



Ohio Power Siting Board

March 21 2008

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180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

www.OPSB.ohio.gov

The Ohio Power Siting Board
is an Equal Opportunity Employer
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Jennifer Lottes and Terry Sickafuse
17176 Moseley Road
Thompson, Ohio 44086

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

Dear Ms. Lottes and Mr. Sickafuse:

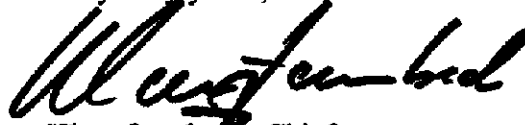
Thank you for your concerns regarding the proposed American Transmission Systems, Inc. / Geauga County -138kV Transmission Line Supply Project. As with the consideration of all transmission projects, local and surrounding businesses, residents, municipalities and officials are invited to discuss the present and long-term economical and environmental feasibility of such projects.

Please be advised, to accommodate the residents of Geauga county, public hearings will be conducted in locations that are closer to the proposed project area. To accommodate the number of persons likely to attend, residents in the northern portion of the project area are encouraged to attend the local public hearing held on Monday, May 12, 2008, at 4:30 p.m., at Ledgemont Elementary - Middle School, gymnasium, 16200 Burrows Road, Thompson, Ohio 44086. Likewise, residents in the southern portion of the project area are encouraged to attend the local public hearing held on Tuesday, May 13, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Huntsburg Town Hall, second floor, 16534 Mayfield Road, Huntsburg, Ohio 44046. Interested persons may testify at only one of the two local public hearings.

Further, the adjudicatory hearing will commence on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, 11th floor. Hearing Room F, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

As we continue to 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. Should you wish to view activity involving this application, visit our web site at www.OPSB.ohio.gov. Again, the Board thanks you for your interest.

Very truly yours,


Klaus Lambek, Chief,
Ohio Power Siting Board

KL: dgd

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2008 MAR 21 AM 10:26
PUCO

March 7, 2008

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Subject: PUCO Case Number 07-0171-EL-BTX

Dear Mr. Schriber:

We are writing to you to express our strong objections to the Geauga County 138 kV Transmission Line Supply Project, PUCO case number 07-0171-EL-BTX, as proposed by First Energy Corporation.

We originally composed this letter with pencil and paper, and not on a computer, because we have been in a brownout with only partial power at our home, for over three days now. Our lights are flickering and dim, and there was not enough power to run our furnace, well pump, or sump pump. Maybe if First Energy were able to properly maintain and manage the power lines they currently own, we would trust them to choose the best possible routes for adding power lines. This is the kind of service we routinely receive from First Energy, and it makes us extremely reluctant to trust in their business sense. The proposed power line project is no exception.

Our home is on a beautiful parcel of land in Thompson Township, right next to the proposed overland SR 528 route. We wake up every morning to views of beautiful sunrises out our bedroom window. Our property supports all kinds of wildlife, drawn here by the unspoiled habitat and the many streams and marshes. The proposed power line would destroy all that, and would do nothing to improve electrical service to our home.

Our view would change from beautiful sunrises to 75 foot towers crisscrossed by power lines. The clear cutting and disruption required for the proposed power lines would destroy wildlife habitat, including habitat of wild turkeys and snowshoe hare, two species that conservation groups such as the National Wild Turkey Foundation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources have invested significant time and money to re-establish in this region.

Right now, our neighborhood is growing, with new homes and new families moving in. The proposed power line would spoil the attractive rural nature of our neighborhood, discouraging growth and lowering our property values. A new power line corridor cutting through woods and streams would discourage families and farms from locating here. Instead, it would encourage vandals

and trespassers on off road vehicles and snowmobiles, and would destroy a landscape that will never recover.

While we are seriously concerned for our own property, we are also concerned for our neighbors and our community. Both routes proposed by First Energy will harm many family farms. Farming is one of the few successful and growing businesses in our county, yet First Energy wants to destroy prime farmland just to make their own job easier. Destroying family farm businesses to simplify a power line project - a project that will not improve service to those whose property is involved - is not acceptable.

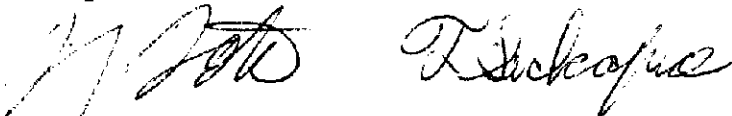
First Energy has shown in their lack of line maintenance that they consistently do what is cheapest and easiest for their company, not what offers the best and most reliable service to their customers. As well, their proposed power line routes focus on what is cheapest and easiest for them, not what offers the least harm and greatest benefit for the communities they supposedly serve.

First Energy's proposed routes would both create new utility corridors where none currently exist. Creating of new utility corridors will cause irreparable damage to properties and farms like mine. Usable pre-existing civil corridors exist that are able to accommodate a new transmission line to serve the intended area. For these reasons, neither route proposed by First Energy is acceptable. Once land is gone, it's gone.

We are personally asking you to help save the homes, farms, wetlands, fields, forests, and habitats from the unnecessary and expensive intrusion and destruction that this project proposes. We are urging you to support the use of a suitable existing utility corridor, such as State Route 11 or the B&O railroad grade, to bring power to the southern part of Geauga County. Please keep the countryside of North Eastern Geauga County green.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our deep opposition to the Geauga County 138 kV Transmission Line Supply Project as proposed by First Energy Corporation.

Sincerely

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'J Lottes' and the second is 'T Sickafuse'.

Jennifer Lottes and Terry Sickafuse
17176 Moseley Road
Thompson, Ohio 44086