



Ohio Power Siting Board

August 25, 2008

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Ohio Senate

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Ohio Senate

180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

www.OPSB.ohio.gov

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The Honorable Daniel R. Claypool
Ashtabula County Commissioners
25 W. Jefferson Street
Jefferson, Ohio 44047-1092

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

Dear Commissioner Claypool:

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, three local hearings are set where the Board shall accept written and oral testimony. They are as follows:

Wednesday, August 27, 2008, at 4:30 p.m.,
Ledgemont Elementary – Middle School Gymnasium
16200 Burrows Road, Thompson, Ohio 44086.


Thursday, August 28, 2008, at 1:30 p.m.
Huntsburg Town Hall, second floor
16534 Mayfield Road, Huntsburg, Ohio 44046.

Wednesday, September 10, at 6:00 p.m.
Huntsburg Town Hall, second floor
16534 Mayfield Road, Huntsburg, Ohio 44046.

Interested persons may testify at only one of the three local public hearings. Further, the adjudicatory hearing will commence on September 16, 2008, at 10:00 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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Ashtabula County Commissioners

Joe Moroski

Daniel R. Claypool

Peggy Carlo



25 W. Jefferson Street
Jefferson, Ohio 44047-1092

(440) 576-3750

Fax: (440) 576-2344

August 13, 2008

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

Re: Case #017-0171-EL-BTX

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the undersigned members of the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners, are writing in support of the new 138KV transmission line that FirstEnergy is proposing to build in Geauga County.

This transmission line would not only serve Geauga County customers, but will also benefit large users in southern Ashtabula County. It will supply reliable energy to several large businesses which employ hundreds of people. Improved electrical reliability and capacity also will be a selling tool in bringing new development to the region.

Representatives from FirstEnergy have explained that without this new transmission line, providing reliable service to our area will be a challenge. Its existing circuits and substations are becoming overextended because of higher usage and growth, and it will be increasingly difficult to maintain voltage levels within the acceptable ranges.

We understand the concerns of residents who live near the proposed routes. However, we believe the project is necessary and should be built. It is critical that a viable solution be selected so that this process can go forward without triggering a protracted legal battle.


The affected region has struggled for years with electric service that is less than satisfactory. We believe that new transmission lines to the area are a must, and are probably 10 years overdue.

We encourage the Siting Board needs to certify either the "preferred" (cross-country) route or the "alternate" (Clay Street) route without further delay.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

ASHTABULA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Daniel R. Claypool
President


Joe Moroski
Commissioner


Peggy Carlo
Commissioner