Date:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| County: | Project ID: |
| Federal Project No.: | ROW Project ID: |
| Highway: | Parcel ID: |
| Limits From: | |
| Limits To: | |

Dear      ,

As you know, it is necessary for the State of Texas, acting through the Texas Department of Transportation, to construct a highway which requires the purchase of the property referred to above. Inasmuch as negotiations to purchase this property have not been successful to date, a final offer is hereby submitted to you. According to authorization by the Texas Transportation Commission, a total sum of $      is offered for the required property rights**,** save and except oil, gas and sulphur rights with no right of exploration on the above described property, subject to clear title being secured. Any compensation that may be due to you from this Department’s Relocation Assistance Program is not included in this offer because such funds are paid to eligible persons separately.

As outlined in the State’s initial offer letter, you will be eligible for a relocation permit under 43 TAC 21.192 only if you accept this offer, retain the billboard structure, and apply for a relocation permit. If you opt to retain the billboard structure, a retention value of $      will be deducted from the above offered amounts.

Any compensation that may be due to you from this Department’s Relocation Assistance Program is not included in this offer because such funds are paid to eligible persons separately.

If you desire to accept this offer, please contact       at (   )   **-**     as soon as possible**.** If this offer is not accepted within fourteen (14) days from the date of delivery of this letter, it will be considered as having been rejected. We enclose herein a copy of the proposed instrument by which the property or property interest would be conveyed to the State.

If you reject this offer, eminent domain proceedings will be initiated by the State. Thereafter, the Court will appoint three disinterested real property owners who reside in the County to serve as Special Commissioners, a date will be set for a hearing and you will be notified of the time and place set for the hearing at which the Special Commissioners will hear the evidence presented and arrive at an award which will be filed with the Court. The State may then deposit the amount of the award with the Court, at which time the State will be entitled to take possession of the property involved. After the deposit is made, you may withdraw your share of the award. If the award exceeds the amount of any subsequent judgment, you are required to repay the State the excess amount and any excess amount not repaid to the State may be deducted from eligible payments, if any, due to you as the property owner under the Department’s Relocation Assistance Program. If either you or the State is dissatisfied with the amount of the Special Commissioners’ award, objections may be filed within the time prescribed by law and the case subsequently tried before the Court as are other civil cases. Should the State file eminent domain proceedings, you will not be eligible for a relocation permit.

Sincerely,

Right of Way Manager or other signatory

Enclosure: Draft proposed conveyance instrument (ROW-N-14-OAS)