



Ohio Power Siting Board

September 4, 2008

Ted Strickland, Governor

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Ohio Senate

180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

www.OPSB.ohio.gov

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William E. Niehus
292 Thwing Rd.
Chardon, Ohio 44024

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

Dear Mr. Niehus:

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, the last of the three local hearings where the Board shall accept written and oral testimony shall be on:

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 Lambeck, Chief,
Ohio Power Siting Board

KL: dgd

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Governor Ted Strickland
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43216-6108

Hon. Alan R. Schriber, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
Office of Chairman
P.U.C.O.

RE: Opposition to Proposed Utility Line along the Maple Highlands Trail and through the City of Chardon

Dear Governor Strickland and Mr. Schriber:

As a resident of the City of Chardon, I oppose the proposed route of 138 kV electrical transmission lines through the City of Chardon and along the Maple Highlands Bike Trail. No property owner wants a high voltage electrical transmission line on or near his or her property. Of the three routes proposed, the Maple Highlands Trail/Chardon Route is the least desirable for the following reasons:

- The Maple Highlands Trail is a public park. The public parks are held in trust and should be developed only in a manner that is consistent with their public use.
- The "preferred route" or "alternate route" would be built in rural areas and primarily through fields.
- The City of Chardon is the most densely populated and heavily traveled area in Geauga County.
- A high voltage transmission line through the City of Chardon is not appropriate due to the density of residential, commercial and industrial uses.
- The rights of all Geauga County residents to use public lands and parks should take precedence over the rights of a few private property owners who will be compensated for the use of their land.
- A policy favoring utility facilities, including high voltage transmission lines, through parks and municipalities with more people and intense land uses is a flawed policy.
- The "not in my backyard" philosophy of private land owners in eastern Geauga County should not override the better public policy of locating the transmission lines in an area which has the least impact on the fewest people.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

William E. Niehus

August 14, 2008

WILLIAM E. NIEHUS

[print name]

292 THwing Rd. Chardon, Ohio 44024

[print address]

440-286-8201

[print telephone number]