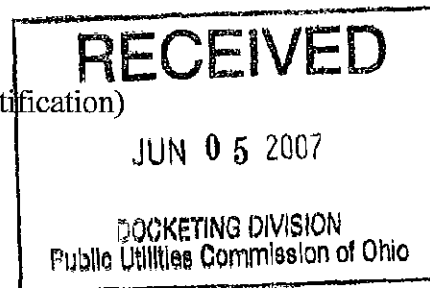


FILE**Staff Investigation Report and Recommendation****Case No.:** 07-495-EL-BLN**Project:** Harrison 138 kV Project (Relocation for Rickenbacker West Industrial Park)**Applicant:** Columbus Southern Power Company (AEP)**Report Date:** June 4, 2007**Automatic Approval Date:** June 11, 2007

(Letter-of-Notification)

Waiver Requests: No**Inspection Date(s):** June 1, 2007**Staff Assigned:** L. Winget, J. Pawley**Summary of Staff Recommendations (see report text for discussion):**

Application: ☐ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☒ Approval with Conditions
 Waiver: ☐ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☒ Not Applicable

Summary of Staff Recommended Conditions:

- That prior to construction, the Applicant shall coordinate the findings of the Lockbourne Development Project Phase I Archaeological Survey with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) and submit to Staff for review and acceptance, in particular any impact the relocated line will have on the Ohio and Erie Canal. A mitigation plan shall be submitted for Staff's acceptance should the survey disclose a find of cultural or archaeological significance, or a site that could be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.
- As stated in the application, AEP shall not perform any site preparation work, such as clearing of trees, site grading and filling/draining of the pond, without first coordinating with Staff. Should such preparation work be required by AEP, a plan, minimizing the impact of the Ohio and Erie Canal, shall be submitted for Staff's acceptance.

Projected Docket Closure Date (if automatically approved): December 1, 2009**Investigation Report**

Project Description: The proposed project involves relocating 0.63 mile of the Harrison 138kV Extension for the Rickenbacker West Industrial Park. Four H-Frame wood poles will be removed. Four three pole dead-ends and five tangent structures will be installed. All site preparation work in the area will be performed by the developer.

Site Description: The site is located on farm land, in Hamilton Township, Franklin County, which contains a section of the Ohio and Erie Canal and a large man-made pond. A 138 kV transmission line crosses the field, diagonally, which will be removed. The northern leg of the new transmission line will parallel the Ohio and Erie Canal, for several hundred feet before crossing the canal, at the location where the canal turns south. The canal bank is lined with matured trees. The relocated transmission line continues until it reaches the Norfolk and Western railroad, and then turns south,

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paralleling the railroad bed, with the centerline 70 feet from the edge of the row. A large pond, approximately one acre in size, will be required to be drained and filled by the developer, before the new line can be constructed, as two poles will be installed where the pond now exists. A discussion, with a long time native, revealed that the pond has been there a minimum of half a century. Observations by the Staff, indicates that the pond is likely to have been a part of the canal system.

Discussion/Comments/Concerns: The project will be constructed on a recently designated industrial park. The developer has ownership of the property, and has taken full responsibility for site preparation for the industrial park. (A full report of the Lockbourne Development Project Phase I archaeological survey has been submitted to the Ohio Historic Preservation Office.) The easement, granted to AEP for the transmission line, lies entirely within the newly developed industrial park. Hence, the construction of the transmission line should not pose further social or environmental impacts.