

FILE

07-171-EL-BTX

From: "webmaster@puc.state.oh.us"
To: "ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us"
Subject: 29954
Sent: 6/16/2007 1:39:56 AM

Message:

WEB ID: 29954 AT:06-16-2007 at 01:39 AM

TYPE: comment

NAME: Mr. Marsha and Virgil Carpenter

CONTACT SENDER ? Yes

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COMMENT DESCRIPTION:

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

Reference: Case Number 07-0171-EL-BTX

Dear Sir,

We are writing to express our emphatic opposition to the 138 kV transmission lines American Transmission Systems, Inc. proposes to construct in Geauga County.

Allow me to give you some background as we why we oppose this measure. Our two lots fall on the contemplated East Route: Twenty-three years ago we sold our home in Maple Heights and began building our home on the six acres of land in Montville. At the time the property had been farmland, there was a swampy area in the middle of the lot and the

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only trees were to the left of the lot. We physically built our own home, dug a pond where there was swamp, planted trees, shrubs, plants and added a barn and above ground pool. Later we purchased the lot next to us and planted 1,000 blue spruce trees in the rear of the lot, adding 14 bluebird houses, a bird feeder with 7 units and a purple martin house next to the pond. This makes a haven for herons, turtles, frogs, deer, fish, birds, ducks and other wildlife. These 13 acres have been the better part of our life work.

Currently there are two routes being considered near or on our property. In order to explain we have attached several photos, one aerial, of our land so that you may see how the outcome of each scenario would impact us. If Line 1 (see photo) were chosen a pole would be placed approximately 100 feet from the northwest corner of our half-acre pond. Because this would be a "corner" pole it would require anchor support lines. Not only would the pole destroy our view, the anchor lines would block the access roadway to our land behind the pond. At this point the line would proceed thru a heavily wooded area, required deforesting of dozens of trees. Many of these are maples, oak and cherry, some with a circumference up to eight feet! (See enclosed photos). Also in this area the placement of poles would destroy drainpipe that supplies runoff water, the only source of water to the pond.

Furthermore, we have lived many winters on this land. When 30 inches of snow falls over a twenty-four hour period we cannot access the area behind our pond where the lines are proposed. If lines go down in any storm, how will the power company get to these lines?? This is not downtown Cleveland, this is the snow belt. Anything fewer than twelve inches is just a nuisance to us but lines thru the countryside would be a problem for repair crews.

Line 2 (see map) would be somewhat more palatable with regard to it's impact on our pond, our view and the fact this route would go thru an area of much younger and a lesser amount of trees. It would be a continued straight line and although it would still be behind both of our lots it would save the pond. However, there is still the problem that even with this route you will have the problem of removing trees and access in weather with heavy snow.

Of course we have other reasons for opposing these power lines in this area, for either proposed route, East or West. Power lines that cause the removal of homes, pose a health threat to residents, destroy forests, threaten wildlife, diminish property values, and permanently destroy the natural beauty of the area - these are just a few of the issues that beg the question "why not the Route 11 area, why not a less populated area" why not existing lines that could be used???

We hope you will consider the impact of the measure at hand and give thought to how your decision may affect the lives of us and our neighbors.

Thank you, Marsha M Carpenter Virgil E Carpenter