

## **Hunt Purchase Would Keep Texans in Charge of Texas Electricity** **From Hunter L. Hunt, Chairman and CEO, Hunt Consolidated Energy**

As the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) considers Hunt's proposal to acquire ONCOR, I want to share why we believe our proposal is in the best interest of customers, our fellow Texans, and the economic health of Texas.

Our proposal makes it clear that ONCOR's operations will be 100 percent controlled by the Ray L. Hunt family of companies. We are a family of companies that has operated in the regulatory environment in Texas for over 80 years; we have operated a regulated utility in Texas for more than 15 years.

We agree with those who say that the leveraged buyout of TXU by Energy Future Holdings (EFH) was a mistake. In fact, Hunt was approached in January 2007 by the TXU buyout team, when they asked us to invest in their transaction and to potentially take a seat on their board. Our response was simple, "Our name is not for sale." We were on record with the governor's office and other parties in Austin at the time. We believed that a long-term commitment to Texas was lacking. Our decision to avoid the EFH transaction in 2007 has been proven correct.

We know what a long-term commitment to Texas means, having done business throughout the state since 1934 and employed more than 10,000 Texans in the process. That is why we have committed, as the leader of the group of investors wishing to be confirmed (as the owners of ONCOR) by the PUCT, to the following important agreements, even before the hearings begin:

- Rates paid by ONCOR customers will not change as a result of this proceeding, remaining the lowest in the state;
- One hundred percent operational control of ONCOR will remain in Texas with Hunt;
- ONCOR will continue to be engaged with Texans at the community level where we live and work and raise our families.

Some do not yet understand our use of a Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) model for our financing. REITs have worked for more than 50 years, and Hunt has operated as a regulated utility in Texas under a REIT structure for the past six years. We have, with the approval of the PUCT, already shown that a REIT structure works and supplies all of the capital needed to insure reliable electricity to customers, keeping our electrical grid reliable and safe for our future economic growth.

For more than 80 years, Hunt has been active in ONCOR's communities. We know that the local utility is the bedrock of every town and city in Texas. The utility turns on the lights at the churches, the football stadiums, the schools, the community centers and, most importantly, our homes.

If this transaction is not approved, EFH could be delayed in emerging from bankruptcy. I believe that it is almost a certainty that if the Hunt proposal is not approved, ONCOR will no longer be owned and operated by Texans.

If Hunt's transaction is approved, ONCOR communities, residential customers, ratepayers businesses, and employees can rest assured that the outlook is stable; the operations and major decisions required daily will be made by Texans; and the investment will hold true for generations to come.

Providing Texas with a growing economy means securing our electrical grid; expanding our rate of growth; insuring that when our Texas weather hits, reliable power is restored to our cities; our communities; our neighbors and friends.

Texas has one of the most open and transparent regulatory processes in the world. I believe that when all parties see the facts and understand the details, they too, will join us in supporting the Hunt proposal as the very best way forward for ONCOR and all of those dependent on ONCOR in their daily lives.

Hunter L. Hunt can be contacted at [HunterLHunt@huntconsolidated.com](mailto:HunterLHunt@huntconsolidated.com).