## A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE ROUTING OF THE PROPOSED PERMIAN HIGHWAY PIPELINE THROUGH GILLESPIE COUNTY AND REQUESTING IMMEDIATE ACTION FROM THE STATE LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, the Hill Country of Texas is one of the fastest growing rural areas in the nation with enormous pride, rich history, and vast natural resources; and,

WHEREAS, Fredericksburg and Gillespie County are becoming an ever-increasing venue as a destination point for thousands of tourists throughout Texas and the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Kinder Morgan and Exxon Mobil in partnership with EagleClaw Midstream Ventures ("Private Partnership") have begun the process of routing a 42-inch underground high pressure natural gas pipeline, known as the Permian Highway Pipeline ("PHP") from Coyanosa, Texas to Sheridan, Texas through the Texas Hill Country, including Gillespie County; and,

WHEREAS, the Private Partnership asserts that the State of Texas has delegated to the Private Partnership the authority to choose the route of the PHP and to take the private land traversed by the PHP using the governmental power of eminent domain; and,

WHEREAS, the laws of Texas provide insufficient oversight and scant regulatory process to limit this delegation of powers generally reserved for governmental bodies, and therefore, provide no formal opportunity for the landowners of impacted property to participate in the routing selection process; and,

WHEREAS, Gillespie County realizes the importance of our tourist industry, rich heritage, and related economic development along the proposed pipeline route; and,

WHEREAS, the Gillespie County Commissioners Court is concerned about safety along the PHP and within Gillespie County, especially in the areas where increased commercialization is occurring; and,

WHEREAS, aquifers are the main source of water for Gillespie County residents; and,

WHEREAS, the Private Partnership has not performed an Environmental Impact Study evaluating the potential impact to property near or adjacent to the PHP, the area aquifers and to the surrounding community; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of Gillespie County have expressed strong concerns and opposition to the presence of the PHP in Gillespie County due to its potential negative impacts to the environment, soil, water system, and land values; and,

WHEREAS, Gillespie County, by and through the below-named members of the governing body, has an interest in the protection of its natural resources and an interest in how the PHP may affect its citizens;

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GILLESPIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT THAT:

- 1. Gillespie County opposes the PHP on behalf of the interests of the citizens of Gillespie County and in recognition of the potential harm the PHP poses to its natural, historical and economic resources.
- 2. Gillespie County requests immediate action by the Texas legislature to protect landowners and communities from the negative impact of PHP and other potential oil and gas pipelines by:
  - A. Creating a better regulatory process for oil and gas pipeline routing that enables impacted landowners and local governmental entities to have a voice in the approval process.
  - B. Requiring Environmental and Economic Impact Studies for all oil and gas pipelines, whether they are intrastate or interstate.
  - C. Requiring substantial government oversight over the power of eminent domain delegated to private companies so that these private companies do not have the unrestricted power of eminent domain.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 257 day of March 2019.

Mark Stroeher

County Judge

Charles Olfers

County Commissioner, Precinct No. 1

Dennis W. Neffendorf

County Commissioner, Precinct No. 3

Keith Kramer

County Commissioner, Precinct No. 2

Donnie Schuch

County Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

Attest:

Mary Lynn Rusche

County Clerk