

## **ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1541**

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY LLC, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AN ELECTRIC POWER FRANCHISE TO USE THE PRESENT AND FUTURE STREETS, ALLEYS, HIGHWAYS, PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENTS, PUBLIC WAYS AND PUBLIC PROPERTY OF THE CITY OF COPPELL, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION THEREFOR, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERM OF SAID FRANCHISE, PROVIDING FOR WRITTEN ACCEPTANCE OF THIS FRANCHISE, PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL EXISTING FRANCHISE ORDINANCES TO ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY LLC, ITS PREDECESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AND FINDING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS ORDINANCE IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COPPELL, TEXAS:**

SECTION 1. GRANT OF AUTHORITY: That there is hereby granted to Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC, its successors and assigns (herein called "Company"), the right, privilege and franchise to construct, extend, maintain and operate in, along, under and across the present and future streets, alleys, highways, public utility easements, public ways and other public property ("Public Rights-of-Way" or "Rights-of-Way") of the City of Coppell, Texas (herein called "City") electric power lines, with all necessary or desirable appurtenances (including underground conduits, poles, towers, wires, transmission lines, telephone and communication lines, and other structures for Company's own use), (herein called "Facilities") for the purpose of delivering electricity to the City, the inhabitants thereof, and persons, firms and corporations beyond the corporate limits thereof, for the term set out in Section 7.

Company will not install, construct or extend any Facilities in parks or other City-owned property other than public utility easements, streets, alleys or highways (as permitted in the previous paragraph) without first obtaining written approval from the City. The rights and obligations of the parties under this franchise are subject to all applicable local, state and federal laws, rules, and regulations.

SECTION 2. Poles, towers and other structures shall be so erected as not to unreasonably interfere with traffic over streets, alleys and highways.

SECTION 3. The City reserves the right to lay, and permit to be laid, storm, sewer, gas, water, wastewater and other pipe lines, cables, and conduits, or other improvements and to do and permit to be done any underground or overhead work that may be necessary or proper in,

across, along, over, or under Public Rights-of-Way occupied by Company. The City also reserves the right to change in any manner any curb, sidewalk, highway, alley, public way, street, utility lines not owed by Company, storm sewers, drainage basins, drainage ditches, and the like. City shall provide Company with at least thirty (30) days' notice when requesting Company to relocate facilities and shall specify a new location for such facilities along the Public Rights-of-Way. Company shall, except in cases of emergency conditions or work incidental in nature, obtain a permit, if required by City ordinance, prior to performing work in the Public Rights-of-Way, except in no instance shall Company be required to pay fees or bonds related to its use of the Public Rights-of-Way, despite the City's enactment of any ordinance providing the contrary. Company shall construct its facilities in conformance with the applicable provisions of the National Electrical Safety Code. City-requested relocations of Company facilities in the Public Rights-of-Way shall be at the Company's expense; provided however, if the City is the end use Retail Customer (customer who purchases electric power or energy and ultimately consumes it) requesting the removal or relocation of Company Facilities for its own benefit, or the project requiring the relocation is solely aesthetic/beautification in nature, it will be at the total expense of the City. Provided further, if the relocation request includes, or is for, the Company to relocate above-ground facilities to an underground location, City shall be fully responsible for the additional cost of placing the facilities underground.

If any other corporation or person (other than City) requests Company to relocate Company facilities located in City Rights-of-Ways, the Company shall not be bound to make such changes until such other corporation or person shall have undertaken, with good and sufficient bond, to reimburse the Company for any costs, loss, or expense which will be caused by, or arises out of such change, alteration, or relocation of Company's Facilities. City may not request the Company to pay for any relocation which has already been requested, and paid for, by any entity other than City.

If City abandons any Public Rights-of-Way in which Company has facilities such abandonment shall be subject to the provisions of the Code of the City of Coppel and applicability policies. If the City elects to abandon Public Rights-of-Way, City shall determine whether it is appropriate to retain a public utility easement in the Public Right-of-Way for use by the Company. If City determines, in its sole discretion, that the continued use of the Public Right-of-Way by Company is compatible with the abandonment of the Public Right-of-Way, then in consideration of the

compensation set forth in Section 6, and to the maximum extent of its rights to do so, City shall grant Company an easement for such use, and the abandonment of the Public Right-of-Way shall be subject to the right and continued use of Company.

Company shall have in place a Vegetation Management Program, and shall provide City with a current copy of same, upon request. If the City requests a current copy of Company's Vegetation Management Program, release of such shall be pursuant to Oncor's confidential protection process provided in Section 8 of this franchise. Company will endeavor to conduct its tree trimming activities in accordance with its Vegetation Management Guidelines and will address concerns or complaints with regard to its tree trimming activities upon request by City. Except in emergency situations or in response to outages, and in accordance with the Company's Vegetation Management Guidelines, Company shall notify affected property owners and the City prior to beginning planned distribution system tree-trimming activities.

#### SECTION 4.

A. In consideration of the granting of this Franchise, Company shall, at its sole cost and expense, indemnify and hold the City, and its past and present officers, agents and employees harmless against any and all liability arising from suits, actions or claims regarding injury or death to any person or persons, or damages to any property arising out of or occasioned by the intentional and/or negligent acts or omissions of Company or any of its officers, agents, or employees in connection with Company's construction, maintenance and operation of Company's system in the City Public Rights-of-Way, including any court costs, reasonable expenses and reasonable defenses thereof.

B. This indemnity shall only apply to the extent that the loss, damage or injury is attributable to the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the Company or its officers, agents or employees, and does not apply to the extent such loss, damage or injury is attributable to the negligence or wrongful act or omission of the City or the City's officers, agents, or employees or any other person or entity. This provision is not intended to create a cause of action or liability for the benefit of third parties but is solely for the benefit of Company and the City.

C. In the event of joint and concurrent negligence or fault of both Company and the City, responsibility and indemnity, if any, shall be apportioned comparatively between the City and Company in accordance with the laws of the state of Texas without, however, waiving any governmental immunity available to the City under Texas law and without waiving any of the

defenses of the parties under Texas law. Further, in the event of joint and concurrent negligence or fault of both Company and the City, responsibility for all costs of defense shall be apportioned between the City and Company based upon the comparative fault of each.

D. In fulfilling its obligation to defend and indemnify City, Company shall have the right to select defense counsel, subject to City's approval, which will not be unreasonably withheld. Company shall retain defense counsel within seven (7) business days of City's written notice that City is invoking its right to indemnification under this franchise. If Company fails to retain counsel within such time period, City shall have the right to retain defense counsel on its own behalf, and Company shall be liable for all reasonable defense costs incurred by City, except as otherwise provided in section 4.B and 4.C.

SECTION 5. This franchise is not exclusive, and nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to prevent the City from granting other like or similar rights, privileges and franchises to any other person, firm, or corporation. Any Franchise granted by the City to any other person, firm, or corporation shall not unreasonably interfere with this Franchise.

SECTION 6. In consideration of the grant of said right, privilege and franchise by the City and as full payment for the right, privilege and franchise of using and occupying the said Public Rights-of-Way, and in lieu of any and all occupation taxes, assessments, municipal charges, fees, easement taxes, franchise taxes, license, permit and inspection fees or charges, street taxes, bonds, street or alley rentals, and all other taxes, charges, levies, fees and rentals of whatsoever kind and character which the City may impose or hereafter be authorized or empowered to levy and collect, excepting only the usual general or special ad valorem taxes which the City is authorized to levy and impose upon real and personal property, sales and use taxes, and special assessments for public improvements, Company shall pay to the City the following:

- A. A final quarterly payment was made on or before May 15, 2020 for the basis period of January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020 and the privilege period of March 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021 in accordance with the provisions in the previous franchise.
- B. As authorized by Section 33.008(b) of PURA, the original franchise fee factor calculated for the City in 2002 was 0.002910 (the "Base Factor"), multiplied by each kilowatt hour of electricity delivered by Company to each retail customer whose consuming facility's point

of delivery is located within the City's municipal boundaries for determining franchise payments going forward.

Due to a 2006 agreement between Company and City the franchise fee factor was increased to a franchise fee factor of 0.003056 (the "Current Factor"), multiplied by each kilowatt hour of electricity delivered by Company to each retail customer whose consuming facility's point of delivery is located within the City's municipal boundaries on an quarterly basis.

However, consistent with the 2006 agreement, should the Public Utility Commission of Texas at any time disallow Company's recovery through rates of the higher franchise payments made under the Current Factor as compared to the Base Factor, then the franchise fee factor shall immediately revert to the Base Factor of 0.002910 and all future payments, irrespective of the time period that is covered by the payment, will be made using the Base Factor.

Company shall make quarterly payments as follows:

<u>Payment Due Date</u>	<u>Basis Period</u>	<u>Privilege Period (Following Year)</u>
August 15	Apr. 1 - Jun. 30	Jun. 1 - Aug. 31
November 15	Jul.1 - Sept. 30	Sept.1 - Nov. 30
February 15	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	Dec. 1 – Feb. 28 (29)
May 15	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31	Mar. 1 - May. 31

1. The first quarterly payment hereunder shall be due and payable on or before August 15, 2020 and will cover the basis period of April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 and the privilege period of June 1, 2021 through August 31, 2021. If this franchise is not effective prior to the first quarterly payment date, Company will pay any payments due within 30 days of the effective date of this agreement. The final payment under this franchise is due on or before May 15, 2040 and covers the basis period of January 1, 2040 through March 31, 2040 and the privilege period of March 1, 2041 through May 31, 2041; and
2. After the final payment date of May 15, 2040, Company may continue to make

additional quarterly payments in accordance with the above schedule. City acknowledges that such continued payments will correspond to privilege periods that extend beyond the term of this Franchise and that such continued payments will be recognized in any subsequent franchise as full payment for the relevant quarterly periods.

- C. A sum equal to four percent (4%) of gross revenues received by Company from services identified as DD1 through DD24 in Section 6.1.2 “Discretionary Service Charges,” in Oncor’s Tariff for Retail Delivery Service (Tariff), effective 1/1/2002, that are for the account and benefit of an end-use retail electric consumer. Company will, upon request by City, provide a cross reference to Discretionary Service Charge numbering changes that are contained in Company’s current approved Tariff.
1. The franchise fee amounts based on “Discretionary Service Charges” shall be calculated on an annual calendar year basis, i.e. from January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year.
  2. The franchise fee amounts that are due based on “Discretionary Service Charges” shall be paid at least once annually on or before April 30 each year based on the total “Discretionary Service Charges”, as set out in Section 6C, received during the preceding calendar year. The initial Discretionary Service Charge franchise fee amount will be paid on or before April 30, 2021 and will be based on the calendar year January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The final Discretionary Service Charge franchise fee amount will be paid on or before April 30, 2042 and will be based on the calendar months of January 1, 2041 through May 31, 2041.
  3. Company may file a tariff or tariff amendment(s) to provide for the recovery of the franchise fee on Discretionary Service Charges.
  4. City agrees (i) to the extent the City acts as regulatory authority, to adopt and approve that portion of any tariff which provides for 100% recovery of the franchise fee on Discretionary Service Charges; (ii) in the event the City intervenes in any regulatory proceeding before a federal or state agency in which the recovery of the franchise fees on such Discretionary Service Charges is an issue, the City will take an affirmative position supporting the 100% recovery of such franchise fees by Company and; (iii) in the event of an appeal of any such regulatory proceeding in which the City has intervened, the City will take an affirmative position in any such appeals in support of

the 100% recovery of such franchise fees by Company.

5. City agrees that it will take no action, nor cause any other person or entity to take any action, to prohibit the recovery of such franchise fees by Company.
6. In the event of a regulatory disallowance of the recovery of the franchise fees on the Discretionary Service Charges, Company will not be required to continue payment of such franchise fees.

SECTION 7. This Ordinance shall become effective upon Company's written acceptance hereof, said written acceptance to be filed by Company with the City within sixty (60) days after final passage and approval hereof by City. The right, privilege and franchise granted hereby shall expire on May 31, 2041; provided that, unless written notice of cancelation is given by either party hereto to the other not less than sixty (60) days before the expiration of this franchise agreement, it shall be automatically renewed for an additional period of six (6) months from such expiration date and shall be automatically renewed thereafter for like periods until canceled by written notice given not less than sixty (60) days before the expiration of any such renewal period, but in no event shall such automatic renewals extend this Ordinance later than five (5) years after May 31, 2041.

SECTION 8. If the Company provides confidential or proprietary information to the City, the Company shall be solely responsible for identifying such information with markings calculated to bring the City's attention to the proprietary or confidential nature of the information. The City agrees to maintain the confidentiality of any non-public information obtained from Company so designated to the extent allowed by law. City shall not be liable to Company for the release of any information the City is required to release by law. City shall provide notice to Company of any request for release of information marked by Company as proprietary or confidential prior to releasing the information so as to allow Company adequate time to pursue available remedies for protection. If the City receives a request under the Texas Public Information Act that includes Company's proprietary or confidential information, City will notify the Texas Attorney General of the proprietary or confidential nature of the document(s). The City also will provide Company with a copy of this notification, and thereafter Company is responsible for establishing that an exception under the Texas Public Information Act allows the City to withhold the information.

## SECTION 9

A. Should either Company or the City have cause to believe that a change in circumstances relating to the terms of this Franchise may exist, it may request that the other party provide it with a reasonable amount of information to assist in determining whether a change in circumstances has taken place.

B. Should either party hereto determine that based on a change in circumstances, it is in the best interest to renegotiate all or some of the provisions of this Franchise, then the other party agrees to enter into good faith negotiations. Said negotiations shall involve reasonable, diligent, and timely discussions about the pertinent issues and a resolute attempt to settle those issues. The obligation to engage in such negotiations does not obligate either party to agree to an amendment of the Franchise as a result of such negotiations. A failure to agree does not show a lack of good faith. If, as a result of renegotiation, the City and Company agree to a change in a provision of this Ordinance, the change shall become effective upon passage of an ordinance by the City in accordance with the City Charter and written acceptance of the amendment by Company.

SECTION 10. This Ordinance shall supersede any and all other franchises granted by the City to Company, its predecessors and assigns.

SECTION 11. The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are severable. If any portion of this Ordinance is declared illegal or unconstitutional by the valid final non-appealable judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such illegality or unconstitutionality shall not affect the legality and enforceability of any of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 12. In order to accept this franchise, Company must file with the City Secretary its written acceptance of this franchise ordinance within sixty (60) days after its final passage and approval by City.

SECTION 13. It is hereby officially found that the meeting at which this Ordinance is passed is open to the public and that due notice of this meeting was posted by City, all as required by law.



**PASSED AND APPROVED** at a regular meeting of the City Council of Coppell, Texas, on  
this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
KAREN SELBO HUNT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHRISTEL PETTINOS, CITY SECRETARY

STATE OF TEXAS	§
COUNTY OF DALLAS, DENTON	§
CITY OF COPPELL	§