

Ohio Power Siting Board

April 30, 2007

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The Public Utilities Commission of Onio 15537 Thompson Road

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

Dear Mr. Hadley:

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 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.

180 E. Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

www.OP\$B.ohio.gov

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John M. Hadley 15537 Thompson Road Thompson, Ohio 44086

April 24, 2007

The Ohio Power Siting Board 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Sir/Madam:

I completely oppose the installation of 138kV power transmission lines in Geauga County along the proposed routes. (Case # 07-0171-EL-BTX)

My family has lived on Clay Street for sixty years. My grandparents bought a sixty acre farm on the southwest corner of Clay Street and Thompson Road in 1947. My parents built their house on Clay Street in 1966, on land given to them by my grandparents. Today my sister owns our grandparents' former home (it is almost 150 years old) and is raising her children there. They are the fourth generation of my family to live on Clay Street. My cousin built a home on Clay Street. I own land on Clay Street which attaches to my Thompson Road address. After sixty years all of Grandma and Grandpa's original sixty acre farm is still in the family. My parents, sister, cousin and I all own pieces of it. I think that's a remarkable achievement.

Actually, the above scenario is quite common in Thompson, Montville, and Huntsburg, and many other families can say the same thing. People live here because they like it here, they have a family history here and they know the people here. It is our quiet little corner of the world. There is nothing more important to the people who live here than the combination of family history with old homes on large tracts of land.

Several years ago the road department paved Clay Street and in the process cut down century-old maple trees in front of my sister's house. It made me sick to my stomach. I'm glad my grandparents were not around to see it. The thought of doing that all the way down Clay Street (or east of Route 528) as part of a sixty foot right of way is truly horrifying. It is also ugly as hell and will destroy the rural and natural charm of our small town community.

The negative economic consequences of this project will be immense. I don't really care what the so-called "experts" say. Anyone who doesn't think this will negatively impact the property owners in question is dumber than the stumps left after all the trees are butchered. What would you rather have on your property? Sixty foot trees or sixty foot electric poles? A sixty foot right of way or no right of way? Electric lines overhead (for your children to play under) or nothing but the clear blue sky overhead for your children to play under? Which property would you pay more for? One with poles, lines and right of ways? Or one WITHOUT?!! HELLO?! It doesn't exactly take an "expert" to see the difference! I certainly expect the "experts" to move to Thompson the minute this project is completed and to personally buy those houses left closest to

the new wires. I mean, after all, it will be such a great investment for them because the property values will not be negatively affected, blah, blah, etc., etc..... Yeah right!

I think some real planning and real thinking needs to go into this project. If the electric need is so great on the southern end of this county than maybe they need to bear the burden of this project. Run the lines down Mayfield Road on an existing right of way on a major federal thoroughfare. Or run the lines down the right of way for Route 11 in Ashtabula County. In ten or twenty years the need will reach that far east anyway; plan ahead now instead of cutting through the middle of Geauga County.

A plan needs to be developed that impacts the least number of people. Surely using an EXISTING right of way like Mayfield Road or Route 11 would affect less people than bulldozing through the middle of Geauga County.

The impacts of a project like this are many and include (but are not limited to) social/historical, economic, environmental, health related and community based. For all the reasons I have listed installing these lines through the middle of Geauga County does not make sense and will degrade the communities in question. I implore you to find an alternative route.

Sincerely,

John M. Hadley John M. Hadley

cc: Mr. Anthony Alexander, CEO First Energy Corporation American Transmission Systems, Inc.
Mia Moore, First Energy Area Manager
State Senator Timothy J. Grendell
Geauga County Commissioners
Matthew Dolan, State Representative
Steve LaTourette, U.S. Representative
Thompson Township Trustees
Montville Township Trustees
Huntsburg Township Trustees