Bill Summary 1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 279
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Author: Sen. Green
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Bill Analysis

SB 279 requires transmission developers to file an application to obtain a certificate of authority from the Corporation Commission for each electric transmission facility. The measure provides that if the developer is required to file subsequent forms with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) due to changing routes or heights of individual structures from the locations or heights originally proposed, it shall also file such forms with the Corporation Commission within 10 days of filing with the FERC. Developers must provide information showing that the developer published notification in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which all or a portion of the electric transmission facility is to be located, and that all relevant entities where notified. The developer must also attest that a public meeting was held in the affected county or counties, it has sufficient insurance coverage, it has a safety plan, the line is beneficial and in the public interest, and a decommission plan is in place. If the developer meets the requirements provided for in the measure, the Commission shall issue an order granting a certificate of authority.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor