



Ohio Power Siting Board

FILE

March 31, 2008

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Ted Strickland, Governor

Pauline Bennett
15134 Woodsong Drive
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

Board Members

Chairman
Alan R. Schriber
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

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

Christopher Kortelke
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Dear Ms. Bennett:

Lee Fisher
Ohio Department of Development

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.

Dr. Alvin Jackson
Ohio Department of Health

Sean Logan
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

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.

Robert Boggs
Ohio Department of Agriculture

Andrew M. Boatright, P.E.
Public Member

Steven Driehaus
Ohio House of Representatives

John Hagan
Ohio House of Representatives

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.

Bob Schuler
Ohio Senate

Jason Wilson
Ohio Senate

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.

180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

www.OPSB.ohio.gov

Very truly yours,

Klaus Lambert, Chief,
Ohio Power Siting Board

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KL: dgd

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Technician SM Date Processed 3/31/08

February 29, 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 Dr. Schriber:

I am writing you to state my strong objection to the Geauga County 138kV Transmission Line Supply Project, PUCO case number 07-0171-EL-BTX, as proposed by FirstEnergy Corporation.

In the application, FirstEnergy describes two proposed routes. Each route consists of a sixty foot wide, clear cut corridor through and over everything in its path. The preferred route is an over-land route near SR528 that bisects prime agricultural land, outdoor sports areas, pristine wetlands and forests. The preferred route will require clearing 62.9 acres of forest, crossing 58 streams and impacting 55.1 acres of wetlands. The alternate route follows Clay Street, plowing through the front yards, or requiring demolition of, beautiful residential properties. The alternate route will require crossing 182 properties, passing within 100 feet of 43 residential family homes and require demolition of six residential homes. Both routes impact the habitat of wild turkey and snowshoe hares, two species that conservation organizations such as the National Wild Turkey Federation and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) have invested significant time and money to re-establish in this region.

Both routes entail creation of a brand new utility corridor where none presently exists. Creation of a new utility corridor will cause irreparable damage to the properties and farms that constitute the rural eastern Geauga County community. Usable pre-existing civil corridors exist that are able to accommodate a new transmission line to serve the intended area. For these reasons, neither proposed route is acceptable. Once land is gone, it's gone.

I am personally asking you to help save the properties, wetlands, fields, habitats, forests and homelands from the unnecessary intrusion or destruction that this project proposes. I am 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 the much needed power to the southern portion of Geauga County. Please keep the countryside of North Eastern Geauga County green.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my deep opposition to the Geauga County 138kV Transmission Line Supply Project as proposed by FirstEnergy Corporation.

Sincerely,

Name <u>Pauline Burnett</u>		
Signature <u>Pauline Burnett</u>		Date <u>February 29, 2008</u>
Address <u>15134 Woodson Dr.</u>		
City <u>Middlefield</u>	State <u>OH</u>	Zip <u>44062</u>
Telephone <u>440-479-2485</u>	Email	