By: Anchía H.B. No. 5200

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of grid enhancing technologies and high-performance conductors in the ERCOT power region.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 36, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 36.216 to read as follows:

Sec. 36.216. GRID ENHANCING TECHNOLOGIES AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE CONDUCTORS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Advanced power flow controller" means hardware and software used to reroute electric energy from overloaded transmission lines to underutilized transmission corridors by adjusting circuit impedance.

(2) "Dynamic line rating system" means hardware or software used to calculate the true capacity of transmission lines using real-time and forecasted weather conditions.

(3) "Grid enhancing technology" means any hardware or software technology that enables enhanced or more efficient performance from the electric transmission system, including a dynamic line rating system, advanced power flow controller technology, dynamic contingency response, or a topology optimization system or another technology identified by the independent organization certified under Section 39.151 for the ERCOT power region.

(4) "High-performance conductors" means modern

conductor technologies, including carbon and composite core conductors and carbon and composite superconductors, with greater performance characteristics than aluminum-conductor steel-reinforced conductors, such as increased capacity, higher efficiency, and reduced or no thermal sag.

(5) "Topology optimization system" means software technology that identifies reconfigurations of the transmission grid to reroute electric energy from overloaded lines to underutilized corridors.

(b) The commission shall ensure that the independent organization certified under Section 39.151, Utilities Code, for the ERCOT power region considers the technical feasibility and cost-effectiveness using of grid enhancing technologies and high-performance conductors in its evaluation of economic and reliability projects during annual regional transmission planning to increase transmission capacity, reduce transmission system congestion, increase electric reliability, and reduce the risk of wildfires. The independent organization may decline to recommend the use of grid enhancing technologies in a particular instance it determines that it would not be prudent.

SECTION 2. (a) The Public Utility Commission of Texas shall adopt any necessary rules required by Section 36.216, Utilities Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2026.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.