

Public Utility Commission of Texas

1701 N. Congress, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326

News Release
Tuesday, April 15, 2014

Contact: Terry Hadley 512-936-7135

PUC urges Sharyland customers to shop **Choice of Retail Electric Provider gives best value**

The Public Utility Commission (PUC) urges customers of Sharyland Utilities to shop for electricity and choose a new Retail Electric Provider (REP) by the end of April.

More than 30 percent of Sharyland Utilities customers have selected a new REP. Most Texas electric customers have been in the competitive Texas electric market since 2002.

The most efficient way for customers to shop is by going to the PUC-approved Website www.powertochoose.org for a direct comparison of price offers from participating REPs. The Website also contains valuable information about the competitive electric market, customer service statistics and REP contact information. Customers without Internet access can visit their local library, or call 1-866-PWR-4-TEX (1-866-797-4839) toll-free for information including a current list of price offers.

The Texas competitive retail electric market also provides a low-income discount program known as LITE-UP Texas. Customers currently receiving social service benefits such as Medicaid or food stamps (SNAP) may automatically qualify. Also eligible are customers with a family income at or below 125 percent of federal poverty guidelines. More information on LITE-UP Texas is available toll-free at 1-866-454-8387.

The PUC is partnering with the following community groups to help customers find the best electricity value:

- West Texas Opportunities, Inc., (806) 872-8354
- Central Texas Opportunities, Inc., (325) 625-4167
- Community Services, Inc., (903) 872-2401

Sharyland Utilities will continue to serve customers as their regulated transmission and distribution utility. Sharyland Utilities will be responsible for electricity delivery, meter reading and reliability regardless of the REP a customer selects.

Customers who do not choose a REP will be assigned one in order to receive uninterrupted service. Customers need to expect to pay a higher rate per kilowatt-hour (kWh) through an assigned REP.

All PUC News Releases are available at
http://www.puc.texas.gov/agency/resources/newsfeeds/Puc_News_Rss.aspx