

## Richard Paces

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**From:** Mike Hoke <Mike.Hoke@puc.texas.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 8, 2025 2:23 PM  
**To:** rpaces@co.kerr.tx.us; secretary@hcesrpc.com  
**Cc:** Melanie Johnson  
**Subject:** FW: HCESRPC Response Letter  
**Attachments:** 3rd Notification Letter to PUCT 04 24 25.pdf

Commissioner Paces,

We understand Texas Local Government Code (LGC), Section 391 authorizes local governments within the same Council of Government (COGs) to join, forming a sub-regional planning commission. Under LGC 391.009 (c), “state agencies shall, to the greatest extent feasible coordinate planning with the commissions to ensure effective and orderly implementation of state programs at the regional level.”

Formation and participation in these 391 Commissions is dependent on the jurisdiction of the state agencies involved. In this situation relating to battery projects, we are not aware of any existing state programs related to battery storage facilities that involve PUCT administration, although we are aware that several proposals to address this issue are working through the legislative process this session.

In 2009, there was a 391 Commission formed relating to transmission lines in Mason County, resulting in alteration of a transmission line route. The PUCT administers transmission line routing determinations in accordance with legal requirements applicable statewide, therefore it is a state program under PUCT jurisdiction.

We will implement any legislation that becomes law. Absent legislative authority, however, we are unable to participate as requested.

Regards,

Mike Hoke  
Director of Public Engagement  
Public Utility Commission of Texas

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**From:** Richard Paces <[rpaces@co.kerr.tx.us](mailto:rpaces@co.kerr.tx.us)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 24, 2025 6:09 PM  
**To:** Melanie Johnson <[Melanie.Johnson@puc.texas.gov](mailto:Melanie.Johnson@puc.texas.gov)>  
**Cc:** [secretary@hcesrpc.com](mailto:secretary@hcesrpc.com)  
**Subject:** RE: HCESRPC Response Letter

**WARNING: EXTERNAL SENDER. Always be cautious when clicking links or opening attachments. NEVER provide your user ID or password.**

Dear Ms. Johnson,

Please see the attached letter in response to Mr. Hoke’s letter of March 31<sup>st</sup>. Hard copies of the letter have been sent via USPS certified mail to Mr. Hoke and to Chairman Gleeson. Please send Mr. Hoke an electronic copy and distribute as appropriate. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Rich Paces

Kerr County Commissioner, Precinct 2  
(830) 343-9107

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**From:** Melanie Johnson [<mailto:Melanie.Johnson@puc.texas.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 1, 2025 3:11 PM  
**To:** [rpaces@co.kerr.tx.us](mailto:rpaces@co.kerr.tx.us); Linda Bullard <[hillcountryenergy@gmail.com](mailto:hillcountryenergy@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** HCESRPC Response Letter

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached response to your letter.

Best regards,  
Melanie

**Melanie Johnson**

**Project Manager, Office of Public Engagement**  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
**W:** (512) 936-7110 | [melanie.johnson@puc.texas.gov](mailto:melanie.johnson@puc.texas.gov)