Digitally signed by Kathryn Ross, Date: 2019.05.10 14:14:24 -04'00'

#### Donna García Davidson ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW P.O. BOX 12131 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

Telephone: 512.775.7625 Toll Free Fax: 877.200.6001 E-mail: donna@dgdlawfirm.com Website: www.dgdlawfirm.com

May 9, 2019

Via Email: cela@fec.gov
Federal Election Commission
Office of Complaints Examination
& Legal Administration
Attn: Kathryn Ross, Paralegal
1050 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20463

Re: Estes Texas Senate; MUR 7594

Dear Ms. Ross:

On behalf of my client, Craig Estes, we respectfully request that the above-referenced Complaint be dismissed as it does not warrant the use of Commission resources. There is no basis in fact or law for this Complaint against my client.

The Complaint alleges that my client, among many others, may have solicited, accepted, or received a contribution from a foreign national in violation of federal law. As you may know, the Texas Ethics Commission's rules also prohibit contributions from foreign nationals. As we clearly demonstrate with the enclosed exhibits, the contribution was from a political action committee (PAC) that has long been registered with the Texas Ethics Commission.

In light of the evidence presented in the exhibits and the sworn facts, we respectfully request dismissal of the Complaint against my client.

Sincerely,

Donna García Davidson Attorney and Counselor at Law

Enclosures: Exhibits A-C

# **EXHIBIT A**

### **FEC COMPLAINT MUR 7594** CRAIG ESTES AFFIDAVIT

State of Texas

8

County of Wichita

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BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared Craig Estes, a person known to me or identified to me by his Texas driver's license, who upon his oath stated:

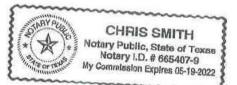
I, Craig Estes, hereby file this Response to the Federal Election Commission's (FEC) Complaint identified as MUR 7594. I swear, under penalty of perjury, that I have read the Response prepared by my attorney.

I swear that all the factual statements made in this Affidavit and in the Response are in all things true and correct. I have never solicited contributions from any foreign national and my campaign would never do so. I have personal knowledge of the statements made in the Response and am fully and legally capable of making this Affidavit. I respectfully request that the FEC dismiss the Complaint as it is without merit.

Further affiant sayeth not.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED by Craig Estes on this which my hand and official seal of office.

day of May, 2019, to witness



Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

# **EXHIBIT B**

Texas Ethics Commission P.O. Box 12070 Austin, Toxas 78711-2070 (512) 463-5800 1-800-325-8506

### APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN TREASURER BY A GENERAL-PURPOSE COMMITTEE

FORM GTA PG 1

See GTA Instructio	N GUIDE for detailed instructions.	1 Total pages filed;	OFFICE USE ONLY
			Acct. # 63939
COMMITTEE NAME	Spectra Energy Corp Political Action C	Committee	RECEIVED
ACRONYM	Spectra DCP PAC	\$	APR 1 4 2008
COMMITTEE ADDRESS	ADDRESS / POBOX. APT/SUITE #: C 5400 Westheimer Court Houston, TX-77056	XIV; STATE, ZIP CODE	Texas Ethics Commission
EPORTING TYPE	REGULAR	MONTHLY PRO	Dala Processed CESSED APR 1 4 2008
6 CAMPAIGN TREASURER NAME	MS/MRS/MR FIRST M Ms. Anne N. Moore		LAST SUFFIX
CAMPAIGN TREASURER STREET ADDRESS (Residence or business	STREET ADDRESS (NO POBOX PLEASE): APT/SUIT 5400 Westheimer Court Houston, TX 77056	TE#: CITY, STATE:	ZIP CODE
B CAMPAIGN TREASURER MAILING ADDRESS same as above	ADDRESS / POBOX. APT/SUITE#; Co 5400 Westheimer Court Houston, TX 77056	ITY; STATE: ZIPCODE	
CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE	AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER  ( 713 ) 627-4555	EXTENSION	
10 PERSON APPOINTING TREASURER	Brenda B. Wisniewski		SUFFIX
SIGNATURE	I understand that I have been appoint committee and that I am responsible fines for failure to do so. I am aware o from corporations and labor organization	ed as the campaign treasure or filing all required reports a of the restrictions in title 15 of the ns.	r for this general-purpose nd that I may be subject to be Section Code on contributions
ASSISTANT CAMPAIGN TREASURER	Ritu K. Talwar	LAST	SUFFIX
ASSISTANT CAMPAIGN TREASURER ADDRESS	ADDRESS / POBOX; APT / SUITE #; CI 5400 Westheimer Court, Suite 6O-45 Houston, TX 77056	TY; STATE, ZIP CODE	
ASSISTANT CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE	AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER  ( 713 ) 989-1784	EXTENSION	ù
	CONTINUE This appointment is effective on the		nission.

Revised 9/01/2003

Texas Ethics Commission P.O. Box 12070 Austin, Texas 78711-2070

(512) 463-5800

1-800-325-8506

### GENERAL-PURPOSE COMMITTEE:

#### CONTROLLINGENTITY INFORMATION

FORM GTA

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Texas Ethics Commission P.O. Box 12070 Austin, Texas 78711-2070

(512) 463-5800

1-800-325-8506

#### GENERAL-PURPOSE COMMITTEE:

#### RECIPIENT COMMITTEES

FORM GTA PG3

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RECIPIENT GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEES	Committee address: City, State; Zip Code
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ACK-LTR

## TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION

P.O. Box 12070, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711-2070

Tom Harrison Chair

Ross Fischer Vice Chair

David A. Reisman Executive Director



Commissioners

Raymond R. "Tripp" Davenport, III Wilhelmina Delco Jim Graham Paula M. Mendoza David Montagne Nicholas C. Taylor

April 14, 2008



Ms. Anne N. Moore 5400 Westheimer Court Houston, Texas 77056

PROCESSED APR 1 4 2008

ETHICS COMMISSION ACCOUNT #

COMMITTEE NAME

ASSISTANT TREASURER

DOCUMENT TYPE RECEIVED

EFFECTIVE DATE FILING SCHEDULE

: 00063939

: Spectra Energy Corp Political Action Committee

: Ritu K. Talwar

: Appointment Of A Campaign Treasurer By A General-Purpose Committee

: April 4, 2008

: Regular

Dear Ms. Moore:

The Ethics Commission has received the document referenced above appointing you as the committee's campaign treasurer. Please use the committee's Ethics Commission account number on all correspondence and documents that you submit to the Ethics Commission.

Reporting Requirements. You must file semiannual reports with the Ethics Commission not later than January 15 and July 15 of each year. Other reports are required in connection with elections. You should review the appropriate Ethics Commission campaign finance guide for more detailed information about filing requirements.

Note: You will be required to file reports until a campaign finance report designated as a "Dissolution Report" and the "Political Committee Affidavit of Dissolution" is filed, or you submit a written notice to the Texas Ethics Commission that you are resigning as treasurer.

Late-Filing Penalties. As the committee's campaign treasurer, you are personally responsible for filing the committee's reports and for any late-filing penalties in connection with the committee's reports. The late-filing penalty for most reports is \$500. For a report due eight days before an election and for the first semiannual report required to be filed after a primary election or after a general election, the late-filing penalty is \$500 for the first day the report is late and \$100 for each day thereafter that the report is late.

Come visit our home page at http://www.ethics.state.tx.us on the Internet.

(512) 463-5800 • 1-800-325-8506 • FAX (512) 463-8808 • TDD 1-800-735-2989

The Terus Ethics Commission does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services

Forms, Schedules, and Guides. Forms, filing schedules, and guides are available on the Ethics Commission website at http://www.ethics.state.tx.us on the Internet. You are responsible for obtaining forms for filing reports and you should review the following information on our website.

- Filing Schedule: www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/pacfilesch.htm Use the applicable annual filing schedule to determine when you will be required to file reports. Although the Ethics Commission may send notices to remind you of certain filing deadlines, it is your responsibility to make sure you file all required reports.
- Electronic Filing Information: www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf\_filing\_info.htm Review this information to help you determine whether you are required to file electronically. If you are required to file electronically, you must submit the enclosed Form PASS.
- 3. Political Advertising, Guide: www.ethics.state.tx.us/pamphlet/G03polad.htm Review this guide to help you understand cortain laws relating to political advertising.
- 4. Campaign Finance Guide for Political Committees: www.ethics.state.tx.us/guides/pac\_guide.pdf Review this guide to help you understand the restrictions and filing requirements in the campaign finance law.

Qualified Paper Filers. The forms and instructions you may need are available on the Ethics Commission website at www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/g&mpacfrm.htm on the Internet.

Please call our office at (800) 325-8506 or (512) 463-5800 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Becky L()Levy

Director, Disclosure Filing Division

BLL/rld

**Enclosure** 

Texas Ethics Commission P.O. Box 12070 Austin, Texas 78711-2070 (512) 463-5800 (TDD 1-800-735-2989) **AMENDMENT: APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN** FORM AGTA TREASURER BY A GENERAL-PURPOSE COMMITTEE PG 1 1 Total pages filed: See AGTA Instruction Guide for detailed instructions. **COMMITTEE NAME** ACCOUNT # 00063939 OFFICE USE ONLY Spectra Energy Corp Political Action Committee NEW COMMITTEE Date ReceiveRECEIVED NAME MAR 23 2012 NEW 5 ACRONYM Spectra-DCP PAC **Texas Ethics Commission** ADDRESS / PO BOX; APT / SUITE #; COMMITTEE STATE: **ADDRESS** PROCESSED NEW REPORTING TYPE REGULAR MONTHLY NEW CAMPAIGN MS/MRS/MR FIRST NICKHAME SUFFIX TREASURER Ms. Ritu Talwar NAME NEW STREET ADDRESS (NO PO BOX PLEASE); APT / SUITE #; CITY; CAMPAIGN STATE: ZIP CODE TREASURER STREET **ADDRESS** (residence or business) 10 CAMPAIGN NEW ADDRESS / PO BOX; APT / SUITE #; CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE TREASURER MAILING **ADDRESS** as above 11 CAMPAIGN NEW AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION TREASURER PHONE 713 )989-1784 12 PERSON MI LAST SUFFIX APPOINTING Spectra Energy Corp Political Action Committee Board (Spectra-DCP PAC) TREASURER 13 SIGNATURE I understand that I have been appointed as the campaign treasurer for this general-purpose committee and that I am responsible for filing all required reports and that I may be subject to fines for failure to do so. I am aware of the restrictions in title 15 of the Election Code on contributions from corporations and labor organizations. Signature of Campaign Treasurer 14 ASSISTANT NEW FIRST MI LAST SUFFIX CAMPAIGN Craig Hicks TREASURER ADDRESS / PO BOX; NEW APT / SUITE #; CITY: ZIP CODE STATE 15 ASSISTANT 5400 Westheimer Ct. Houston, TX 77056 CAMPAIGN TREASURER **ADDRESS** NEW | AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER 16 ASSISTANT **EXTENSION** CAMPAIGN TREASURER (713) 627-5749 PHONE **CONTINUE ON PAGE 2** 

This appointment is effective on the date it is filed with the commission.

Tex	cas Ethics Commission	on P	O. Box 12070	Austin, Texas 78711-2070	(512) 463-580	0 (TDD 1-800-735-2989)			
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## TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION Ock Let

P.O. Box 12070, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711-2070

Tom Ramsay Chair

Jim Clancy Vice Chair

David A. Reisman **Executive Director** 



March 23, 2012

Commissioners

Hugh C. Akin Tom Harrison Paul W. Hobby Bob Long Paula M. Mendoza Chase Untermeyer

PROCESSED MAR 2 3 2012

Ms. Ritu Talwar 5400 Westheimer Ct. Houston, Texas 77056

ETHICS COMMISSION ACCOUNT # : 00063939

COMMITTEE NAME

ASSISTANT TREASURER DOCUMENT TYPE RECEIVED

: Craig Hicks

: Amendment: Appointment of a Campaign Treasurer by a

General-Purpose Committee

: Spectra Energy Corp PAC

EFFECTIVE DATE

: March 22, 2012

**FILING SCHEDULE** 

: Regular

Dear Ms. Talwar:

The Ethics Commission has received the document referenced above appointing you as the committee's campaign treasurer. Please use the committee's Ethics Commission account number on all correspondence and documents that you submit to the Ethics Commission.

Reporting Requirements. You must file semiannual reports with the Ethics Commission not later than January 15 and July 15 of each year. These reports must be filed even if there was no activity during the reporting period. Other reports are required in connection with elections. You should review the appropriate Ethics Commission campaign finance guide and filing schedule for more detailed information about filing requirements.

Note: You will be required to file reports until a campaign finance report designated as a "Dissolution Report" and the "Political Committee Affidavit of Dissolution" is filed, or you submit a written notice to the Texas Ethics Commission that you are resigning as treasurer.

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Forms, Schedules, and Guides. Forms, filing schedules, and guides are available on the Ethics Commission's website at <a href="http://www.ethics.state.tx.us">http://www.ethics.state.tx.us</a> on the Internet. You are responsible for obtaining forms for filing reports and you should review the following information on our website:

- 1. Filing Schedule: www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/pacfilesch.htm Use the applicable annual filing schedule to determine when you will be required to file reports. Although the Ethics Commission may send notices to remind you of certain filing deadlines, it is your responsibility to make sure you file all required reports.
- 2. Electronic Filing Information: www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf\_filing\_info.htm Review this information to help you determine whether you are required to file electronically. If you are required to file electronically, you must submit the enclosed Form PASS.

If you are filing electronically, please fill out and send to us the enclosed Form PASS to obtain a new password. The previous treasurer's password is no longer valid.

- 3. Political Advertising Guide: www.ethics.state.tx.us/guides/G08polad.htm Review this guide to help you understand certain laws relating to political advertising.
- 4. Campaign Finance Guide for Political Committees: www.ethics.state.tx.us/guides/pac\_guide.pdf Review this guide to help you understand the restrictions and filing requirements in the campaign finance law.

Qualified Paper Filers. The forms and instructions you may need are available on the Ethics Commission's website at www.ethics.state.tx.us/filinginfo/g&mpacfrm.htm on the Internet.

Please call our office at (512) 463-5800 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Becky L. Levy

Director, Disclosure Filings Division

Bechy L. Lewy

BLL/cmp

Enclosure



exas Ethics Comm	nission	P.O. Box 12070	Austin, Texas	78711-2070	(512) 463-	5800 (	TDD 1-800-735-2989)
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See AGTA Instruction Guide for detailed instructions.					1 Total pages filed: 2		
2 COMMITTEE NAME Spectra Energy Corp Political Action Committee (Spectra-DCP PAC)  3 ACCOUNT # 00063939						OFFIC	E USE ONLY
COMMITTEE	OMMITTEE NEW						CEIVED   R 10 2017
ACRONYM	Enbrid	Enbridge-DCP PAC					nics Commission
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www.ethics.state.tx.us

Revised 09/01/2003

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TX Ethics Commission

Department

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Austin, Texas 78711-2070

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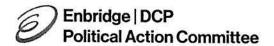
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Texas Ethics Commission

**AMENDMENT:** APPOINTMENT OF A CAMPAIGN FORM AGTA TREASURER BY A GENERAL-PURPOSE COMMITTEE PG 1 1 Total pages filed: See AGTA Instruction Guide for detailed instructions. 2 2 COMMITTEE NAME 3 ACCOUNT # OFFICE USE ONLY Enbridge (U.S.) Inc. Political Action Committee (Enbridge-DCP PAC) 00063939 RECEIVED NEW COMMITTEE NAME Enbridge (U.S.) Inc. Political Action Committee MAR 1 0 2017 NEW 5 ACRONYM Texas Ethics Commission Enbridge-DCP PAC COMMITTEE NEW ADDRESS / PO BOX; APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE: ZIP CODE **ADDRESS** Mar 8,2017 NEW REPORTING Date Imaged TYPE REGULAR MONTHLY CAMPAIGN NEW MS/MRS/MR FIRST MI NICKNAME LAST SUFFIX TREASURER NAME NEW STREET ADDRESS (NO PO BOX PLEASE); APT / SUITE #; CITY; CAMPAIGN STATE: ZIP CODE **TREASURER** STREET **ADDRESS** (residence or business) 10 CAMPAIGN ADDRESS / PO BOX: APT / SUITE #: CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE TREASURER MAILING **ADDRESS** same as above CAMPAIGN NEW AREA CODE PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION TREASURER PHONE 12 PERSON FIRST MI LAST SUFFIX **APPOINTING** TREASURER 13 SIGNATURE I understand that I have been appointed as the campaign treasurer for this general-purpose committee and that I am responsible for filing all required reports and that I may be subject to fines for failure to do so. I am aware of the restrictions of title 15 of the Election Code on contributions from corporations and labor organizations. Signature of Campaign Treasurer 14 ASSISTANT NEW FIRST MI LAST SUFFIX CAMPAIGN TREASURER 15 ASSISTANT NEW ADDRESS / PO BOX; APT / SUITE #; CITY; STATE; ZIP CODE CAMPAIGN TREASURER **ADDRESS** AREA CODE NEW PHONE NUMBER EXTENSION 16 ASSISTANT CAMPAIGN TREASURER PHONE **CONTINUE ON PAGE 2** This appointment is effective on the date it is filed with the commission.

Texas Etnics Commission	<u>л</u> Р.	.O. Box 120/0	Austin, Texas 78/11-20/0	(512) 463-580	00 (100 1-800-735-2989)		
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19 CONTROLLING ENTITY INFORMATION	□ add ☑ delete	Spectra Energy Co	orporation				
	☑ add	FULL NAME OF CONTROLLING ENTITY  Enbridge (U.S.) Inc.  ACRONYM					
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20 CONTRIBUTION DECISION MAKERS	☐ add ☐ delete	First	М	Last	Suffix		
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21 EXPENDITURE DECISION MAKERS	□ add □ delete	First	MI	Last	Suffix		
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# **EXHIBIT C**



Enbridge DCP PAC 5400 Westheimer Court Houston, Texas 77056

April 26, 2019

Candidate or political Committee [address] [city, state] [P.O. Box 1205] Colonial Heights, VA 23834]

Re: Complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission by Alexander Austin with respect to Enbridge-DCP PAC – MUR 7594

To whom it may concern:

As you may be aware, Alexander Austin, an individual residing in Colorado, has submitted a complaint to the Federal Election Commission (FEC) with respect to Enbridge (U.S.) Inc. Political Action Committee (Enbridge-DCP PAC) (which was formerly known as Spectra Energy Corp Political Action Committee (Spectra-DCP PAC)).

The complaint is focused on the fact that Enbridge (U.S.) Inc., which sponsors Enbridge-DCP PAC, is a subsidiary of Enbridge Inc., a Canadian company.

Enbridge Inc. is a Canadian corporation with its common shares publically traded on the Toronto and New York stock exchanges under the symbol "ENB." Enbridge Inc. is one of North America's largest energy infrastructure companies with strategic business platforms (owned and operated through its subsidiaries) that include an extensive network of crude oil, liquids and natural gas pipelines, regulated natural gas distribution utilities and renewable power generation assets. Enbridge (U.S.) Inc. is a Delaware corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Enbridge Inc. Enbridge (U.S.) Inc.'s principal place of business is located in Houston, Texas, and, through its subsidiaries, has approximately 3,500 employees in the U.S., who safely maintain and operate Enbridge's assets across 41 U.S. states.

Please be assured that the operations of the Enbridge-DCP PAC are in full compliance with federal law and regulations, which allow the U.S. subsidiaries of foreign companies to sponsor PACs, have such PACs solicit contributions from eligible U.S. citizens and green card holders, and have such PACs make contributions to U.S. political committees. Many U.S. subsidiaries of foreign companies sponsor PACs and engage in such activities. The law is clear in this area, and we are confident the complaint will be dismissed.

Unfortunately, the complaint identified not only the Enbridge-DCP PAC but also many of the federal and state political committees to which the Enbridge-DCP PAC made contributions to over several years. This included your committee, and the FEC was therefore obligated to notify your committee of the complaint. You likely received a letter from Jeff Jordan, the FEC's Assistant General Counsel, in recent days.

As the letter explains, at this preliminary stage the FEC is given an opportunity to determine if there is any reason to believe that a possible violation has occurred. Only if the FEC reach that conclusion would the FEC open an investigation into the matter.

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Enbridge (U.S.) Inc. will respond to the complaint on our behalf and seek to demonstrate that there is no reason for the FEC to believe that any violation has occurred. Other parties mentioned in the complaint, including your committee, are provided a chance to respond at this preliminary stage too, but a response is not required. If your committee chooses to respond, as the letter explains, your committee may request an extension of the 15-day response deadline referenced in the letter.

If you have any questions about this matter, please feel free to contact Adam Parker at 202-347-3386 or adam.parker1@enbridge.com.

Sincerely,

Adam Parker

Enbridge-DCP PAC Manager