven for animals to move between different ecosystems or cleared lands. Buffers are also helpful in conserving biodiversity especially the endangered ocelot and jaguarundi. Loss of brush habitat, fragmentation, loss

of connectivity, and road mortality are the major impacts to ocelot and jaguarundi recovery.

Regarding other important fish and wildlife resources, please keep in mind that many bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act nest in the project area. The Service recommends that any disturbance to vegetation associated with this project avoid the general nesting period of March through August. If the nesting period cannot be avoided, have a biologist with bird identification experience survey the areas in order to avoid the inadvertent destruction of nests, eggs, etc. and ultimately violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

A list of federally threatened and endangered species is attached for your project assessment to those species. We appreciate the opportunity to provide pre-planning information and if we can be of further assistance, please contact Ernesto Reyes at (956) 784-7560.

Sincerely,


Charles Ardizzone
Field Supervisor

cc: Assistant Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi, TX

From: [Reyes, Ernesto](#)
To: [Santos, Anastacia](#)
Subject: Fwd: TA-750
Date: Monday, March 06, 2017 11:05:57 AM
Attachments: [20170302162820.pdf](#)
[2016 Hidalgo County List.docx](#)

Hi Anastasia,

Sorry for responding to you late on this project, but the letter did not get signed when it was sent to my Supervisor, and got lost in the emails. Here is a technical letter to consider for this project. I can review the EA document when it gets developed. Hope you are doing good.

Thanks,

Ernesto

Ernesto Reyes
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Texas DOI State Border Coordinator
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office
3325 Green Jay Rd
Alamo, Texas 78516
Tel:956-784-7560
Fax:956-787-8338

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United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Texas Coastal Ecological Service Field Office
3325 Green Jay Rd
Alamo, TX 78516

In Reply Refer to
FWS/R2/ES/02ETCC00-2017-TA-0750

March 1, 2017

Ms. Anastacia Santos
Project Manager
Power Engineers
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Ms. Santos:

Thank you for your letter of February 15, 2017, requesting our review of the effects of the proposed 345-kV transmission line on federally listed species in Hidalgo County, Texas. We also evaluated the project with respect to wetlands and other Federal trust fish and wildlife resources. Electric Transmission Texas, LLC proposes to construct a new 5-mile long, double-circuit 345-kV transmission line in Hidalgo County between the Stewart Road Substation, south of Alamo and east of FM 2557/Stewart Road, to a tap along the North Edinburg-Palmito 345-kV Transmission Line. An Environmental Assessment is being prepared and we offer some specific and general recommendations for the project.

The Service specifically requests that the 300 foot right-of-way (ROW) width be reduced as much as possible, with a goal width of no more than 150 feet, to minimize impacts to the landscape and listed species habitat. Right-of-way vegetation pleases the eye, protects against erosion, shelters wildlife, and provides pollination sources. Wild bees in particular can significantly augment and sometimes even replace pollination services provided by the European honey bee. By understanding the landscape and conservation needs of native pollinators like butterflies, humming birds, and other insects, ROW's can provide farmers and ranchers with wild pollinator habitat and enhance pollination services on their farms and ranches. Native pollinators need a diversity of flowering plants and nesting sites. Many of these conservation efforts can be funded through cost-sharing and incentive payments made available through farm bill programs. Among these funding sources are Natural Resources Conservation Service programs such as the Environmental Quality Improvement Program and the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program, as well as the Farm Service Agency Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the CRP State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement program. Carefully implemented vegetation management plans can also help make ROW's more useful and attractive to wildlife by having native plants, forbs and low growing shrubs instead of invasive species like buffel grass and other exotic species.


A vegetative buffer strip is an area maintained in permanent vegetation that helps control air, soil, and water quality along with other environmental problems, primarily on land in agriculture and ROW's. Buffer strips can be simply native grass or combinations of grass, forbs, and shrubs. Buffer strips are very important for providing habitat for many species of wildlife in a landscape dominated by open farm lands in the Rio Grande Valley where over 90% of the dense woodlands have been cleared. With much of the land open on farms and ROW's having a corridor or habitat patch allows a safe-haven for animals to move between different ecosystems or cleared lands. Buffers are also helpful in conserving biodiversity especially the endangered ocelot and jaguarundi. Loss of brush habitat, fragmentation, loss

of connectivity, and road mortality are the major impacts to ocelot and jaguarundi recovery.

Regarding other important fish and wildlife resources, please keep in mind that many bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act nest in the project area. The Service recommends that any disturbance to vegetation associated with this project avoid the general nesting period of March through August. If the nesting period cannot be avoided, have a biologist with bird identification experience survey the areas in order to avoid the inadvertent destruction of nests, eggs, etc. and ultimately violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

A list of federally threatened and endangered species is attached for your project assessment to those species. We appreciate the opportunity to provide pre-planning information and if we can be of further assistance, please contact Ernesto Reyes at (956) 784-7560.

Sincerely,


for Charles Ardizzone
Field Supervisor

cc: Assistant Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi, TX

Federally Listed as Threatened and Endangered Species of Texas

April 7, 2016

County-by-County lists containing species information is available at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service), Southwest Region, web site <http://www.fws.gov/endangered>

This list represents species that may be found in counties throughout the state. It is recommended that the field station responsible for a project area be contacted if additional information is needed.

DISCLAIMER

This County by County list is based on information available to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the time of preparation, date on page 1. This list is subject to change, without notice, as new biological information is gathered and should not be used as the sole source for identifying species that may be impacted by a project.

Hidalgo County

Gulf Coast jaguarundi	(E)	<i>Herpailurus yagouaroundi cacomitli</i>
Least tern*	(E~)	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>
Northern aplomado falcon	(E)	<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>
Ocelot	(E)	<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>
Piping plover*	(T w/CH)	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>
Red-crowned parrot	(C)	<i>Amazona viridigenalis</i>
Red knot*	(T)	<i>Calidris canutus ssp. rufa</i>
Star cactus	(E)	<i>Astrophytum asterias</i>
Texas ayenia	(E)	<i>Ayenia limitaris</i>
Walker's manioc	(E)	<i>Manihot walkerae</i>

INDEX

Statewide or areawide migrants are not included by county, except where they breed or occur in concentrations. The whooping crane is an exception; an attempt is made to include all confirmed sightings on this list.

- E = Species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
- T = Species which is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
- C = Species for which the Service has on file enough substantial information to warrant listing as threatened or endangered.
- CH = Critical Habitat (in Texas unless annotated I)
- P/ = Proposed ...
- P/E = Species proposed to be listed as endangered.
- P/T = Species proposed to be listed as threatened.
- G = with special rule
- I = CH designated (or proposed) outside Texas
- ~ = protection restricted to populations found in the Ainterior@ of the United States. In Texas, the least tern receives full protection, except within 50 miles (80 km) of the Gulf Coast.
- * = Conditional -This species only needs to be considered if wind related projects are within migratory route.

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TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE
GEORGE P. BUSH, COMMISSIONER

February 22, 2017

Anastacia Santos
Power Engineers, Inc.
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123-4498

Re: Proposed Stewart Road 345kV Transmission Line
Hidalgo County, Texas
POWER Engineers, Inc.-Project No. 145192

Dear Ms. Santos:

On behalf of Commissioner Bush, I would like to thank you for your letter concerning the above-referenced project.

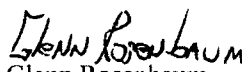
Using your map depicting the project's study area, it does not appear that the General Land Office will have any environmental issues or land use constraints at this time.

When a final route for this proposed project has been determined, please contact me and we can assess the route to determine if the project will cross any streambeds or Permanent School Fund (PSF) land that would require an easement from our agency.

In the interim, if you would like to speak to me further on this project, I can be reached by email at glenn.rosenbaum@glo.texas.gov or by phone at (512) 463-8180.

Again, thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,


Glenn Rosenbaum
Manager, Right-of-Way Department
Leasing Operations

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From: [Chikaodi Agumadu](#)
To: [Santos, Anastacia](#)
Cc: [NEPA](#)
Subject: Power Engineers, Inc. - Project No. 145192
Date: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 2:21:18 PM
Attachments: [NEPA Responseletter030117 PharrTX.docx](#)

Ms. Santos:

Attached is the response to your request. If you are in need of further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Chikaodi Agumadu
NEPA Coordinator
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Intergovernmental Relations
12100 Park 35 Circle Bldg. F | Mail Code 119 | Austin, TX 78753
(512) 239-3500

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March 1, 2017

Ms. Anastacia Santos
Power Engineers, Inc.
3944 Murphy Canyon Road
Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123
Via: email

Re: TCEQ NEPA Request #2017-065, Proposed Stewart Road 345-kV Transmission Line;
Pharr, Texas, Hidalgo County

Dear Ms. Santos:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has reviewed the above-referenced project and offers the following comments:

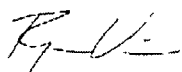
A review of the project for general conformity impact in accordance with 40 CFR Part 93 indicates that the proposed action is located in Hidalgo County, which is currently unclassified or in attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for all six criteria air pollutants. Therefore, general conformity rules do not apply.

The Office of Water does not anticipate significant long term environmental impacts from this project as long as construction and waste disposal activities associated with it are completed in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal environmental permits, statutes, and regulations. We recommend that the applicant take necessary steps to ensure that best management practices are used to control runoff from construction sites to prevent detrimental impact to surface and ground water.

Any debris or waste disposal should be at an appropriately authorized disposal facility.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please contact the agency NEPA Coordinator, at (512) 239-3500 or NEPA@tceq.texas.gov.

Sincerely,



Ryan Vise
Division Director
Intergovernmental Relations

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TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

March 14, 2017

Anastacia Santos
Project Manager
Power Engineers, Inc.
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123

Re: Project review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966,
Proposed Stuart Road 345-kV Transmission Line, Hidalgo County, Texas (PUC)

Dear Ms. Santos:

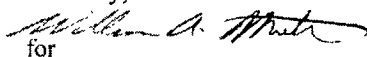
Thank you for your correspondence describing the above referenced project. This letter serves as comment on the proposed federal undertaking from the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission. The Archeology Division (AD) review staff, led by Casey Hanson, has examined our records and determined that most of the proposed study area has not been surveyed for cultural resources and portions of the routes intersect high probability areas for cultural resources. The final, proposed transmission line routes should be surveyed by a professional archeologist.

The work should meet the minimum archeological survey standards posted on-line at www.thc.texas.gov. A report of investigations should be produced in conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and submitted to this office for review. In addition, any buildings 45 years old or older that are located on or adjacent to the tract should be documented with photographs and a map with a key to the photographs included in the report. You may obtain lists of most professional archeologists in Texas on-line at: www.texas.gov or www.thc.texas.gov. Please note that other potentially qualified archeologists not included on these lists may be used. If any of the work will occur on land owned or controlled by an entity of the state, an Antiquities Permit must be secured from our office before fieldwork may begin. Please ask prospective contractors if they are qualified to receive an Antiquities Permit.

The History Programs Division (HPD) staff, led by Justin Kockritz also reviewed the proposed project and determined that the western half of the study area (generally west of Border Road) is within the Louisiana-Rio Grande Canal Company Irrigation System Historic District, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1995. Contributing features to the historic district include the canal systems itself (above- and below-ground features), pumphouses, and related water infrastructure features; the current and former agricultural fields fed by the irrigation system are generally not considered contributing resources themselves. More information on the historic district, including its boundaries and a copy of the National Register nomination, are available on our Historic Sites Atlas (<http://www.thc.texas.gov>).

Thank you for your cooperation in this federal review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. **If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Casey Hanson at 512.463.5915 or casey.hanson@thc.texas.gov.**

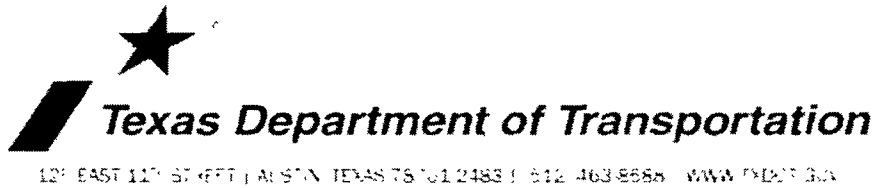
Sincerely,



for
Mark Wolfe, State Historic Preservation Officer
MW/ch/jk



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March 8, 2017

Anastacia Santos
POWER Engineers, Inc.
3944 Murphy Canyon Road
Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

**RE: Proposed Steward Road 345-kV Transmission Line, Hidalgo County, Texas
POWER Engineers, Inc. – Project No. 145192**

Dear Mrs. Santos,

We appreciate the advance notice of this upcoming project in our area. First most, all utilities within the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Right of Way (ROW) shall conform to the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) requirements, which can be found online. Furthermore, all utilities that will be crossing or installing on TxDOT ROW will require a permit. Permits will be requested via our online website Utility Installation Request (UIR). Your office will need to submit details of the proposed work, traffic control plans including any and all information impacting TxDOT's ROW. In addition, it is your company's responsibility to identify any existing utilities within the work area. If any other details are needed they will be requested at the time of the review process.

Thank you for contacting us in advance. Please contact our Maintenance Engineer, Isaac Garza, P.E. at (956) 702-6100 or by e-mail at isaac.garza@txdot.gov if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Rex A. Costley, P.E.
Pharr District – Director of Maintenance

Links:

TAC - http://texteg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac_servlet.cfm?wtaac
UIR - <http://apps.dot.state.tx.us/apps/UIRPROV2/>

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE AGENCY

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From: Santos, Anastacia
To: "IRMA L. PEREZ"
Cc: [Montana.Patin.5571 \(Montana.Patin@powereng.com\)](mailto:Montana.Patin.5571@powereng.com)
Subject: RE: MEMORANDUM - STUDY AREA MAP
Date: Monday, February 27, 2017 8:27:00 PM
Attachments: [ETT_Agency_Contact_2017.02.10.pdf](#)

Ms. Perez,

Attached is the map that should have been enclosed with the letter dated February 16, 2017.

Anastacia Santos
Project Manager
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123
(858) 810-5368 office
(512) 585-3202 cell

POWER Engineers, Inc.

Energy ▪ Facilities ▪ Communications ▪ Environmental
www.powereng.com

From: IRMA L. PEREZ [mailto:ILPEREZ@donnaisd.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 1:56 PM
To: Santos, Anastacia
Subject: RE: MEMORANDUM - STUDY AREA MAP
Importance: High

Good afternoon Ms. Santos,

We at Donna I.S.D., received your memorandum dated February 16, 2017, regarding Proposed Stewart Road 345-kV Transmission Line, Project No. 145192. In the memo on the second paragraph last sentence you mentioned a map has been enclosed, but unfortunately we didn't get the map.

Therefore, may we have it emailed, to ilperez@donnaisd.net.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (956)464-1600 extension 1023.

Kind regards.

Irma L. Perez

Irma L. Perez, CTSBS
Secretary to Superintendent of Schools
Donna ISD
904 Hester Ave.
Donna, TX 78537
Voice: (956)464-1600 ex 1023
(956)461-4323

Fax (956)464-1752

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From: VELMA RANGEL
To: Santos, Anastacia
Cc: IRMA L. PEREZ; OLIVIA GONZALEZ; FERNANDO CASTILLO
Subject: Fw: MEMORANDUM - STUDY AREA MAP
Date: Friday, March 03, 2017 1:05:38 PM
Attachments: ETT Agency Contact 2017.02.10.pdf
Importance: High

Ms. Santos,

Donna ISD does not have any concerns nor information that could affect your project in the study area in question.

If you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Velma Rangel
Chief Special Programs Officer
Donna ISD

From: IRMA L. PEREZ
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:33 AM
To: VELMA RANGEL
Subject: Fw: MEMORANDUM - STUDY AREA MAP

Good morning Mrs. Rangel,

I'm forwarding the email with the study area map, from Power Engineers, Inc., which was missing from the memorandum.

Regards.

Irma L. Perez

Irma L. Perez, CTSBS
Secretary to Superintendent of Schools
Donna ISD
904 Hester Ave.
Donna, TX. 78537
Voice: (956)464-1600 ex. 1023
(956)461-4323
Fax (956)464-1752

From: anastacia.santos@powereng.com <anastacia.santos@powereng.com>

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Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 10:30 PM
To: IRMA L. PEREZ
Cc: montana.patin@powereng.com
Subject: RE: MEMORANDUM - STUDY AREA MAP

Ms. Perez,

Attached is the map that should have been enclosed with the letter dated February 16, 2017.

Anastacia Santos
Project Manager
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123
(858) 810-5368 office
(512) 585-3202 cell

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POWER Engineers

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POWER Engineers is a global consulting engineering firm specializing in the delivery of integrated solutions in a wide range of industries.

From: IRMA L. PEREZ [mailto:ILPEREZ@donnaisd.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 1:56 PM
To: Santos, Anastacia
Subject: RE: MEMORANDUM - STUDY AREA MAP
Importance: High

Good afternoon Ms. Santos,

We at Donna I.S.D., received your memorandum dated February 16, 2017, regarding Proposed Stewart Road 345-kV Transmission Line, Project No. 145192. In the memo on the second paragraph last sentence you mentioned a map has been enclosed, but unfortunately we didn't get the map.

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If you have any questions, please contact our office at (956)464-1600 extension 1023.

Kind regards.

Irma L. Perez

Irma L. Perez, CTSBS
Secretary to Superintendent of Schools
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From: [Eric Davila](#)
To: [Santos, Anastacia](#)
Cc: [celia.gaona@hcrma.net](#); [ramon.navarro@hcrma.net](#); "C. J. Moreno"; [Maria Alaniz](#); "Pilar Rodriguez"; [Louis Jones](#); [Anthony Garza](#); [Daniel Guerra](#); [Adrian Figueroa](#); [Manny Carrizales](#)
Subject: RE: Ltr from Power Engineers
Date: Saturday, February 25, 2017 12:46:34 PM
Attachments: [0000_ROW_2017-02-25.zip](#)

Good afternoon Anastacia,

We've enjoyed a good working relationship with AEP/ETT and its consultants (PowerEngs) for some time and I figured you may already have access to our latest project alignments and ROW files. In the event you all are inquiring about latest files in the event of any recent changes, I provide to you the ROW files in shapefile format so that you can investigate potential areas of future coordination with the HCRMA on your proposed improvements.

Please also provide us the underlying georeferenced CAD or GIS files shown on the STUFY AREA BOUNDARYR EXHIBIT (boundary area and proposed / existing alignments) so we can look at those in a more exact fashion. Also, our latest schematics are posted on the following pages and if you desire any underlying references please advise as to your needs and we can package those up as well.

<http://hcrma.net/365tollway.html>

<http://hcrma.net/ibtc.html> (note, the shapefile attached shows the new ROW that had to be incorporated due to ETT pole placement on the leg that goes to FM 493 that may not yet be reflected on the schematic online as that had been a very recent modification made when we were finalizing the ETT easement that runs on the north side of the IBTC project).

Regards,

Eric Davila, PE, PMP, CFM

From: Maria Alaniz [mailto:maria.alaniz@hcrma.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 5:01 PM
To: 'Pilar Rodriguez' <prodriguez@hcrma.net>
Cc: celia.gaona@hcrma.net; Eric Davila <Eric.Davila@dannenbaum.com>; ramon.navarro@hcrma.net; 'C. J. Moreno' <carlos.moreno@hcrma.net>
Subject: Ltr from Power Engineers

Pilar,

Please see attached correspondence received today.

Thank you,

Maria Alaniz

Administrative Assistant

Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority

118 S. Cage Blvd. 4th Floor

Pharr, Texas 78577

(956) 402-4762

Maria.alaniz@hcrma.net

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From: Santos, Anastacia
To: "Eric Davila"
Cc: celia.gaona@hcrma.net; ramon.navarro@hcrma.net; "C. J. Moreno"; Maria Alaniz; "Pilar Rodriguez"; Louis Jones; Anthony Garza; Daniel Guerra; Adrian Figueroa; Manny Carrizales; Teresa Trotman (ttrotman@aep.com)
Subject: RE: Ltr from Power Engineers
Date: Monday, March 06, 2017 11:44:00 AM
Attachments: ETT Stewart Rd Shapefiles.zip

Thank you Eric. Attached are the GIS shapefiles we used to create the study area map. Please let me know if there is any other information you need.

Anastacia Santos
Project Manager
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123
(858) 810-5368 office
(512) 585-3202 cell

POWER Engineers, Inc.

Energy ▪ Facilities ▪ Communications ▪ Environmental
www.powereng.com

From: Eric Davila [<mailto:Eric.Davila@dannenbaum.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2017 10:46 AM
To: Santos, Anastacia
Cc: celia.gaona@hcrma.net; ramon.navarro@hcrma.net; 'C. J. Moreno'; Maria Alaniz; 'Pilar Rodriguez'; Louis Jones; Anthony Garza; Daniel Guerra; Adrian Figueroa; Manny Carrizales
Subject: RE: Ltr from Power Engineers

Good afternoon Anastacia,

We've enjoyed a good working relationship with AEP/ETT and its consultants (PowerEngs) for some time and I figured you may already have access to our latest project alignments and ROW files. In the event you all are inquiring about latest files in the event of any recent changes, I provide to you the ROW files in shapefile format so that you can investigate potential areas of future coordination with the HCRMA on your proposed improvements.

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reflected on the schematic online as that had been a very recent modification made when we were finalizing the ETT easement that runs on the north side of the IBTC project).

Regards,

Eric Davila, PE, PMP, CFM

From: Maria Alaniz [<mailto:maria.alaniz@hcrma.net>]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 5:01 PM
To: 'Pilar Rodriguez' <prodriguez@hcrma.net>
Cc: celia.gaona@hcrma.net; Eric Davila <Eric.Davila@dannenbaum.com>; ramon.navarro@hcrma.net; 'C. J. Moreno' <carlos.moreno@hcrma.net>
Subject: Ltr from Power Engineers

Pilar,

Please see attached correspondence received today.

Thank you,

Maria Alaniz

Administrative Assistant

Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority

118 S. Cage Blvd. 4th Floor

Pharr, Texas 78577

(956) 402-4762

maria.alaniz@hcrma.net

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From: Eric Davila
To: Santos, Anastacia
Cc: celia.gaona@hcrma.net; ramon.navarro@hcrma.net; "C. J. Moreno"; Maria Alaniz; "Pilar Rodriguez"; Louis Jones; Anthony Garza; Daniel Guerra; Adrian Figueroa; Manny Carrizales; Teresa Trotman (ttrotman@aep.com)
Subject: RE: Ltr from Power Engineers
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 7:42:02 AM
Attachments: [2017-03-20 365 TOLL STUDY AREAS.pdf](#)

Good morning Anastacia,

Attached is how both of our files coincide. Please advise if you all see anything that is or may be in conflict with the future proposed work (or if anything changes). If need be our staff is available to meet and discuss.

Best regards,

Eric Davila, PE, PMP, CFM

DANNENBAUM ENGINEERING

From: anastacia.santos@powereng.com [<mailto:anastacia.santos@powereng.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2017 1:45 PM
To: Eric Davila <Eric.Davila@dannenbaum.com>
Cc: celia.gaona@hcrma.net; ramon.navarro@hcrma.net; 'C. J. Moreno' <carlos.moreno@hcrma.net>; Maria Alaniz <maria.alaniz@hcrma.net>; Pilar Rodriguez' <prodriguez@hcrma.net>; Louis Jones <Louis.Jones@dannenbaum.com>; Anthony Garza <Anthony.Garza@dannenbaum.com>; Daniel Guerra <Daniel.Guerra@dannenbaum.com>; Adrian Figueroa <Adrian.Figueroa@dannenbaum.com>; Manny Carrizales <Manny.Carrizales@dannenbaum.com>; Teresa Trotman (ttrotman@aep.com) <ttrotman@aep.com>
Subject: RE: Ltr from Power Engineers

Thank you Eric. Attached are the GIS shapefiles we used to create the study area map. Please let me know if there is any other information you need.

Anastacia Santos
Project Manager
3944 Murphy Canyon Road, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123
(858) 810-5368 office
(512) 585-3202 cell

POWER Engineers, Inc.

Energy ▪ Facilities ▪ Communications ▪ Environmental
www.powereng.com

From: Eric Davila [<mailto:Eric.Davila@dannenbaum.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2017 10:46 AM

To: Santos, Anastacia
Cc: celia.gaona@hcrma.net; ramon.navarro@hcrma.net; 'C. J. Moreno'; Maria Alaniz; 'Pilar Rodriguez'; Louis Jones; Anthony Garza; Daniel Guerra; Adrian Figueroa; Manny Carrizales
Subject: RE: Ltr from Power Engineers

Good afternoon Anastacia,

We've enjoyed a good working relationship with AEP/ETT and its consultants (PowerEngs) for some time and I figured you may already have access to our latest project alignments and ROW files. In the event you all are inquiring about latest files in the event of any recent changes, I provide to you the ROW files in shapefile format so that you can investigate potential areas of future coordination with the HCRMA on your proposed improvements.

Please also provide us the underlying georeferenced CAD or GIS files shown on the STUFY AREA BOUNDARYR EXHIBIT (boundary area and proposed / existing alignments) so we can look at those in a more exact fashion. Also, our latest schematics are posted on the following pages and if you desire any underlying references please advise as to your needs and we can package those up as well.

<http://hcrma.net/365tollway.html>

<http://hcrma.net/ibtc.html> (note, the shapefile attached shows the new ROW that had to be incorporated due to ETT pole placement on the leg that goes to FM 493 that may not yet be reflected on the schematic online as that had been a very recent modification made when we were finalizing the ETT easement that runs on the north side of the IBTC project).

Regards,

Eric Davila, PE, PMP, CFM

From: Maria Alaniz [<mailto:maria.alaniz@hcrma.net>]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 5:01 PM
To: 'Pilar Rodriguez' <prodriguez@hcrma.net>
Cc: celia.gaona@hcrma.net; Eric Davila <Eric.Davila@dannenbaum.com>; ramon.navarro@hcrma.net; 'C. J. Moreno' <carlos.moreno@hcrma.net>
Subject: Ltr from Power Engineers

Pilar,

Please see attached correspondence received today.

Thank you,
Maria Alaniz

Administrative Assistant

Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority

118 S. Cage Blvd. 4th Floor

Pharr, Texas 78577

(956) 402-4762

Maria.alaniz@hcrma.net

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