

By: Reynolds

H.B. No. 161

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to interconnection of transmission facilities in ERCOT with transmission facilities outside of ERCOT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 39.166 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.166. REQUIRED INTERCONNECTION WITH TRANSMISSION FACILITIES OUTSIDE OF ERCOT. (a) The commission shall identify transmission facilities in ERCOT that may be interconnected with transmission facilities outside of ERCOT for the purpose of allowing federal regulation of transmission service and wholesale power sales in ERCOT.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, the commission shall require an electric utility, municipally owned utility, or electric cooperative that owns a transmission facility identified by the commission under Subsection (a) to make requests, obtain approvals, enter into contracts, and construct facilities as necessary to interconnect the facility with a transmission facility outside of ERCOT.

SECTION 2. Not later than November 1, 2022, the Public Utility Commission of Texas shall examine the laws and rules governing electric utilities in this state to determine how Section 39.166, Utilities Code, as added by this Act, may affect the application of those laws and rules and shall adopt recommendations

1 for legislative and administrative action as necessary to implement
2 that section as effectively as practicable.

3 SECTION 3. (a) Section 39.166, Utilities Code, as added by
4 this Act, takes effect September 1, 2023.

5 (b) Section 2 of this Act takes effect on the 91st day after
6 the last day of the legislative session.