TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS
THE TEXAS STATE CHAMBER

August 13, 2026

The Honorable Thomas J. Gleeson
Chairman, Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Mr. Pablo Vegas
President and CEO, Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)
8000 Metropolis Drive, Building E, Suite 100
Austin, Texas 78744

Re: Verification and Audit of the Data Center Interconnection Queue

Dear Chairman Gleeson and President Vegas:

On behalf of the Texas Association of Business (TAB) and the broader Texas business community who rely on the grid every day, thank you for your continued work to ensure the reliability, affordability, and long-term strength of the Texas electric system.

TAB appreciates Governor Abbott's leadership in directing PUCT and ERCOT to conduct a comprehensive verification and audit of data center projects advancing through the ERCOT interconnection process. As Texas experiences unprecedented growth in electricity demand, it is prudent to confirm that projects seeking to connect to the grid are legitimate, sufficiently capitalized, and prepared to meet the requirements established by the State of Texas. We also recognize the Governor's broader objective: ensuring that Texas' continued economic growth strengthens the state without shifting undue costs or risks onto Texas families and businesses.

A rigorous, verification-based review, rather than a blanket moratorium on new development, reflects the kind of responsible, growth-oriented approach that has long defined the Texas business climate, and TAB supports it. We have also been encouraged to see many of the state's major data center operators and developers publicly commit to meeting the Governor's standards, demonstrating a level of industry cooperation that will help facilitate a thorough and efficient review.

With that in mind, as PUCT and ERCOT continue their work to implement the Governor's directive and consider the appropriate path forward, TAB respectfully encourages the Commission to establish and publicly communicate a timeline for completing the audit, along with clear interim milestones and decision dates. Projects that demonstrate financial commitment and compliance with applicable requirements should have a clear, predictable path through the process, not an open-ended one.

Regulatory certainty matters well beyond the individual projects under review. Major capital investments support Texas utilities, construction firms, engineering companies, manufacturers and suppliers, skilled trades, and other service providers. Communities, economic development organizations, and employers are also making infrastructure, workforce, and investment decisions based on anticipated projects.

Prolonged uncertainty will have consequences for the broader Texas economy, not just for the data center industry.

Texas has built the nation's strongest business climate in part by pairing responsible regulation with predictability and speed to market. As the state adapts its electric system to unprecedented demand growth, Texas can maintain its competitive advantage while ensuring new large loads meet the high standards necessary to protect Texans and the reliability of the grid.

TAB supports the Governor's goal of ensuring responsible growth and respectfully encourages PUCT and ERCOT to pair a rigorous review with a transparent and timely process that provides certainty to Texas businesses and communities while preserving the predictability that has long underpinned our state's strong business environment.

Thank you for your leadership and continued service to the State of Texas. TAB and our members stand ready to serve as a resource as this work continues.

Respectfully,



Gabriela von zur Muehlen
SVP & Chief Policy Officer
Texas Association of Business