

Amend **HB 971** (senate committee report) by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTION and renumbering the subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION _____. (a) Section 37.056, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) The commission by rule shall establish criteria, in addition to the criteria described by Subsection (c), for granting a certificate for a transmission project that serves the ERCOT power region, that is not necessary to meet state or federal reliability standards, and that does not serve a competitive renewable energy zone. The criteria must include a comparison of the estimated cost of the transmission project and the estimated cost savings that may result from the transmission project. The commission shall include with its decision on an application for a certificate to which this subsection applies findings on the criteria.

(b) The change in law made by this section applies only to a certificate application filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas on or after the effective date of this Act and to a certificate application pending on the effective date of this Act. A certificate application filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas before the effective date of this Act and not pending on the effective date of this Act is subject to the law in effect on the date the application is filed, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.