

Evaluation Criteria

Texas Substation and Transmission Line Project

Land Use

- 01 Length of alternative route
- 02 Number of habitable structures¹ within 300 feet of the route centerline
- 03 Length of route utilizing existing electric facility ROW (transmission)
- 04 Length of route utilizing existing electric facility ROW² (distribution)
- 05 Length of route parallel and adjacent to existing electric facility ROW (transmission)
- 06 Length of route parallel and adjacent to existing electric facility ROW (distribution)
- 07 Length of route parallel and adjacent to other existing compatible ROW (roads, highways, railway, or telephone utility ROW, etc.)
- 08 Length of route parallel and adjacent to apparent property lines³ (or other natural or cultural features)
- 09 Sum of evaluation criteria 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
- 10 Percent of evaluation criteria 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7
- 11 Length of route parallel to pipeline ROW
- 12 Length of route across parks/recreational areas⁴
- 13 Number of additional parks/recreational areas⁴ within 1,000 feet of the route centerline
- 14 Length of route across cropland
- 15 Length of route across pasture/rangeland
- 16 Length of route across land irrigated by traveling systems (rolling or pivot type)
- 17 Length of route across gravel pits, mines, or quarries
- 18 Number of pipeline crossings
- 19 Number of electric transmission line crossings
- 20 Number of Interstate (IH), US Highway (US Hwy), and State highway (SH) crossings
- 21 Number of Farm-to-Market (FM) or Ranch-to-Market (RM) road crossings
- 22 Number of private use airstrips within 10,000 feet of the route centerline
- 23 Number of heliports within 5,000 feet of the route centerline
- 24 Number of FAA registered airports⁵ (runways >3,200 feet) within 20,000 feet of the route centerline
- 25 Number of FAA registered airports⁵ (runways <3,200 feet) within 10,000 feet of the route centerline
- 26 Number of commercial Amplitude Modulation (AM) radio transmitters within 10,000 feet of the route centerline
- 27 Number of FM radio transmitters, microwave towers, etc. within 2,000 feet of the route centerline
- 28 Number of existing water wells within 200 feet of the route centerline
- 29 Number of oil and gas wells within 200 feet of the route centerline

Aesthetics

- 30 Estimated length of route within foreground visual zone⁶ of US, Interstate, and State highways
- 31 Estimated length of route within foreground visual zone⁶ of FM/RM roads
- 32 Estimated length of route within foreground visual zone⁶ of parks/recreational areas⁴

Ecology

- 33 Length of route across upland forest
- 34 Length of route across bottomland/riparian woodlands
- 35 Acreage of route across NWI mapped forested or scrub/shrub wetlands
- 36 Acreage of route across NWI mapped emergent wetlands
- 37 Length of route across known occupied habitat of federally listed endangered or threatened species
- 38 Length of route across open water (lakes, ponds, etc.)
- 39 Number of stream crossings
- 40 Length of route parallel (within 100 feet) to streams
- 41 Length of route across FEMA mapped 100-year floodplains

Cultural Resources

- 42 Number of cemeteries within 1,000 feet of the route centerline
- 43 Number of recorded historic or prehistoric sites crossed by route
- 44 Number of additional recorded historic or prehistoric sites within 1,000 feet of route centerline
- 45 Number of National Register of Historic Places listed resources crossed by route
- 46 Number of additional National Register of Historic Places listed resources within 1,000 feet of route centerline
- 47 Length of route across high archaeological/historical site potential

Notes

1 Single-family and multi-family dwellings, and related structures, etc., mobile homes, apartment buildings, commercial structures, industrial structures, business structures, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, schools or other structures normally inhabited by humans or intended to be inhabited by humans on a daily or regular basis within 300 feet of the centerline of a transmission project of 230 kV or less.

2 Includes instances of proposed under/overbuilding existing distribution lines and may require the expansion of the existing distribution ROW utilized.

3 Property lines created by existing roads, highway, or railroad ROW are not "double-counted" in the length of route parallel to property lines criteria.

4 Defined as parks and recreational areas owned by a governmental body or an organized group, club, or church.

5 As listed in the Chart Supplement South Central U.S. (FAA 2020b formerly known as the Airport/Facility Directory South Central U.S.), FAA 2020a.

6 One-half mile, unobstructed.

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