

FILE

# Ohio Power Siting Board

Ted Strickland, Governor

March 30, 2007

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Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

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Tiffani Cappello  
12049 Clay Street  
Huntsburg, Ohio 44046

Re: American Transmission Systems, Inc. / Geauga County -138kV Transmission  
Line Supply Project  
Case No. 07-171-EL-BTX

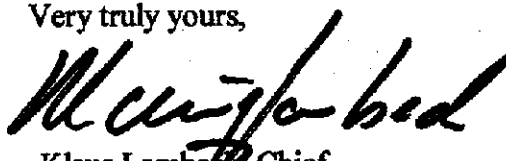
Dear Mrs. Cappello:

Thank you for your concerns regarding the proposed American Transmission Systems, Inc. / Geauga County -138kV Transmission Line Supply Project. As with the consideration of all transmission projects, local and surrounding businesses, residents, municipalities and officials are invited to discuss the present and long-term economical and environmental feasibility of such projects. The response we receive from these entities convey an interest in environmental, ecological and social implications associated with the proposed transmission line.

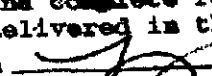
To date, American Transmission Systems held public information meetings on both March 5-6, 2007 in Huntsburg and Thompson Ohio that residents might be informed on the proposed project. Still at this time, American Transmission Systems has not submitted an application for the project before the Ohio Power Siting Board.

As we appreciate all input into the siting process, once an application is filed, your document will be shared with members of the Board and placed in an official docket for the case. Further, should you wish to view activity involving this application, please visit our web site at [www.OPSB.ohio.gov](http://www.OPSB.ohio.gov).

Very truly yours,

  
Klaus Lambert, Chief  
Ohio Power Siting Board

KL: dgd

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Mrs. Tiffani Cappello  
12049 Clay St.  
Huntsburg, OH. 44046  
(440) 636-5613

Ohio Siting Board  
189 East Broad St.  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Ohio Siting Board Members,

I am writing this letter in response to the requests for comment on the new Geauga County 138kV transmission line. While I clearly understand the need for such a line, given the increasing electrical needs of the population of NE Ohio, I am very upset that a residential street like Clay St. is being considered for the placement of such a high voltage line.

I am a mother of seven children and I am very concerned about the safety of such a line running in front of my home. Children up and down Clay Street will be playing under these lines. Children will need to stand under or in close proximity of these lines while waiting for the school bus each morning. To consider the placement of such a line in a residential area when a safer alternative route is available seems unreasonable.

I am aware that the placement of the line along the alternative RT528 would be a considerably more difficult because of the environmental issues involved. Although I am very concerned about the preservation of our environment and the species that inhabit the woodlands and wetland areas along the 528 route, I am much more concerned for the preservation of my children and the people who live on Clay St. It simply does not make sense to me to place such a high voltage line in a residential area.

It has come to my attention that such lines currently are in place in residential neighborhoods. However, most of these lines were in place before the houses were built around the lines. Many people are willing to accept these risks for the chance to purchase a buildable lot at a discount. I can assure you, we would never purchase a lot near such lines, nor would we purchase an already existing home near such lines.

When we chose our home on Clay St. we selected it carefully because we felt it was a safe and healthy place to raise our family. We are VERY upset about the dangers this line would pose to our children and the children of our neighbors.

Despite claims to the contrary, the debate is still out on the safety of EMF exposure from high voltage lines on human health. Many reputable scientists conducting research on this subject have demonstrated that EMF exposure from such high voltage lines can induce cellular and biological changes in human organisms.

Such changes consist of:

1. Changes in immune function
2. Alterations in the production of melatonin
3. Changes in biorhythm
4. Notable changes in human brain activity and heart function
5. Cancer clustering in residential areas around high voltage lines

I realize that other studies have been done in an attempt to discredit research showing a positive correlation between EMF exposure and health risks in humans; however, I put little stock in research either conducted or funded by the electrical industry due to an obvious conflict of interest.

Recently, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC 2002) designated EMFs as a class 2B carcinogen ("possibly carcinogenic"), based on "consistent statistical associations of high-level residential magnetic fields with a doubling of the risk of childhood leukemia." The California Department of Health Services (CADHS 2002) recently issued a report concluding that "EMFs can cause some degree of increased risk of childhood leukemia, adult brain cancer, Lou Gehrig's disease, and miscarriage."

While it is apparent that EMF exposure does not directly cause leukemia in children, it is still unclear whether such exposure can induce cellular changes that could increase the risk of developing leukemia via the disruption of homeostasis in the human body. Much research still needs to be done before the safety of children living near high voltage lines can be guaranteed. For this reason, I feel it is unwise to put these lines down a residential street when other options are available.

I recently conducted a review of the medical literature to access the link between EMF exposure and childhood leukemia and it is quite clear that some associations and evidence of cancer clustering around high voltage lines is present. And until more studies can be done to either verify or dismiss this risk, I believe caution is warranted and unnecessary risks to the citizens of Clay St. should be avoided.

In addition to these health concerns, there are other safety considerations, such as a fallen line, that could cause injury or more likely death.

I hope you will take these factors into consideration when making your decision regarding the placement of the 138kV transmission line in Geauga County. The residents of Clay St. are extremely concerned about potential risks to the health and safety of our children.

Sincerely,

Tiffani Cappello