



Senate Bill 819 (Kolkhorst).

A Threat to Property Rights, Grid Reliability and the “Texas Miracle”

Senate Bill 819 (Kolkhorst) attempts to revive a previously rejected proposal from 2023 and represents an unprecedented departure from free enterprise, private property rights and energy dominance. Through excessive government regulations, SB 819 will **raise electricity costs, undermine grid reliability,** and, most concerningly, **strip private landowners of their rights.** The bill claims to promote environmental protection, even though it does little, if anything, to improve these circumstances and, according to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, *“the State of Texas has an established regulatory framework to manage the environmental impacts of solar, wind, and energy storage projects on the environment.”*

If passed, SB 819 will:

- **Undermine Grid Reliability and Raise Electricity Costs:** SB 819 will slow or halt the development of low-cost, fastest to market power sources from the grid at a time when Texas needs every megawatt. **Limiting access to the most affordable power generation resources will increase Texans’ electricity bills—some estimates by as much as \$115 billion over 15 years—and make rolling blackouts more likely.**
- **Attack Private Property Rights:** SB 819 **takes land use authority from private property owners and hands it instead to state agencies and communities as much as 25 miles away.** This sets a **dangerous precedent** that could lead to broader government overreach into agriculture, oil and gas, and other private land uses—undermining Texas’ long-standing defense of property rights.
- **Expand Bureaucracy:** SB 819 will **undermine Texas’ commitment to limited government** by giving unelected bureaucrats broad new powers over private property and contracts and expanding the roles of agencies like the PUCT and TPWD. Wind and solar projects are already subject to strict oversight from multiple agencies and face decommissioning and restoration rules—yet SB 819 singles them out with new permitting burdens. **The bill ultimately adds unnecessary red tape and costs without delivering real environmental benefits.**

We Urge you to VOTE NO on SB 819 – Again

¹ House Bill 553 (Patterson)