



## **CHARLES SCHWERTNER**

STATE SENATOR • DISTRICT 5

COMMITTEES: BUSINESS AND COMMERCE, CHAIR • ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • FINANCE • STATE AFFAIRS

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 31, 2026

## **Statement from Chairman Charles Schwertner**

**AUSTIN, TX --** This week, the Senate Business and Commerce Committee held a 15-hour hearing to examine the state of Texas' electricity market and the proposed 765kV ultra-high voltage transmission lines intended to support load growth in West Texas.

Testimony from property owners and their representatives highlighted significant concerns regarding the certificate of convenience and necessity process (CCN), including the lack of proper notice from utilities, shortened timelines for Public Utility Commission (PUC) proceedings, and due process at the State Office of Administrative Hearings. These concerns demonstrate the need for a complete overhaul of the CCN process before these applications can advance.

Accordingly, I am calling on the PUC to deny the existing CCN applications. Any reapplications need to take into consideration the concerns raised during our hearing. The Legislature will reform the CCN process next session to ensure future projects are fair and transparent.

###

#### **BRYAN OFFICE:**

3000 BRIARCREST DRIVE, SUITE 202  
BRYAN, TEXAS 77802  
(979) 776-0222 • FAX: (979) 776-0220

#### **CAPITOL OFFICE:**

3S.5 • P.O. BOX 12068 • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711  
(512) 463-0105 • FAX: (512) 463-5713  
charles.schwertner@senate.texas.gov

#### **GEORGETOWN OFFICE:**

501 S. Austin Ave., Suite 420  
GEORGETOWN, TEXAS 78626  
(512) 863-8456