

## Ohio Power Siting Board

Ted Strickland Governor

November 6, 2007

Board Members

Chairman
Atan R. Schriber
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Regis and Christine Zerecheck 16900 Burrows Road Thompson, Ohio 44086

Christopher Korleski Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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

Lee Fisher Ohlo Department of Development

> Dr. Alvin Jackson Ohio Department of Health

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Zerecheck:

Sean Logan Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Robert Boggs Chio Department of Agriculture

> Andrew M. Boetright, P.E. Public Member

Steven Driehaus Ohio House of Representatives

John Hagan Ohio House of Representatives

> Bob Schuler Ohio Senate

Jason Wilson Ohio Senete 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.

On September 28, 2007, American Transmission Systems, Inc. submitted an application for the project before the Ohio Power Siting Board. At this time, no public hearings are scheduled. However, once our staff review of the application is complete, the applicant is required to publish appropriate notice of all hearings in local newspapers of general circulation in the area.

As we appreciate all input into the siting process, your document will be shared with members of the Board and placed in the official docket for the case. Further, should you wish to view activity involving this application, please visit our web site at <a href="https://www.OPSB.ohio.gov">www.OPSB.ohio.gov</a>.

Very truly yours,

Klaus Lambert Chief,

Ohio Power Siting Board

180 E. Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793 KW: dgd

www.OP\$B.obio.gov

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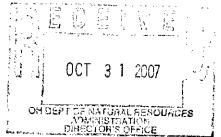
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Regis & Christine Zerecheck 16900 Burrows Road Thompson, Ohio 44086

October 24, 2007

Sean Logan, Director Ohio Department of Natural Resources 2045 Morse Road, BLDG. D-3 Columbus, Ohio 43229

Dear Mr. Logan:



By this letter, I hereby state for the record my objection, in the strongest possible terms, to the Geauga County 138 kV Transmission Line Project, PUCO case number 07-0171-EL-BTX, as proposed by FirstEnergy Corporation and as currently under review by the Ohio Power Siting Board. I am asking for your assistance in securing workable modifications to the project to overcome the devastating adverse effects that it would have on my property.

I am the owner of a beautiful parcel of land in eastern Geauga County, in the proposed transmission line corridor, along the preferred route within that corridor. My property is part of a perfect environment of rural traditions, productive agriculture, outdoor sport opportunities and unspoiled nature beauty. There are precious few places like northeastern Geauga County that remain anchors of productive family-oriented agricultural business, untouched bastions of unspoiled beauty, outdoor sports paradise, natural order and rural heritage.

The power line corridor proposed by CEI would damage my property in severe, unrecoverable ways. Creating the proposed sixty foot wide clear-cut utility corridor would decimate precious woodland, wetland and outdoor sports preserves. Productive agricultural areas would be severely damaged due to soil compaction and destruction of natural drainage patterns for which there is no reasonable compensation. The inherent desirability and value of my property, largely due to its natural, unspoiled, traditional beauty, would be ruined. This damage is fundamentally a consequence of CEI's creation of a new utility corridor through absolutely virgin, unspoiled land.

Based on the he extremely adverse effects that Geauga County 138 kV Transmission Line Project as proposed by FirstEnergy Corporation would have on my land, and the unavailability of any reasonable way to compensate for those adverse effects, I am forced to conclude that the project as proposed is not acceptable.

There are workable alternative locations for the proposed transmission line. Pre-existing civil corridors, such as highway and rail corridors, exist that could and should be used for the proposed transmission line rather than creation of a new corridor through virgin land. State Route 11, only 15 miles east of the proposed new corridor, is an ideal pre-existing civil corridor and a "made to order" location for the proposed transmission line. The route of the previously engineered and once approved Rachel transmission line along the B & O railroad grade is another viable pre-existing civil corridor. I am confident that the engineering talent exists within FirstEnergy to utilize these preferred, pre-existing civil corridors for the new transmission line.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my argument overwhelmingly against the Geauga County 138 kV Transmission Line Project as proposed by FirstEnergy. I look forward to your support of an outcome from the Ohio Power Siting Board process that favors the future of my land, family, lifestyle and the cherished unspoiled rural paradise that is Thompson, Montville and Huntsburg townships.

Sincerely,

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