



# Ohio Power Siting Board

July 25, 2008

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PUCO

Ted Strickland, Governor

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8211 Madison Rd.  
Thompson, Ohio 44086

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Ohio Senate

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

Dear Ms. Bonick:

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, those residents who live in the northern portion of the project area should attend the first local public hearing held on Wednesday, August 27, 2008, at 4:30 p.m., at Ledgemont Elementary -- Middle School, gymnasium, 16200 Burrows Road, Thompson, Ohio 44086. Residents who live in the southern portion of the project area should attend the public hearing held on Thursday, August 28, 2008, at 1:30 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 September 2, 2008, at 10:00 at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, 11<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.OPSB.ohio.gov). Again, the Board thanks you for your interest.

180 E. Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

[www.OPSB.ohio.gov](http://www.OPSB.ohio.gov)

The Ohio Power Siting Board  
is an Equal Opportunity Employer  
and Service Provider

Very truly yours,

Klaus Lambert, Chief,  
Ohio Power Siting Board

KL: dgd

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Technician Tm Date Processed 7/28/2008

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

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JUL 23 2008

Office of Chairman  
P.U.C.O.

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,

Signature	Sally Bonick		Date	7/4/08	
Name (Please Print)	SALLY BONICK				
Address	8211 MADISON RD.				
City	THOMPSON	State	OH	Zip	44086
Telephone	440-298-9835		Email		