



## *Legal Department*

**American Electric Power**

1 Riverside Plaza  
Columbus, OH 43215  
ecmiller1@aep.com

**Erin C. Miller**

Contract Attorney

(614) 716-1637 PHONE  
(614) 716-2975 FAX  
(614) 230-9078 CELL

The Honorable Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman  
Ohio Power Siting Board  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

January 13, 2012

**RE: Letter of Notification  
Case No. 12-0308-EL-BLN Gahanna-West Millersport  
138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

In accordance with Rules 4906-5-02 and 4906-11-01, Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC"), AEP Ohio (AEP) submits this Letter of Notification for review. Construction to rebuild portions of existing transmission facilities to create this new circuit is expected to begin in late February 2012. The project is expected to be completed by May 2014.

As required by Rule 4906-11-01(D)(4), AEP has submitted a copy of this Letter of Notification to the chief executive officer of each municipal corporation and county and the head of each public agency charged with protecting the environment or of planning land use in the area in which the proposed project will be located. Please find attached copies of cover letters that have been submitted to the Walnut, Union, Plain, Liberty, Jefferson, Harrison and Etna Township Trustees, the City of New Albany, the City of Gahanna, and the Licking, Franklin and Fairfield County Commissioners.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

//s/ Erin C. Miller  
Erin C. Miller, Counsel  
Attachment

**Letter of Notification**  
**for the**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138kV Circuit Project**

**Submitted by**  
**American Electric Power**  
**to**  
**The State of Ohio Power Siting Board**  
**December 2011**

## **Letter of Notification**

In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-11-01 Letter of Notification, American Electric Power (AEP) dba Ohio Power, Columbus Southern Power and Ohio Transco submits the following information:

### **4906-11-01 (B) General Information**

#### **4906-11-01 (B) (1) Project name and Reference Number**

The name of this project is the Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project.

#### **4906-11-01 (B) (1) Description of the Project**

This project involves creating a new 138 kV circuit between AEP's West Millersport Station and Gahanna Station. This will be accomplished by rebuilding portions of existing transmission lines and energizing a section of de-energized line in Franklin, Fairfield and Licking Counties.

As shown in Figure 1, the five sections of the project include:

- West Millersport-Heath 138 kV Line: Rebuild the existing West Millersport-Heath 138 kV line on existing centerline between West Millersport Station and the existing Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line (2.9 miles). The existing H-frame structures support a single-circuit 138 kV line and will be replaced with new steel poles that will support double-circuit 138 kV lines. (See Figure 2)
- Gahanna 138 kV Extension: Rebuild the existing Gahanna 138 kV Extension on existing centerline between Gahanna Station and the Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line (1.2 miles), from existing single-circuit to double-circuit on new steel poles. (See Figure 4)
- Muskingum River-Central 345 kV Line: Re-energize a section of the existing Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line at 138 kV between the Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line and the Gahanna 138 kV Extension. (11.1 miles). This is an existing

steel tower transmission line. No new structure installation or wire stringing will be required.

- Conesville-Bixby 345 kV Line: Rebuild the existing Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line on existing centerline between the West Millersport-Heath 138 kV line and the existing Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line (5.1 miles). The existing H-frame structures that support a single circuit 345 kV line will be replaced with new steel poles that will support the existing 345 kV circuit as well as the new Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV circuit. (See Figure 3)
- Bixby-Corridor 345 kV Line: Rebuild the existing Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line on existing centerline between the Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line and the Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line (1.3 miles). The existing H-frame structures that support a single circuit 345 kV line will be replaced with new steel poles that will support the existing 345 kV circuit as well as the new Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV circuit. (See Figure 3)

**4906-11-01 (B) (1) Reason the Project Meets Letter of Notification Requirements**

This project meets the requirements for a Letter of Notification because the extent of this project is defined by Item 4(a) of Appendix A “Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines” of Section 4906-1-01 of the Ohio Administrative Code. This project involves the replacement of existing transmission line structures with different type of structures and two miles or less of new right of way will be required.

**4906-11-01 (B) (2) Need for the Project**

PJM has identified potential overloads on the AEP transmission system during certain contingencies. The establishment of this circuit between Gahanna and West Millersport 138 kV stations will alleviate these contingency overloads. This new circuit will improve transmission system reliability in the Central Ohio area.

**4906-11-01 (B) (3) Project Location Relative to Existing or Proposed Lines**

The location of this project is shown on Figure 1.

#### **4906-11-01 (B) (4) Alternatives Considered**

Another alternative considered was to construct a single circuit transmission line between Gahanna and West Millersport stations using a new transmission line route. This alternative would have required a "Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need" from the Ohio Power Siting Board. It also would have required the acquisition of new easements. It was decided to rebuild portions of AEP's existing transmission facilities to create this new circuit.

#### **4906-11-01 (B) (5) Anticipated Project Schedule**

Construction of this project is expected to begin in late February, 2012. Construction will continue depending upon circuit outages on different parts of this project throughout 2012 and 2013. The project is expected to be completed by May, 2014.

#### **4906-11-01 (B) (6) Maps Depicted Project Location**

Figure 1 is a map showing the overall project. Maps showing the proposed line rebuilds in greater detail are also included the appendix. To view the eastern portions of the project take I-70 East to State Route 37 (Exit 126). Take SR 37 south to AEP West Millersport station located at 11105 Lancaster-Millersport Road (SR37), Millersport, Ohio. The transmission lines to be rebuilt can be seen on the north side of the station. To view the western portions of the project go to AEP's Gahanna station located at 6200 Headley Road, Gahanna Ohio. The proposed line to be rebuilt can be seen at the north end of the station. The line can also be seen along the north side Morse Road just west of the intersection of Morse Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road.

#### **4906-11-01 (B) (7) Property Easements**

The existing lines are on existing easements that were obtained by American Electric Power. All new structures will be located within the existing transmission line right of way. At locations where the existing transmission lines cross, some additional right of way width will be required. AEP is obtaining

supplemental easements from the current property owners that will increase the existing right of way width. No work will be performed in any of these areas until these supplemental easements are obtained

#### **4906-11-01 (C) Technical Features of the Project**

##### **4906-11-01 (C) (1) Description of Technical Features**

The proposed circuit will be operated at 138kV. The overall length of the Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit is 21.7 miles. Approximately 10.6 miles of this 21.7 mile circuit will involve rebuilding of portions of existing transmission lines. Figures 2, 3 and 4 shows a sketch of a typical structure to be installed. Various conductors and shield wires will be installed. These conductor and shield wire sizes are shown in Figures, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

##### **4906-11-01 (C) (1) Number and Type of Structures**

Approximately seventy-two (72) single circuit two and three pole wood structures will be replaced with the same number of double circuit self-supporting galvanized steel single pole structures. Twenty-eight (28) single circuit wood poles structures will be removed and the same number of double circuit self-supporting galvanized steel single pole structures. All existing anchors and guys will be removed. The new replacement structures will be self supporting and will not require the installation of any anchors or guys. A sketch of these proposed structures is provided in Figures, 2, 3 and 4.

##### **4906-11-01 (C) (2) (a) Calculated Electric and Magnetic Field Levels**

Electric and Magnetic Fields during Operation

###### **(a) Calculated Electric and Magnetic Field Levels**

Configuration	Loading				Electric Field (kV/m)			Magnetic Field (mG)		
			MVA	Amperes	West Edge	Center	East Edge	West Edge	Center	East Edge
EMF 1 (Fig. 4)	Normal	West Ckt	87.5	358.7	0.2	1.0	0.2	16.9	33.5	9.8
		East Ckt	18.9	79.2						
	Emergency	West Ckt	111.2	465.1	0.2	1.0	0.2	22.4	44.4	13.5

EMF 2 (Fig. 5)	Winter Rating	East Ckt	19.9	83.4						
		West Ckt	492.6	2061.0	0.2	1.4	0.2	75.3	325.5	74.8
		East Ckt	492.6	2061.0						
	Normal	West Ckt	293.5	491.2	0.6	2.8	0.2	15.0	54.0	8.3
		East Ckt	87.5	358.7						
		West Ckt	436.6	730.7	0.6	2.8	0.2	23.7	77.4	10.5
	Emergency	East Ckt	111.2	465.1						
		West Ckt	1780.7	2980.0	0.7	3.7	0.3	90.0	592.2	91.8
		East Ckt	712.3	2980.0						
EMF 3 (Fig. 6)	Normal	West Ckt	113.2	189.4	0.6	2.8	0.2	4.0	37.3	12.4
		East Ckt	87.5	358.7						
	Emergency	West Ckt	178.5	298.8	0.6	2.8	0.2	6.1	50.0	15.1
		East Ckt	111.2	465.1						
	Winter Rating	West Ckt	1780.7	2980.0	0.7	3.7	0.3	90.0	592.2	91.8
		East Ckt	712.3	2980.0						
EMF 4 (Fig. 7)	Normal	West Ckt	10.7	44.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	3.8	6.0	4.6
		East Ckt	87.5	358.7						
	Emergency	West Ckt	13.4	56.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	5.0	7.9	6.0
		East Ckt	111.2	465.1						
	Winter Rating	West Ckt	492.6	2061.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	7.6	14.4	8.5
		East Ckt	492.6	2061.0						

#### **4906-11-01 (C) (2) (b) Discussion of Design Alternatives**

Another alternative considered was to construct a single circuit transmission line between Gahanna and West Millersport stations using a new transmission line route. This alternative would have required a "Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need" from the Ohio Power Siting Board. It also would have required the acquisition of new easements.

#### **4906-11-01 (C) (3) Estimated Capital Costs**

The following estimated 2012 capital costs for the proposed project have been tabulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Electric Plant Transmission Accounts.

FERC Accounts	Estimated Capital Costs
350 Land and Land Rights (R/W)	\$ 192,400
355 Poles and Fixtures	\$13,319,400
356 Overhead Conductors and Devices	\$ 8,879,800
Total	\$22,391,600

#### **4906-11-01 (D) Socioeconomic Data**

##### **4906-11-01 (D) (1) Land Use, and Population Density**

URS, a contractor specializing in gas and transmission line siting, was contacted to perform an independent study regarding population density and land use within this project area. A copy of their report is included in the Appendix.

##### **4906-11-01 (D) (2) Location and Description of Existing Agricultural Districts**

URS, a contractor specializing in gas and transmission line siting, was contacted to perform an independent study regarding agricultural district use within this project area. A copy of their report is included in the Appendix.

##### **4906-11-01 (D) (3) Archaeological and Cultural Resources**

URS, a contractor specializing in gas and transmission line siting, was contacted to perform an independent study regarding archeological and cultural resources within this project area. A copy of their report is will be sent directly to the Ohio Power Siting Board staff and is not included in the Appendix.

##### **4906-11-01 (D) (4) Local Officials to be Notified**

A list of local public officials that this Letter of Notification has been sent to is included in the Appendix. A typical cover letter that went with the Letter of Notification is also included in the Appendix.

##### **4906-11-01 (D) (4) Public Information Program**



All existing property owners that will be affected by this project have been notified by AEP.

**4906-11-01 (D) (5) Pending Litigation**

There are no litigation involving this project and none is expected.

**4906-11-01 (D) (6) Local, State and Federal Requirements**

This line will be designed, constructed and operated to meet or exceed the requirements of the National Electric Safety Code and AEP design standards.

**4906-11-01 (E) Environmental**

**4906-11-01 (E) (1) Endangered or Threatened Species**

URS, a contractor specializing in gas and transmission line siting, was contacted to perform an independent study regarding the presence of any endangered, threatened, or rare species that may be affected by this project. A copy of their report is included in the Appendix.

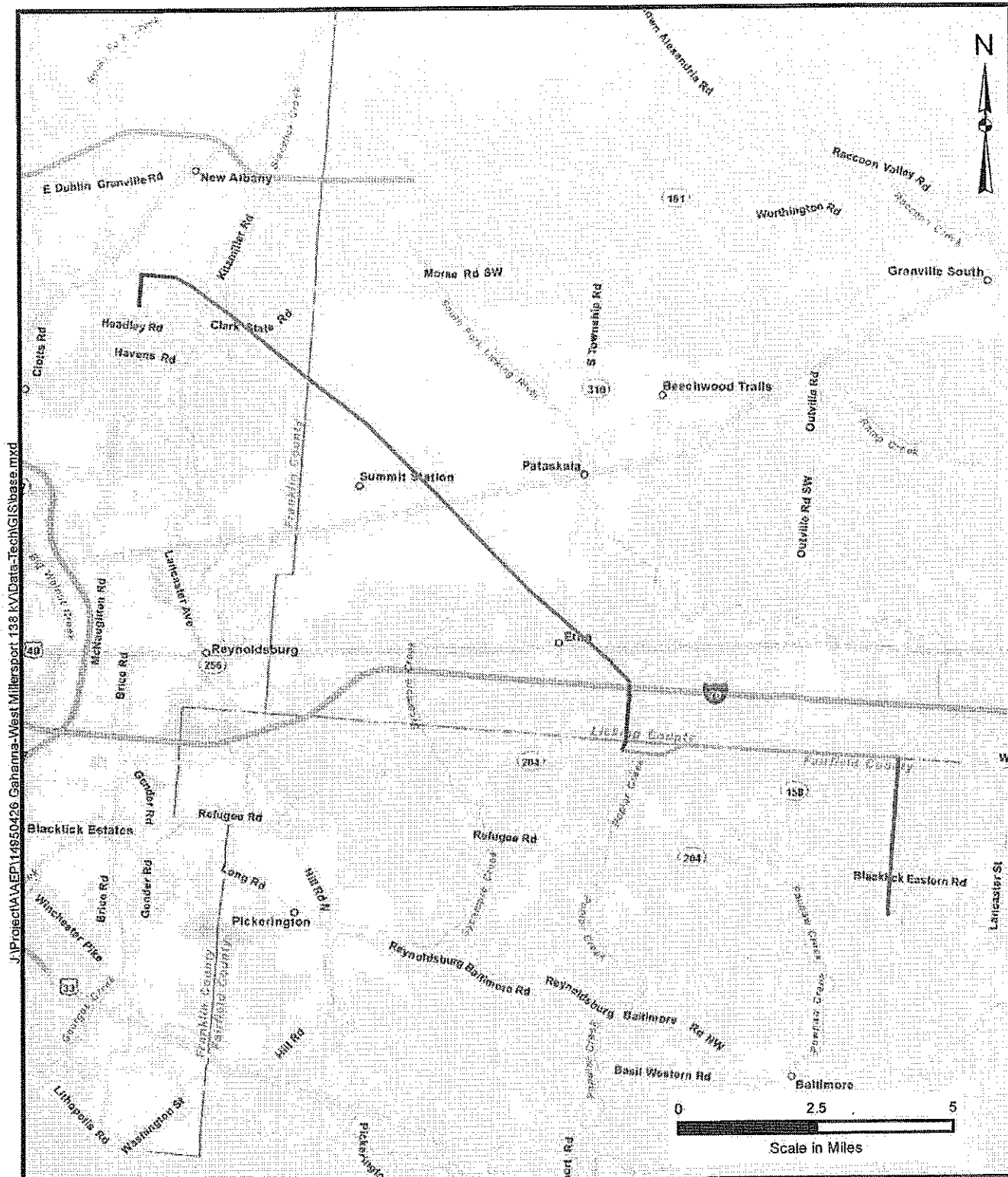
**4906-11-01 (E) (2) Areas of Ecological Concern**

URS, a contractor specializing in gas and transmission line siting, was contacted to perform an independent study regarding the presence of areas of ecological concern that may be affected by this project. A copy of their report is included in the Appendix.

**4906-11-01 (E) (3) Additional Information**

There are no unusual conditions that will result in significant environmental or social impacts from the replacement and operation of this proposed 138kV transmission line project.

## Appendix



#### LEGEND:

- West Millersport - Heath Rebuild
- Gahanna Extension Rebuild
- Muskingum River - Central Re-energize
- Conesville - Bixby Rebuild
- Bixby - Corridor Rebuild

BASE MAP SOURCE:  
ArcGIS Map Service, World\_Street\_Map  
<http://services.arcgis.com/arcgis/services>

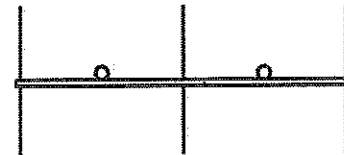
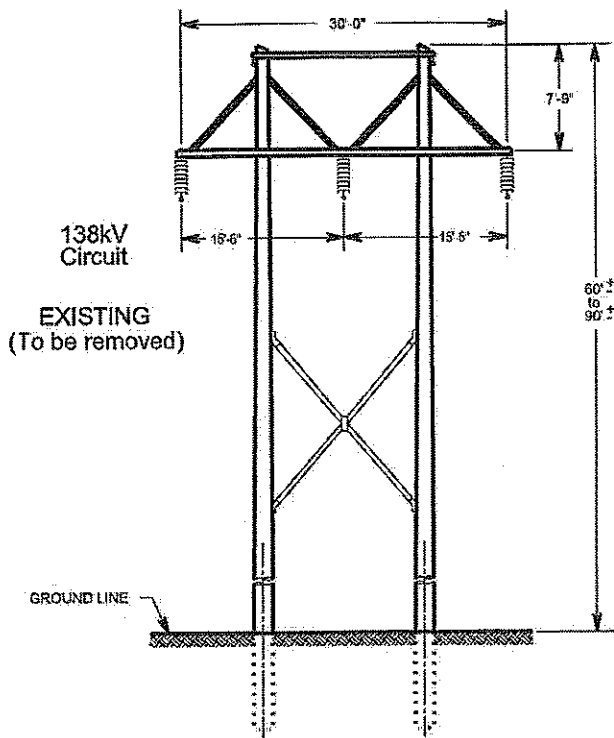


Gahanna-West Millersport  
138 kV Circuit

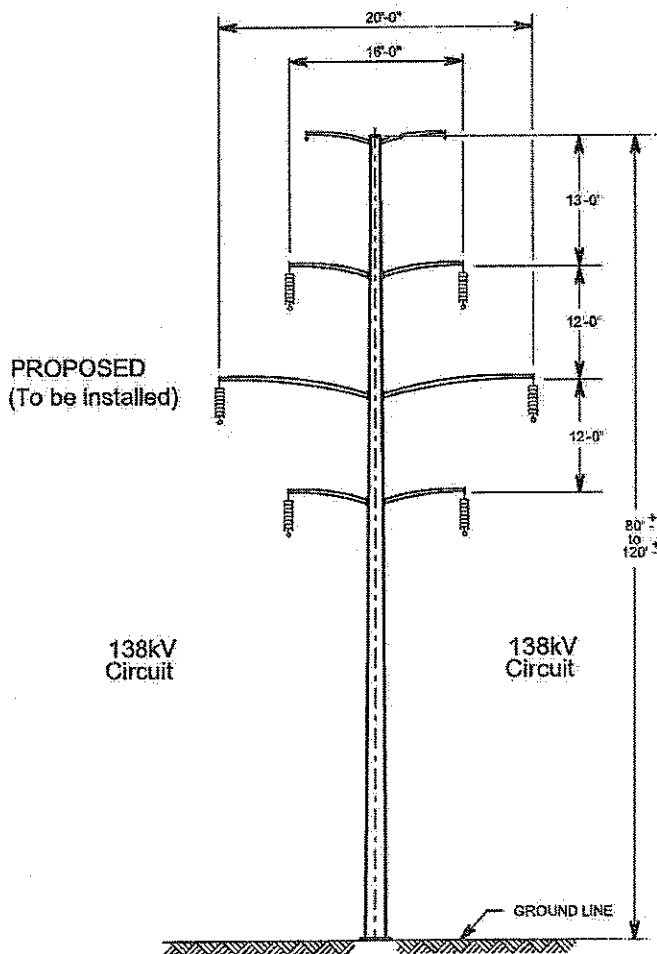
FIGURE 1  
PROJECT OVERVIEW

JOB NO. 14950426

URS



TOP VIEW



TOP VIEW

West Millersport - Heath 2.96 Miles

GAHANNA - WEST MILLERSPORT 138kV



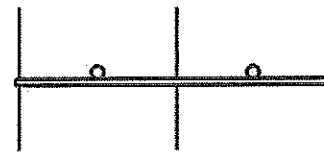
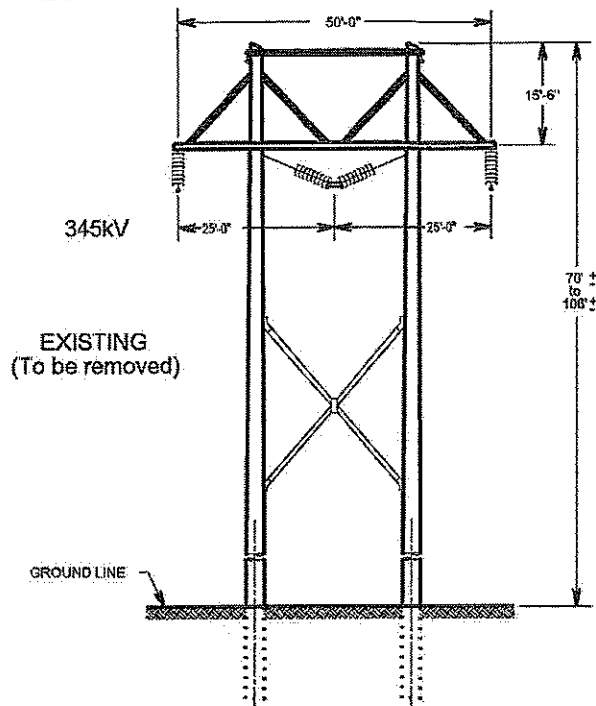
PROPOSED REBUILD  
TYPICAL TANGENT STRUCTURE  
CONFIGURATION

NOT TO SCALE

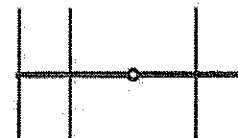
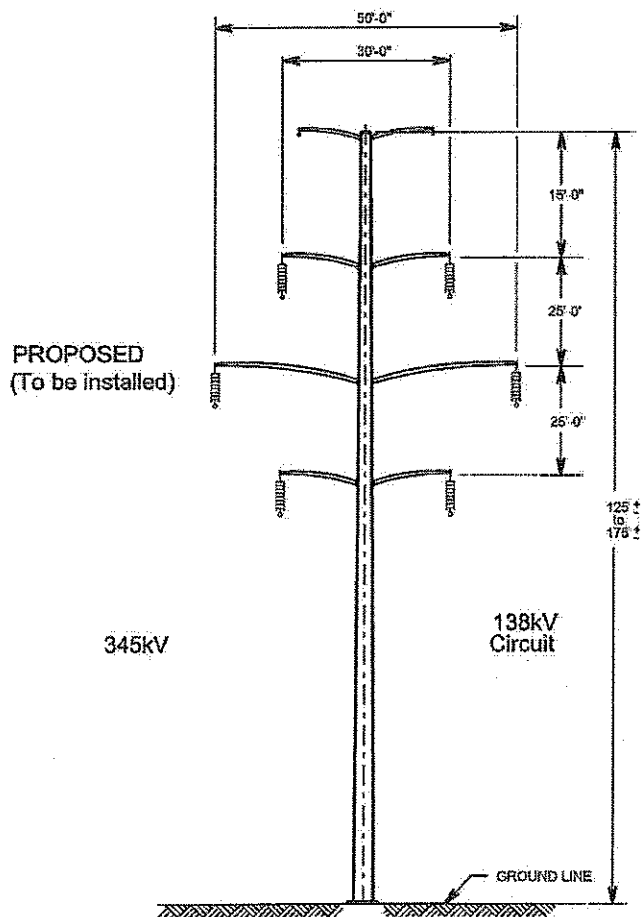
FIGURE 2

W:\AEP\Gaha\_W\_Millersport\138kV\_Circuit\_Line.dgn

COMPUTER GENERATED DWG. DO NOT MANUALLY REVISE



TOP VIEW



TOP VIEW

Bixby - Corridor 5.10 Miles  
Conesville - Bixby 1.30 Miles

GAHANNA - WEST MILLERSPORT 138KV LINE



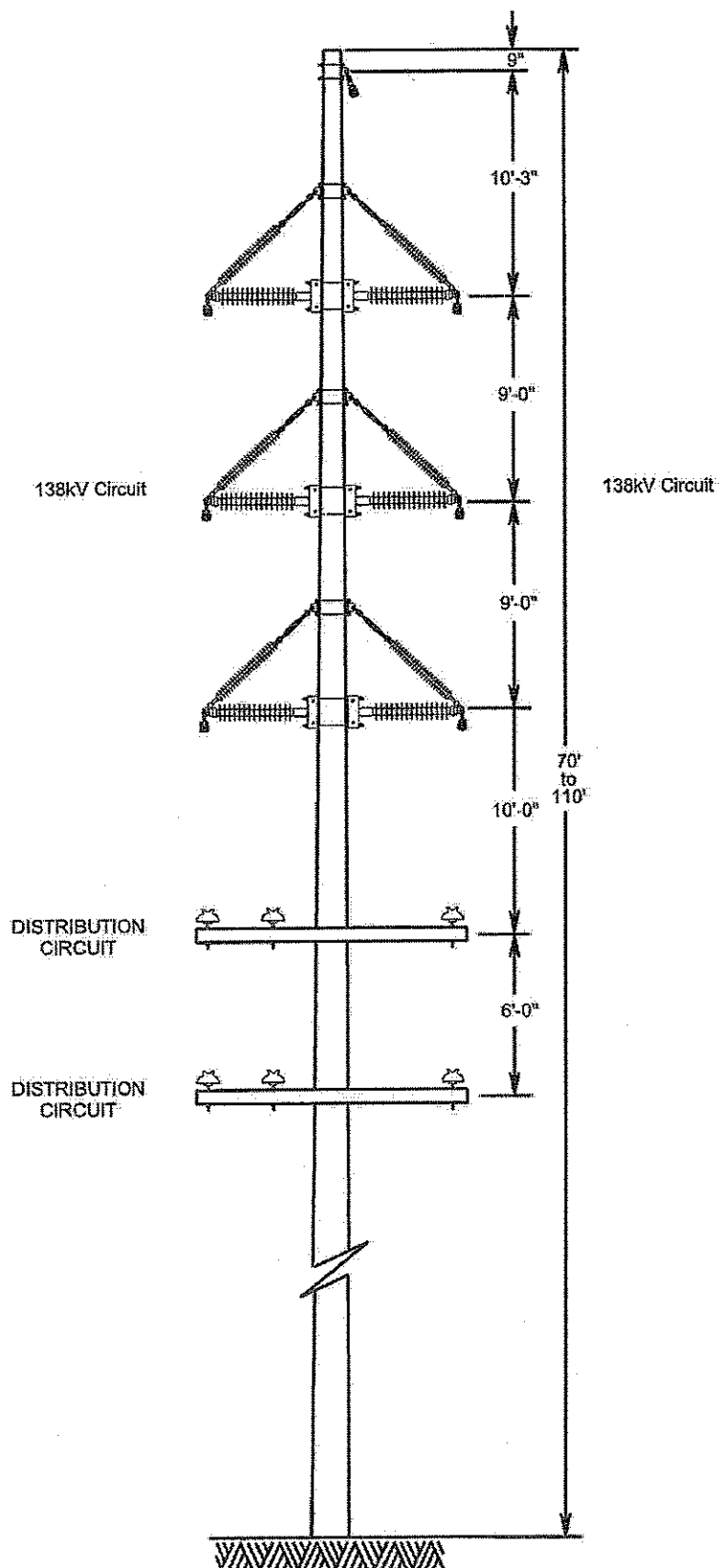
PROPOSED REBUILD  
TYPICAL TANGENT STRUCTURE  
CONFIGURATION

NOT TO SCALE


FIGURE 3

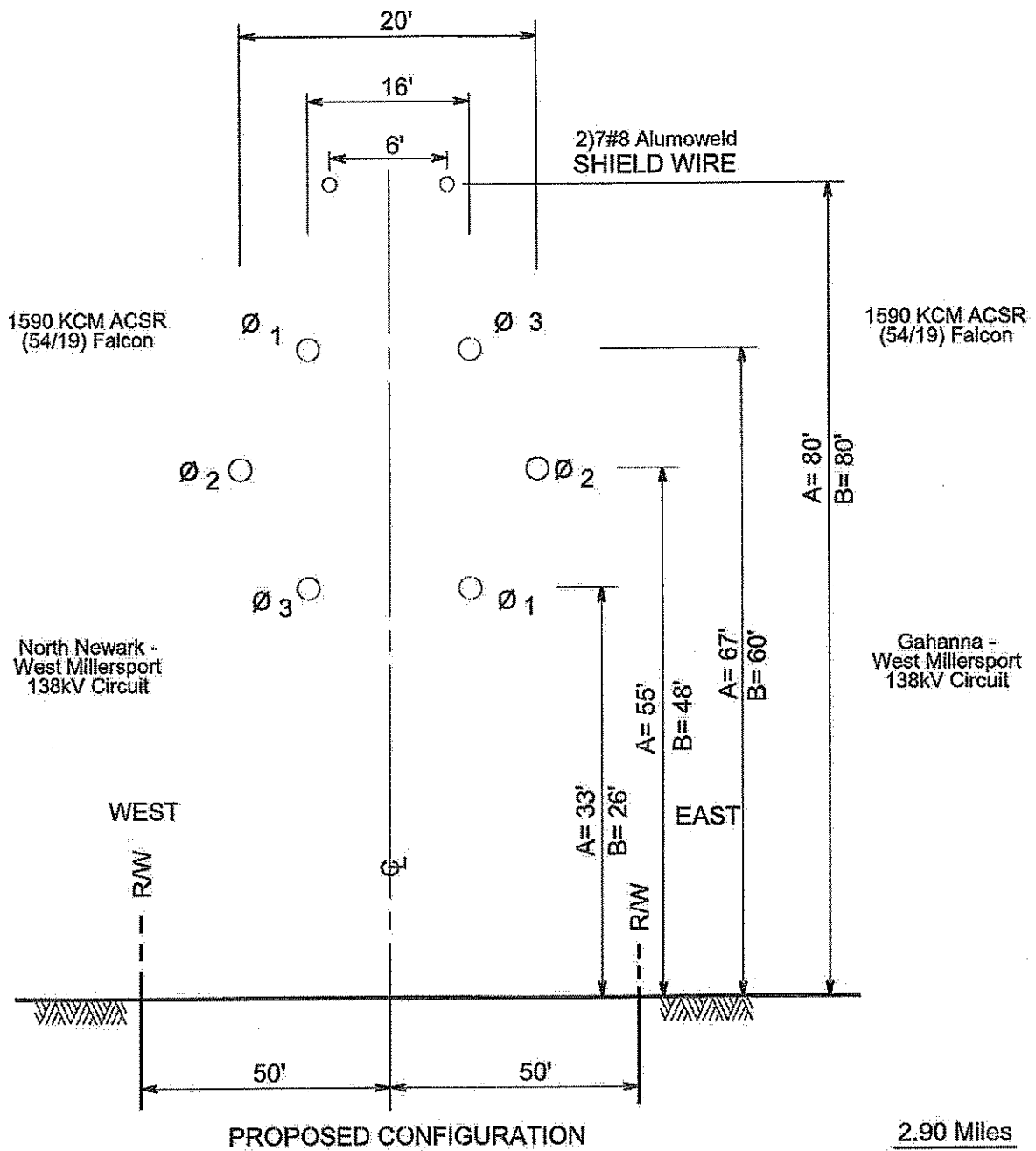
W:\AEP\Siteing\Gaha\_W\_Millersport\138kV\_Circuit\_Line.dgn

COMPUTER GENERATED DWG. DO NOT MANUALLY REVISE



Gahanna Extension 1.30 Miles

	
GAHANNA - MILLERSPORT 138kV	
TYPICAL TANGENT STRUCTURE	
NOT TO SCALE	FIGURE 4



**DIMENSION "A" - DOUBLE CIRCUIT - VERTICAL CONFIGURATION.**  
(UNDER EMERGENCY & NORMAL MAX. LINE LOADING)

**DIMENSION "B" - DOUBLE CIRCUIT - VERTICAL CONFIGURATION.**  
(UNDER WINTER NORMAL  
CONDUCTOR RATING)

EMF 1

GAHANNA - WEST MILLERSPORT 138kV



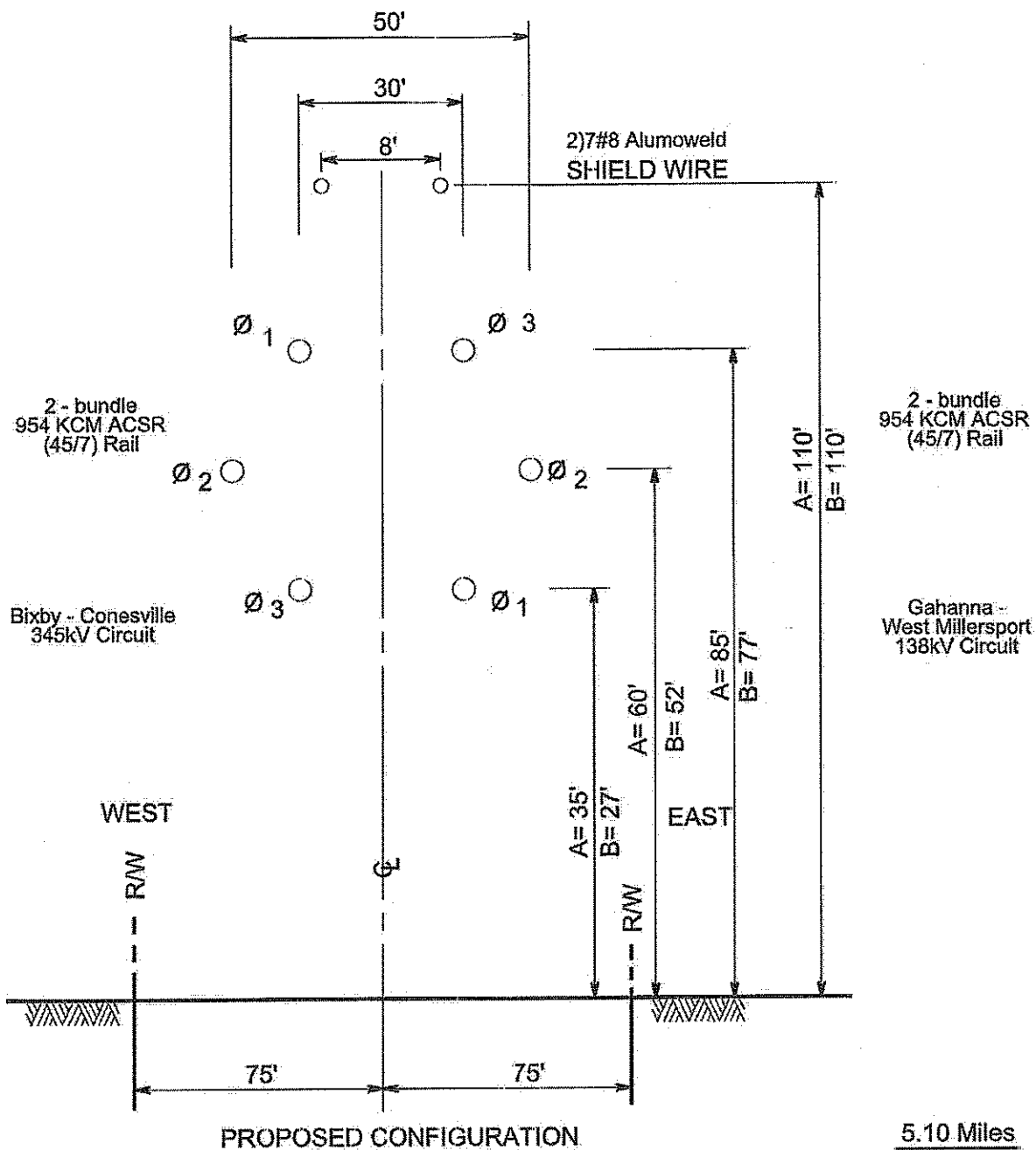
SINGLE POLE (STEEL)  
SUSPENSION STRUCTURE

NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE 5

W:\AEP\Slings\Gaha\_W\_Millersport\138kV\_Circuit\_Line.dgn

COMPUTER GENERATED DWG. DO NOT MANUALLY REVISE



**DIMENSION "A"** - DOUBLE CIRCUIT - VERTICAL CONFIGURATION.  
(UNDER EMERGENCY & NORMAL MAX. LINE LOADING)

**DIMENSION "B"** - DOUBLE CIRCUIT - VERTICAL CONFIGURATION.  
(UNDER WINTER NORMAL CONDUCTOR RATING)

EMF 2

GAHANNA - WEST MILLERSPORT 138KV

**AEP AMERICAN  
ELECTRIC  
POWER**

SINGLE POLE (STEEL)  
SUSPENSION STRUCTURE

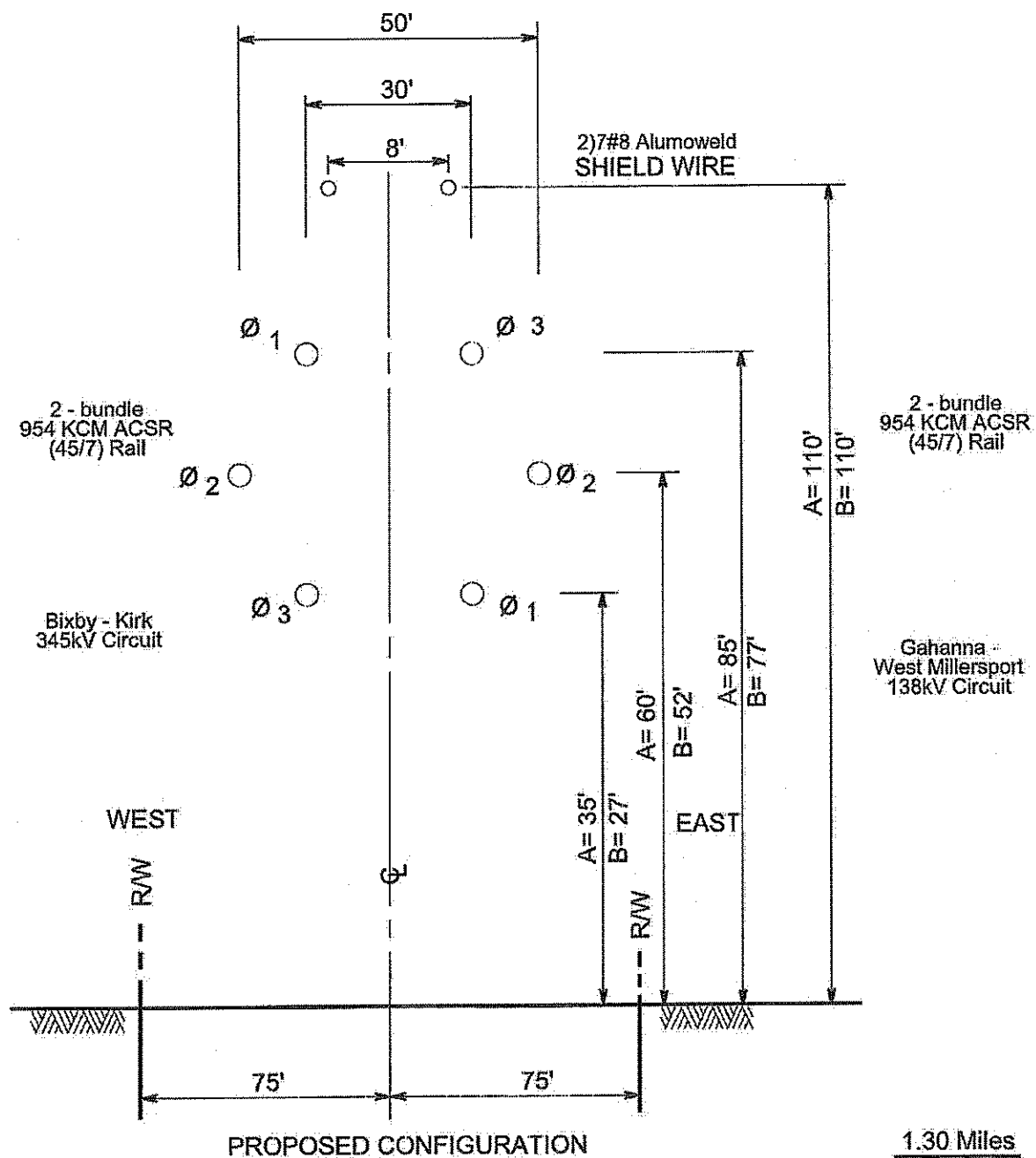
NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE 6

W:\AEP\Site\Gaha\_W\_Millersport\138KV\_Circuit\_Line.dgn

COMPUTER GENERATED DWG. DO NOT MANUALLY REVISE





DIMENSION "A" - DOUBLE CIRCUIT - VERTICAL CONFIGURATION.  
(UNDER EMERGENCY & NORMAL MAX. LINE LOADING)

DIMENSION "B" - DOUBLE CIRCUIT - VERTICAL CONFIGURATION.  
(UNDER WINTER NORMAL CONDUCTOR RATING)

EMF 3

GAHANNA - WEST MILLERSPORT 138kV



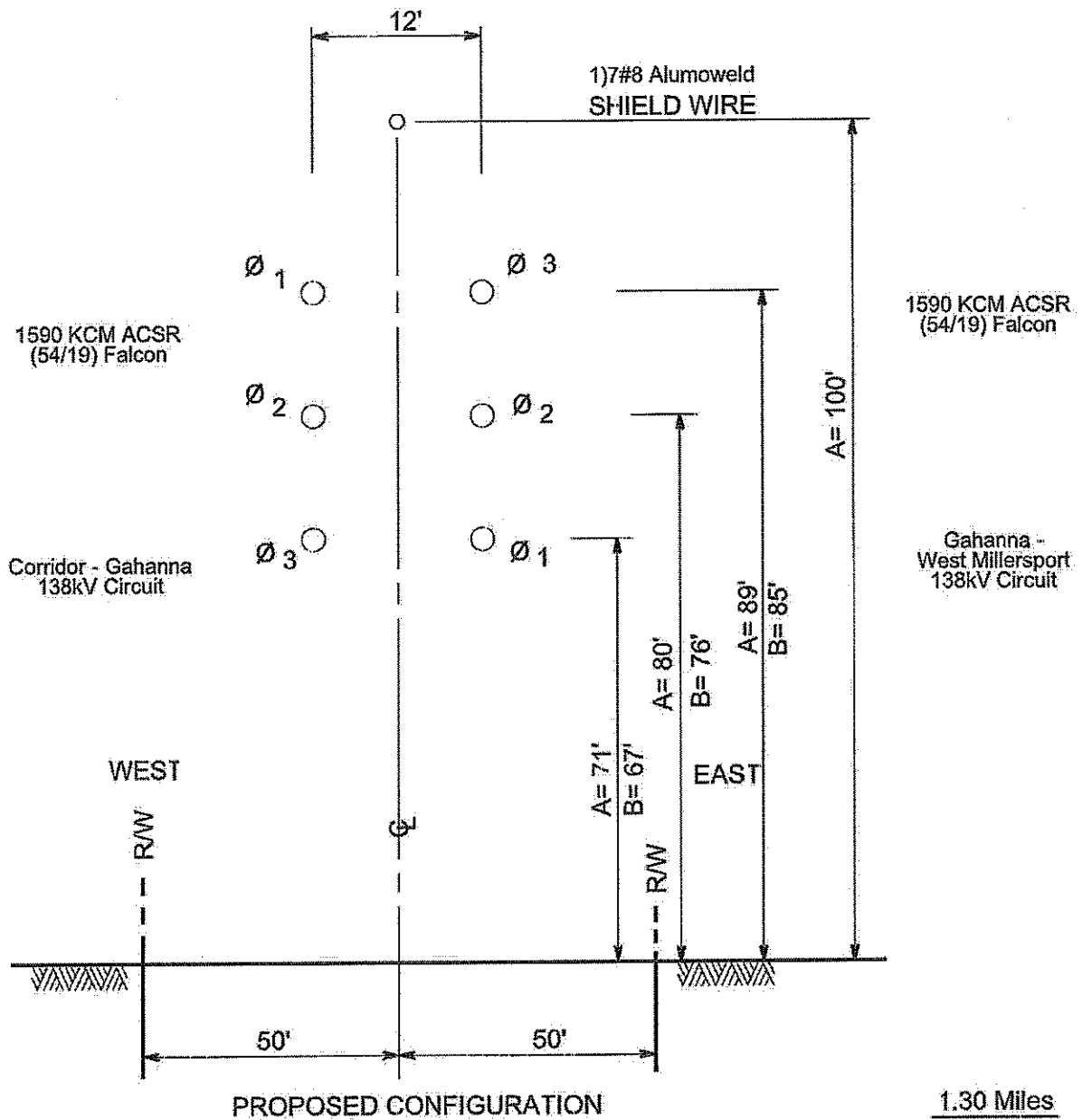
SINGLE POLE (STEEL)  
SUSPENSION STRUCTURE

NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE 7

W:\AEP\Slings\Gaha\_W\_Millersport\138kV\_Circuit\_Line.dgn

COMPUTER GENERATED DWG. DO NOT MANUALLY REVISE



DIMENSION "A" - DOUBLE CIRCUIT - VERTICAL CONFIGURATION.  
(UNDER EMERGENCY & NORMAL MAX. LINE LOADING)

DIMENSION "B" - DOUBLE CIRCUIT - VERTICAL CONFIGURATION.  
(UNDER WINTER NORMAL  
CONDUCTOR RATING)

EMF 4

GAHANNA - WEST MILLERSPORT 138kV



SINGLE POLE (STEEL)  
SUSPENSION STRUCTURE

NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE 8

W:\AEP\Sting\Gaha\_W\_Millersport\138KV\_Circuit\_Line.dgn

COMPUTER GENERATED DWG. - DO NOT MANUALLY REVISE

**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit**

**Public Officials Contact List**

**Fairfield County Commissioners**

Steve Davis  
Mike Kiger  
Judy Shupe  
120 East Main Street  
Lancaster, OH 43130

**Walnut Township Trustees**

Ralph Zollinger  
Terry Horn  
Alan Dopler  
11420 Millersport Road NE  
Millersport, OH 43046-8049

**Liberty Township Trustees**

Evan Ety  
Dave Keller  
Randy Klemmerer  
c/o Daniel Alt – Fiscal Officer  
10615 Lancaster - Kirkersville Road  
Baltimore, OH 43105-9625

**Licking County Commissioners**

Tim Bubb  
Doug Smith  
Brad Feightner  
The Donald Hill Administration Building  
20 South Second Street  
Newark, OH 43055

**Etna Township Trustees**

John Carlisle  
Raymond Foor  
Jeff Johnson  
c/o Walter Rogers – Fiscal Officer  
113 Aster Avenue  
Pataskala, OH 43062

**Harrison Township Trustees**

Eric Smith  
Mark Van Buren  
Lawrence Kretzman  
c/o Carolyn Elder  
3886 Outville Road SW  
Granville, OH 43023

**Union Township Trustees**

Richard Black  
Everett Ours  
John Slater  
c/o Jessica Lynn Slater – Fiscal Officer  
1764 National Road SW  
Hebron, OH 43025

**Franklin County Commissioners**

Marilyn Brown  
Paula Brooks  
John O'Grady  
373 South High Street  
26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-6314

**City of Gahanna**

Mayor Becky Stinchcomb  
200 South Hamilton Street  
Gahanna, OH 43230

**City of New Albany**

Mayor Nancy Ferguson  
99 West Main Street  
New Albany, OH 43054

**Jefferson Township Trustees**

Donna Finn  
Mike Rowan  
Matt Flanagan  
c/o Tom Spring – Township Administrator  
6455 Taylor Road  
Blacklick, OH 43004

**Plain Township Trustees**

Eugene Zappitelli  
Dave Ferguson  
Dave Olmstead  
c/o Ben Collins – Township Administrator  
45 Second Street  
PO Box 273  
New Albany OH 43054-0273



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Walnut Township Trustees**  
Ralph Zollinger  
Terry Horn  
Alan Dopler  
11420 Millersport Road NE  
Millersport, OH 43046-8049

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Trustees;

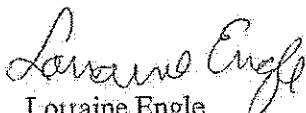
In accordance with Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code, the Ohio Power Company is required to submit a Letter of Notice to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board whenever a change is made to our transmission facilities.

American Electric Power is planning to replace and rebuild sections of existing electric transmission lines in Fairfield, Franklin and Licking Counties,

In compliance with Rule 4906-11-01 of the OPSB Rules and Regulations, we have prepared and filed the attached Letter of Notice. This Notice contains details on the line location, project description and construction schedule, and is submitted for your information.

Property owners directly affected by this project have been notified by American Electric Power.

Cordially,

  
Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Union Township Trustees**  
Richard Black  
Everett Ours  
John Slater  
c/o Jessica Lynn Slater -- Fiscal Officer  
1764 National Road SW  
Hebron, OH 43025

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna -- West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Trustees,

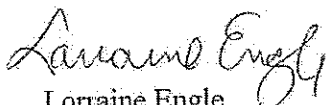
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Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Plain Township Trustees**  
Eugene Zappitelli  
Dave Ferguson  
Dave Olmstead  
c/o Ben Collins – Township Administrator  
45 Second Street  
PO Box 273  
New Albany OH 43054-0273

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

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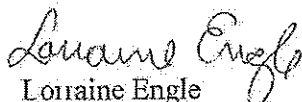
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Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**City of New Albany**  
Mayor Nancy Ferguson  
99 West Main Street  
New Albany, OH 43054

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Mayor;

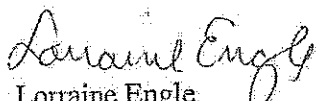
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In compliance with Rule 4906-11-01 of the OPSB Rules and Regulations, we have prepared and filed the attached Letter of Notice. This Notice contains details on the line location, project description and construction schedule, and is submitted for your information.

Property owners directly affected by this project have been notified by American Electric Power.

Cordially,

  
Lorraine Engle  
Project Management





American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Licking County Commissioners**  
Tim Bubb  
Doug Smith  
Brad Feightner  
The Donald Hill Administration Building  
20 South Second Street  
Newark, OH 43055

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Commissioners:

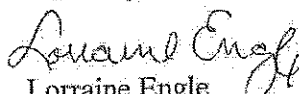
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Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Liberty Township Trustees**  
Evan Ety  
Dave Keller  
Randy Klemmerer  
c/o Daniel Alt – Fiscal Officer  
10615 Lancaster - Kirkersville Road  
Baltimore, OH 43105-9625

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Trustees;

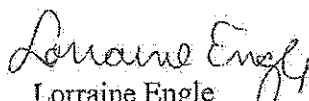
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Cordially,

  
Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Jefferson Township Trustees**

Donna Finn  
Mike Rowan  
Matt Flanagan  
c/o Tom Spring – Township Administrator  
6455 Taylor Road  
Blacklick, OH 43004

**Letter of Notification  
Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Trustees;


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Cordially,

  
Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Harrison Township Trustees**

Eric Smith  
Mark Van Buren  
Lawrence Kretzman  
c/o Carolyn Elder  
3886 Outville Road SW  
Granville, OH 43023

**Letter of Notification  
Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Trustees:

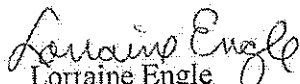
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Cordially,

  
Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**City of Gahanna**  
Mayor Becky Stinchcomb  
200 South Hamilton Street  
Gahanna, OH 43230

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Mayor:


In accordance with Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code, the Ohio Power Company is required to submit a Letter of Notice to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board whenever a change is made to our transmission facilities.

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Cordially,

  
Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Franklin County Commissioners**

Marilyn Brown  
Paula Brooks  
John O'Grady  
373 South High Street  
26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-6314

**Letter of Notification  
Gahanna - West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Commissioners:

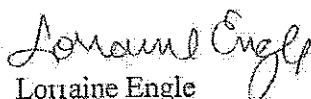
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Cordially,

  
Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Fairfield County Commissioners**  
Steve Davis  
Mike Kiger  
Judy Shupe  
120 East Main Street  
Lancaster, OH 43130

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Commissioners:

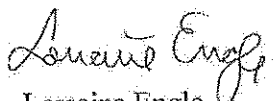
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Cordially,

  
Lorraine Engle  
Project Management



American Electric Power  
700 Morrison Road  
Gahanna, OH 43230

December 29, 2012

**Etna Township Trustees**  
John Carlisle  
Raymond Foor  
Jeff Johnson  
c/o Walter Rogers – Fiscal Officer  
113 Aster Avenue  
Pataskala, OH 43062

**Letter of Notification**  
**Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project**

Dear Trustees;

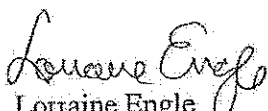
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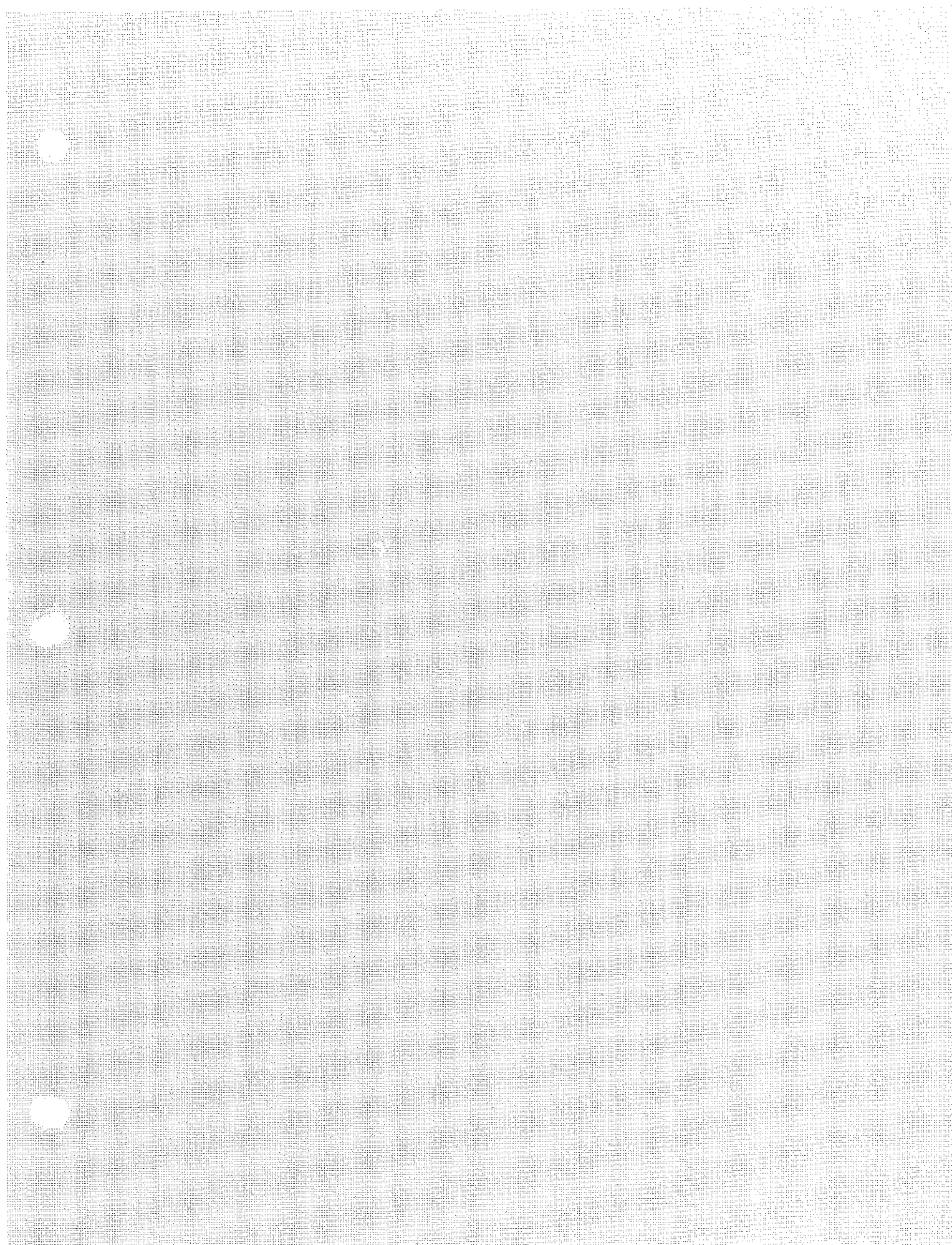
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Lorraine Engle  
Project Management





# **GAHANNA-WEST MILLERSPORT 138 KV CIRCUIT PROJECT**

## **SOCIOECONOMIC, LAND USE, AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT REVIEW REPORT**

*Prepared for:*

American Electric Power Service Corporation  
700 Morrison Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Gahanna, Ohio 45230



*Prepared by:*

**URS**

36 East Seventh Street, Suite 2300  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Project #: 14950426

December 2011



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### Number

APPENDIX A	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MAPS
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## 1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This document presents the socioeconomic, land use, and agricultural district review conducted by URS Corporation (URS) for American Electric Power (AEP) for the proposed Gahanna-West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project (Project). AEP intends to rebuild or re-energize five sections of existing transmission lines to accommodate a new Gahanna-West Millersport 138 kV circuit through Franklin, Licking, and Fairfield counties in Ohio. As shown in Figure 1, the five sections of the project include:

- West Millersport-Heath 138 kV Line: Rebuild the existing West Millersport-Heath 138 kV line on existing centerline between West Millersport Station and the existing Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line (2.9 miles). The existing H-frame structures support a single-circuit 138 kV line and will be replaced with new steel poles that will support double-circuit 138 kV lines.
- Gahanna 138 kV Extension: Rebuild the existing Gahanna 138 kV Extension on existing centerline between Gahanna Station and the Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line (1.2 miles), from existing single-circuit to double-circuit on new steel poles.
- Muskingum River-Central 345 kV Line: Re-energize a section of the existing Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line at 138 kV between the Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line and the Gahanna 138 kV Extension. (11.1 miles). This is an existing steel tower transmission line. No new structure installation or wire stringing will be required.
- Conesville-Bixby 345 kV Line: Rebuild the existing Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line on existing centerline between the West Millersport-Heath 138 kV line and the existing Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line (5.1 miles). The existing H-frame structures that support a single circuit 345 kV line will be replaced with new steel poles that will support the existing 345 kV circuit as well as the new Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV circuit.
- Bixby-Corridor 345 kV Line: Rebuild the existing Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line on existing centerline between the Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line and the Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line (1.3 miles). The existing H-frame structures that support a single circuit 345 kV line will be replaced with new steel poles that will support the existing 345 kV circuit as well as the new Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV circuit.

AEP has stated the rebuilt sections of transmission line will involve approximately structure for structure replacement from existing, predominantly H-frame structures to new steel poles with concrete foundations on the existing centerline. Construction will occur within existing rights-of-way except where slight widening will be needed at some of the intersections of the lines to be rebuilt due to the way the existing circuits are configured. In these cases, widening is limited to approximately 50 to 100 feet in order to keep the new circuit on the appropriate side of the existing lines. Two of the areas are in agricultural fields, but the third area will require approximately 1,000 feet of tree clearing north and south of Interstate



70. No new construction or wire stringing is planned for the re-energized portion of the new circuit along the Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line.

As part of the OPSB Letter of Notification requirements, AEP is required to assess and report the presence or absence of federal and state species of concern as stated in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 4906-11-01(D)(1) and (2). These rules state:

(D) *Socioeconomic data. Describe the social and ecological impacts of the project. This description shall contain the following information:*

- (1) *A brief, general description of land use within the vicinity of the proposed project, including: (a) a list of municipalities, townships, and counties affected; and (b) estimates of population density adjacent to rights-of-way within the study corridor (the U.S. census information may be used to meet this requirement).*
- (2) *The location and general description of all agricultural land (including agricultural district land) existing at least sixty days prior to submission of the letter of notification within the proposed electric power transmission line right-of-way, or within the proposed electric power transmission substation fenced-in area, or within the construction site boundary of a proposed compressor station.*

AEP retained URS to conduct a desktop review of socioeconomic, land use, and agricultural district land characteristics. A study corridor was established on 1,000 feet on each side of the proposed rebuild sections of the Project, resulting in a 2,000-foot wide study corridor. Portions of the new Gahanna-West Millersport 138 kV circuit that involve the Muskingum-Central line being re-energized were not part of the evaluation because no additional impacts to socioeconomics, land use, or agricultural district will occur. In conjunction with ecological field surveys for the Project, URS also noted land uses crossed by the proposed rebuild sections of the Project. This report will be used to assist AEP's efforts to avoid or minimize impacts to socioeconomic characteristics and land uses potentially present in the study area during construction activities.

## **2.0 GENERAL LAND USE DESCRIPTION**

Land use within 1,000 feet of the proposed rebuild sections of the Gahanna-West Millersport 138 kV circuit is shown on Figures 2A to 6B. Current land use characteristics were obtained through review of United States Farm Service Agency National Agricultural Imagery Program digital aerial photography taken in 2011, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic maps of Pataskala, Ohio (1985), Millersport, Ohio (1972), and New Albany, Ohio (1983), county road maps, and a site reconnaissance conducted from November 7 to November 9, 2011.

Land use characteristics can be defined separately within two distinct areas of the Project. The primary land use within the 2,000-foot wide study corridor of Gahanna Extension rebuild section of the Project is residential. This area is suburban in nature with transportation and utility corridors also prevalent. The primary land use within the 2,000-foot wide study corridor of the other rebuild sections is agriculture with



scattered residences and wood lots where the surrounding area is more rural. Transportation, utility, and stream corridors are also present. Approximately 420 homes were identified within the study corridor, with approximately 390 of these homes in the cities of New Albany and Gahanna along the Gahanna Extension rebuild portion of the Project. The remaining approximately 30 residences are scattered along the West Millersport-Heath, Conesville-Bixby, and Bixby-Corridor rebuild sections. Residential land accounts for over half of the area of the study corridor around the Gahanna Extension rebuild section of the Project, but less than three percent of the study corridor of the remaining sections. Commercial and industrial land uses appear to be limited to the substations located at the ends of the new Gahanna-West Millersport 138 kV circuit. No recreational areas or institutions were identified within the 2,000-foot study corridor.

General land use trends in Fairfield, Licking, and Franklin Counties, indicate that there is an ongoing conversion of farmland to residential and commercial districts as the City of Columbus expands. This has been most prominent over the last 20 years in the Franklin County area of the Project in the vicinity of the Gahanna Extension rebuild. However, the potential for additional growth within the 2,000-foot study corridor appears low, as that area is near full residential build out. While some additional residences are expected in the vicinity of the remaining rebuild sections of the Project, the rural nature and relative distance from urban areas suggests minimal growth. The Fairfield County *Future Land Use Map*, dated 2004, shows the Project area as predominantly "Agricultural Preservation." The *Etna Township Future Land Use Map* featured in the township's 2004 comprehensive plan shows the Project area as "Agricultural." The plan also shows the Project area within a "Planned Residential Conservation District" indicating development restrictions in order to retain its rural environment. Future land use maps within the 1993 comprehensive plan for Harrison Township and the 1998 comprehensive plan for Union Township also show the Project area as agricultural land. These maps are included in Appendix A. While the overall comprehensive plans in Fairfield and Licking suggest broad conversion of land use from agricultural to residential and commercial/industrial, the areas in the vicinity of the Project appear likely to retain their rural nature.

### 3.0 POPULATION DENSITY ESTIMATE

Population density estimates for land within the 2,000-foot wide study corridor were calculated by direct estimation based on study corridor size, number of residences identified in the corridor, and the average number of persons per household in Fairfield, Licking, and Franklin Counties. Approximately 390 homes were identified along the 1.2-mile long Gahanna Extension rebuild portion of the Project within the 359-acre study corridor, which is entirely within Franklin County. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the average household in Franklin County has 2.43 persons for a total estimated population along the route of approximately 950. This equates to a population density of 2.64 persons per acre. This is below the 3.3 persons per acre average for all of Franklin County.

Approximately 30 homes were identified along the 9.2-mile long portion of the Project that includes the West Millersport-Heath, Conesville-Bixby, and Bixby-Corridor rebuild sections. The 2,000-foot study corridor totals 2,289 acres. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the average household in Fairfield and Licking counties has 2.64 persons, for a total estimated population along the route of approximately 80.



This equates to a population density of 0.03 persons per acre along this portion of the proposed circuit, which is well below the 0.4 persons per acre average for all of Fairfield and Licking Counties. Table 1 outlines population statistics for the Project study corridors.

**TABLE 1  
STUDY AREA CENSUS POPULATION ESTIMATES**

Government Unit	Percent of 2,000-foot Corridor	2000 Census	2010 Census	Rebuild Section of Project
Fairfield County	52.2	122,759	146,156	West Millersport-Heath Conesville-Bixby Bixby-Corridor
Liberty Township	22.5	7,265	7,916	West Millersport-Heath Conesville-Bixby
Walnut Township	29.7	6,436	6,841	Conesville-Bixby Bixby-Corridor
Licking County	34.3	145,491	166,492	West Millersport-Heath Conesville-Bixby Bixby-Corridor
Etna Township	20.3	5,410	16,373	Conesville-Bixby Bixby-Corridor
Harrison Township	8.2	6,494	7,561	Conesville-Bixby
Union Township	5.8	8,339	8,783	West Millersport-Heath Conesville-Bixby
Franklin County	13.5	1,068,978	1,163,414	Gahanna Extension
City of Gahanna	7.7	32,636	33,248	Gahanna Extension
New Albany Village	4.6	3,711	7,724	Gahanna Extension
Jefferson Township	1.0	5,322	10,972	Gahanna Extension
Plain Township	0.2	5,926	9,829	Gahanna Extension

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1  
U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1  
U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

The above estimates are limited by available statistics and generalizations across the county. No planned residential developments within the study corridor were discovered as part of this study. It is not expected that the Project will significantly impact existing or planned land use within the vicinity of the Project as existing transmission lines are present along the length of the Project and construction impacts will be temporary in nature.

#### **4.0 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT LAND**

Parcels registered in the Agricultural District Land program were obtained from the Fairfield County, Licking County, and Franklin County Auditor's offices between November 30 and December 1, 2011. The Agricultural District parcels within the 2,000-foot study corridor are shown on Figures 2A through 6B. All of these parcels are located along the rural portions of the Project in Fairfield and Licking counties. No Agricultural District parcels were identified within the study corridor in Franklin County. A total of approximately 546 acres (20 percent of the study corridor) were identified as Agricultural District Land. The parcel numbers and the approximate total acres within the study corridor are listed in Table 2 below.





**TABLE 2  
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT LAND PARCELS**

Parcel Number	Acres within 2,000-foot Study Corridor
<b>Fairfield County</b>	
046-00095-00	58
046-00455-00	93
020-00101-00	40
020-00081-00	43
<b>Licking County</b>	
072-328326-00.000	74
025-068544-00.000	67
025-068538-00.000	67
010-018222-00.000	33
010-017286-00.000	17
010-017346-00.000	40
010-017472-00.000	14
<b>Franklin County</b>	
None	

Sources: Fairfield County Auditor, December 1, 2011;  
Licking County Auditor, November 30, 2011;  
Franklin County Auditor, November 30, 2011

The vast majority of the Agricultural District Land in the study corridor is located in areas where existing centerline will be utilized. The agricultural fields in the Agricultural District will be temporarily impacted during the replacement of the pole structures and the restringing of the overhead cable. Efforts will be made during reconstruction to minimize the extent of disturbance. AEP will compensate property owners for any monetary losses due to the Project through the ROW settlement process. AEP has and will continue to work with each owner to avoid or minimize damages to property. Periodic line inspection and/or brush trimming and clearing activities will require access to the right-of-way. Maintenance activities are not expected to affect permanent land use.

The replacement, operation, and maintenance of the transmission line are not expected to affect the viability of the agricultural district land and other agricultural land within the study area. The corridor is currently existing electric transmission lines and therefore rebuilding of the line is not expected to permanently disrupt agricultural practices. Upon completion of the Project, agricultural practices in the region are expected to return to their current state.

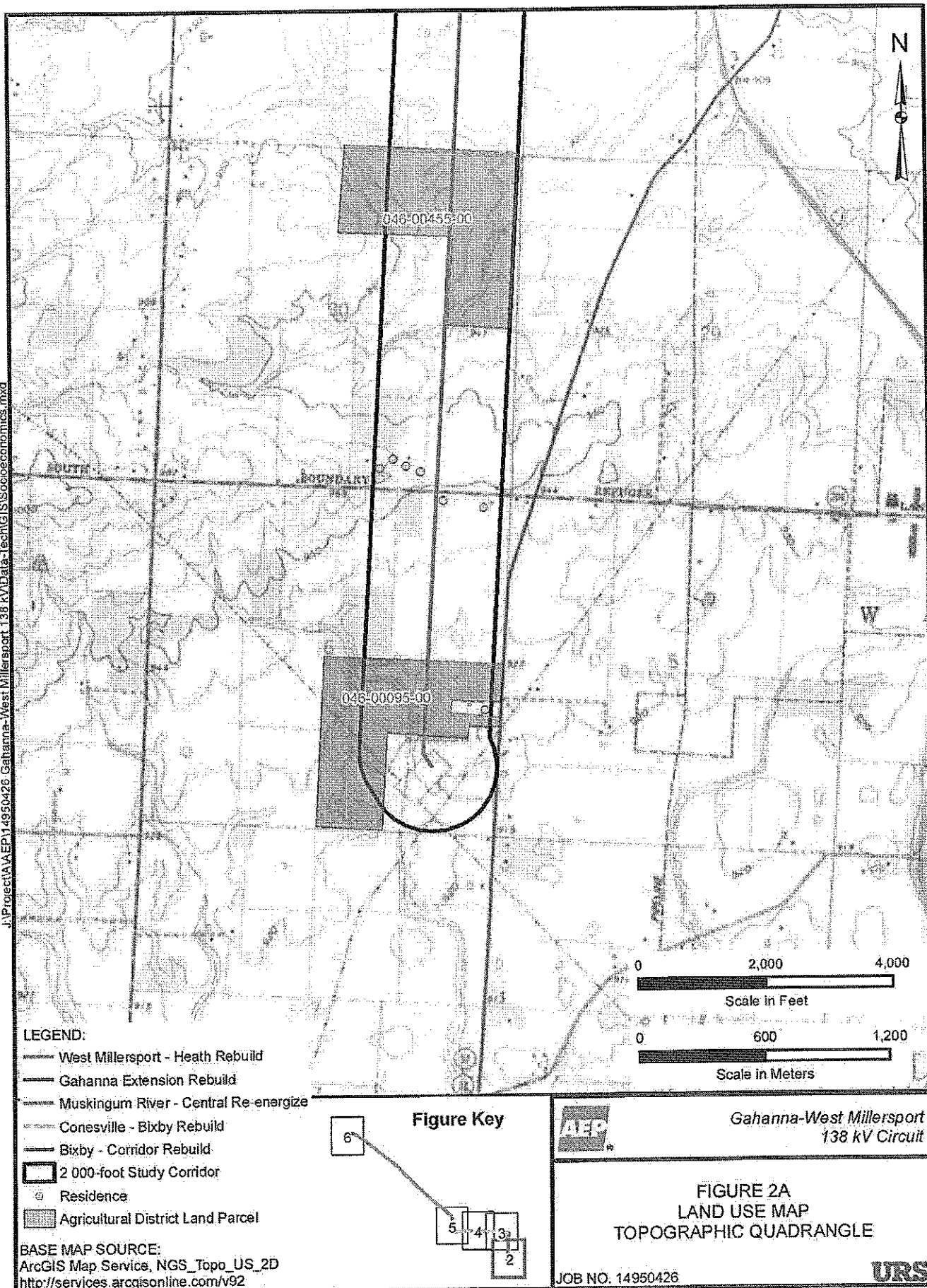




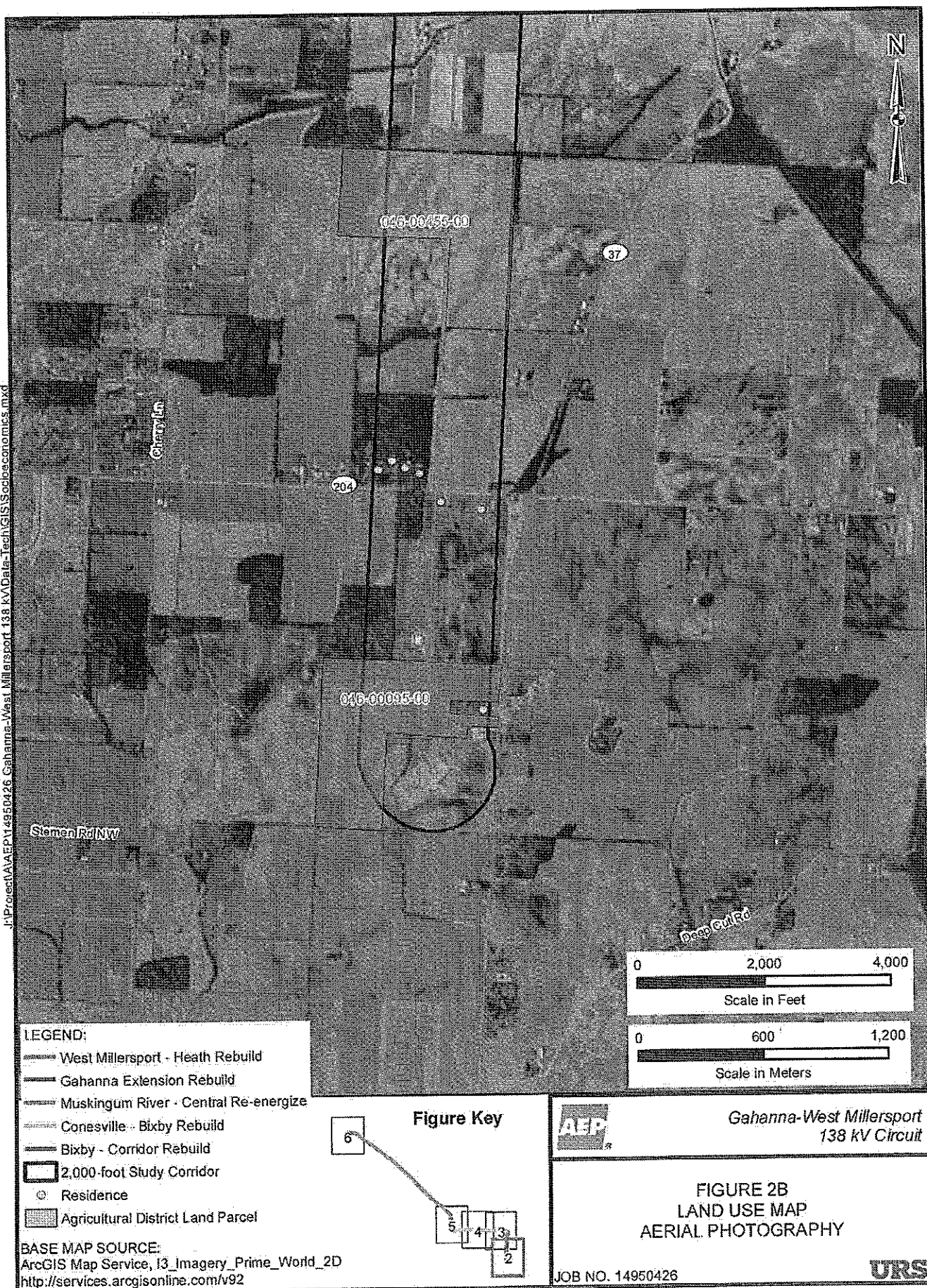
## 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Project is not expected to significantly impact current socioeconomic characteristics, land use and agricultural district land in the vicinity of the project as electric transmission lines currently exists for most of the Project length. While temporary construction and restringing efforts will cause changes to the short-term condition of the existing transmission line right-of-way corridors, particularly from an agricultural perspective, these impacts will be temporary in nature and localized to pole locations and access roads. The Project is not expected to impact any future land use plans for the area.

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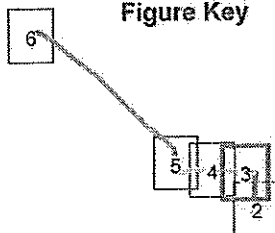


LEGEND:

- West Millersport - Heath Rebuild
- Gahanna Extension Rebuild
- Muskingum River - Central Re-energize
- Conesville - Bixby Rebuild
- Bixby - Corridor Rebuild
- 2,000-foot Study Corridor
- Residence
- Agricultural District Land Parcel

BASE MAP SOURCE:  
ArcGIS Map Service, NGS\_Topo\_US\_2D  
<http://services.arcgisonline.com/v92>

Figure Key



Gahanna-West Millersport  
138 kV Circuit

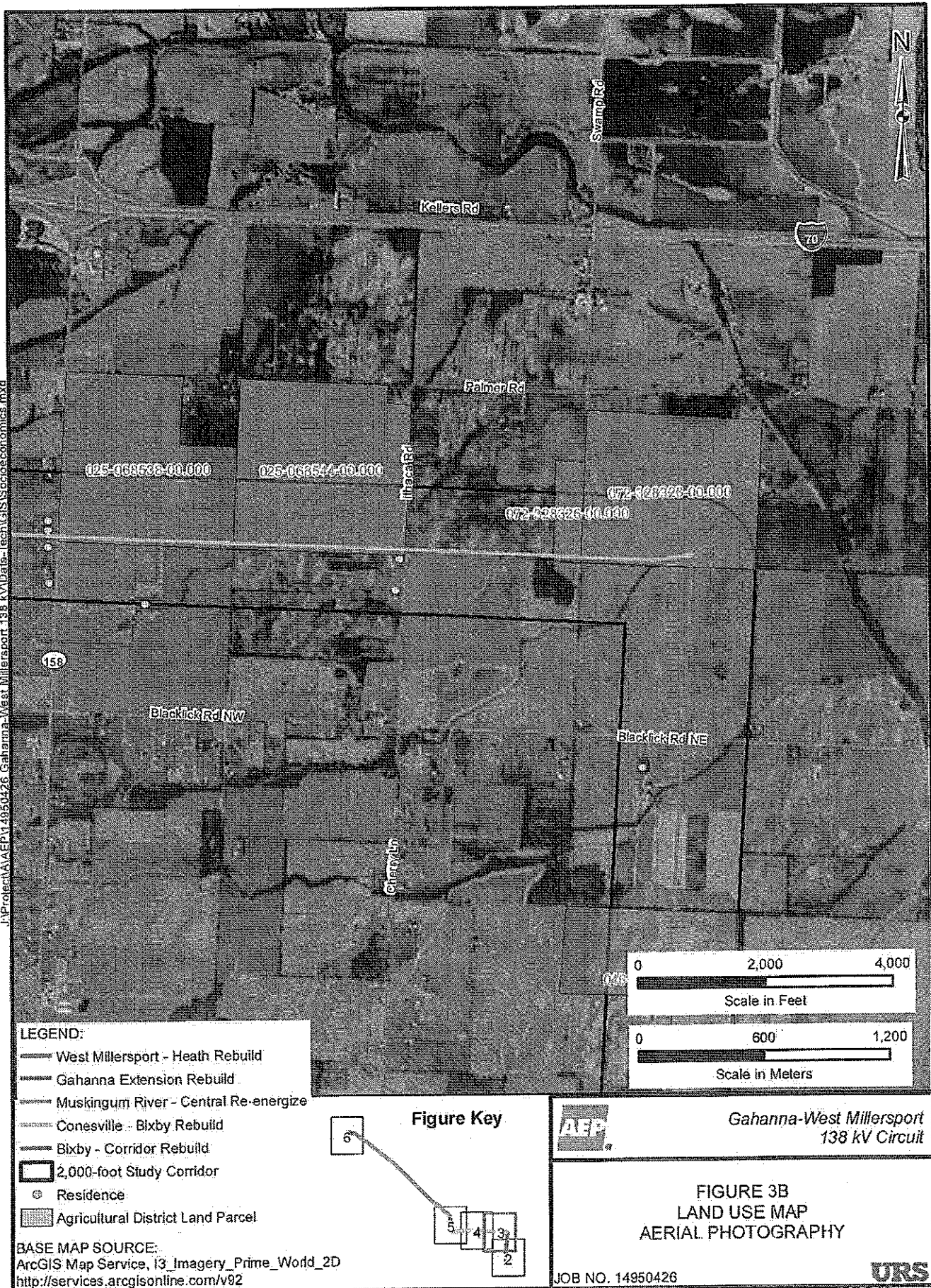
FIGURE 3A  
LAND USE MAP  
TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE

JOB NO. 14950426

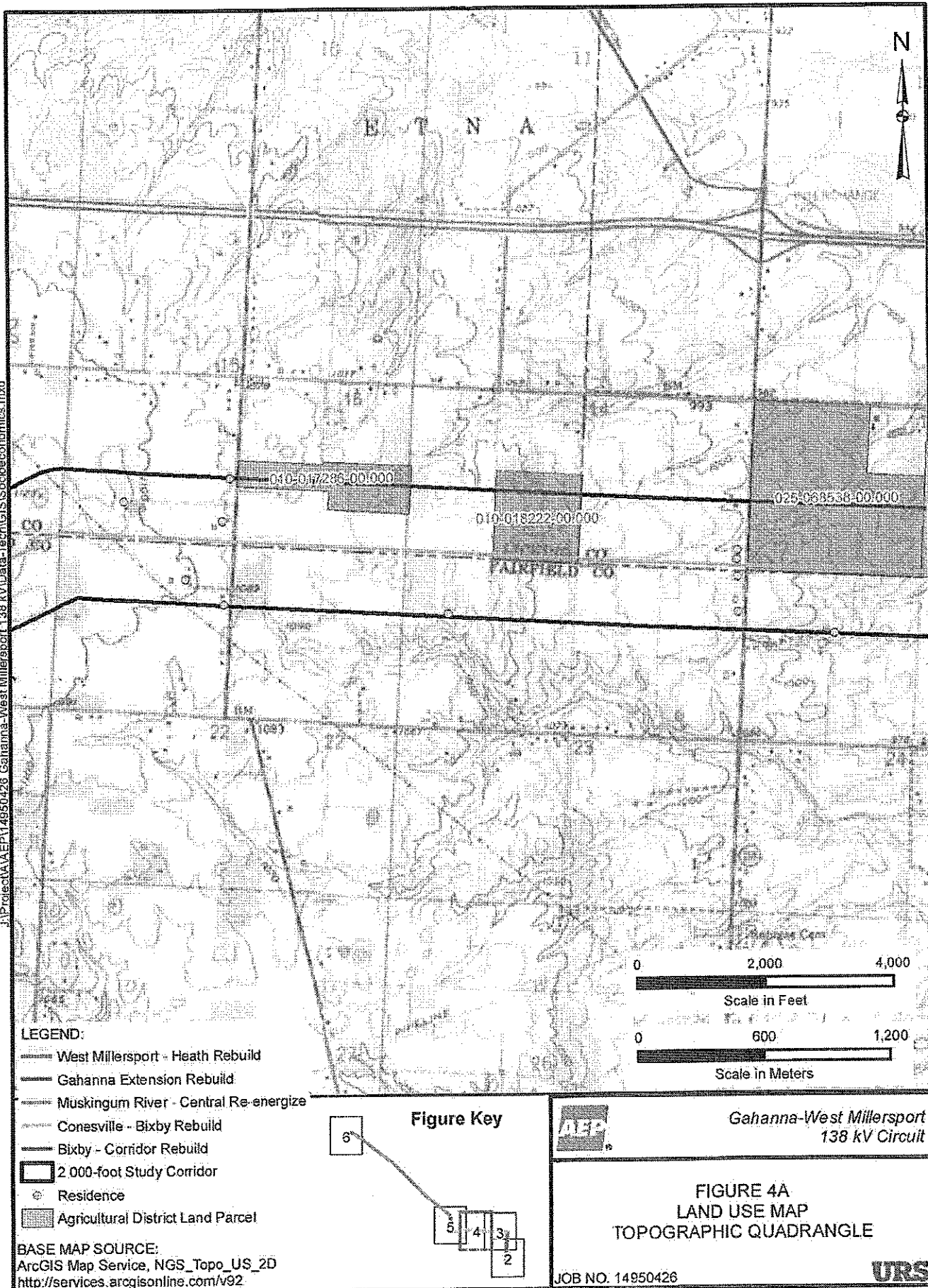
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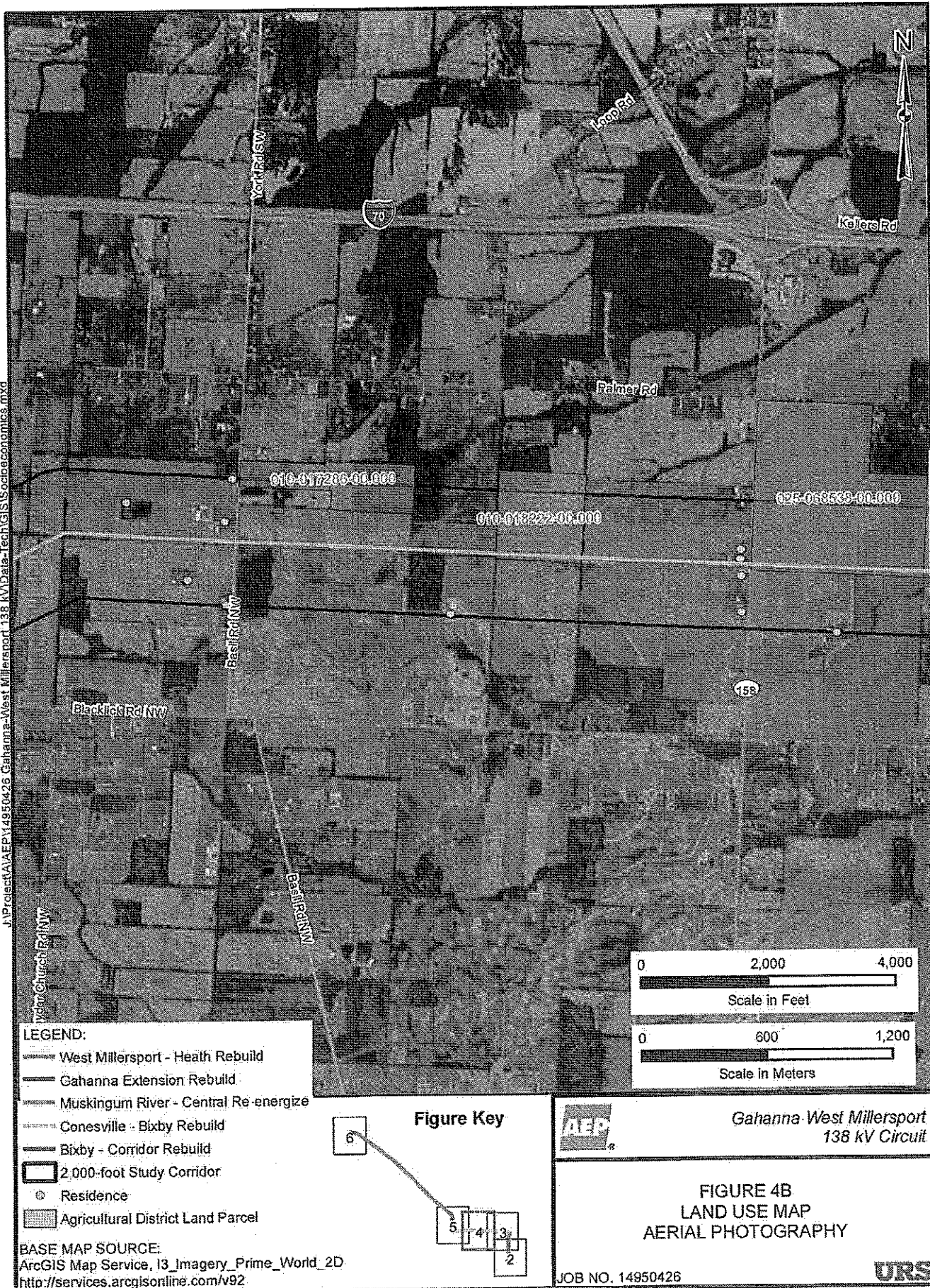


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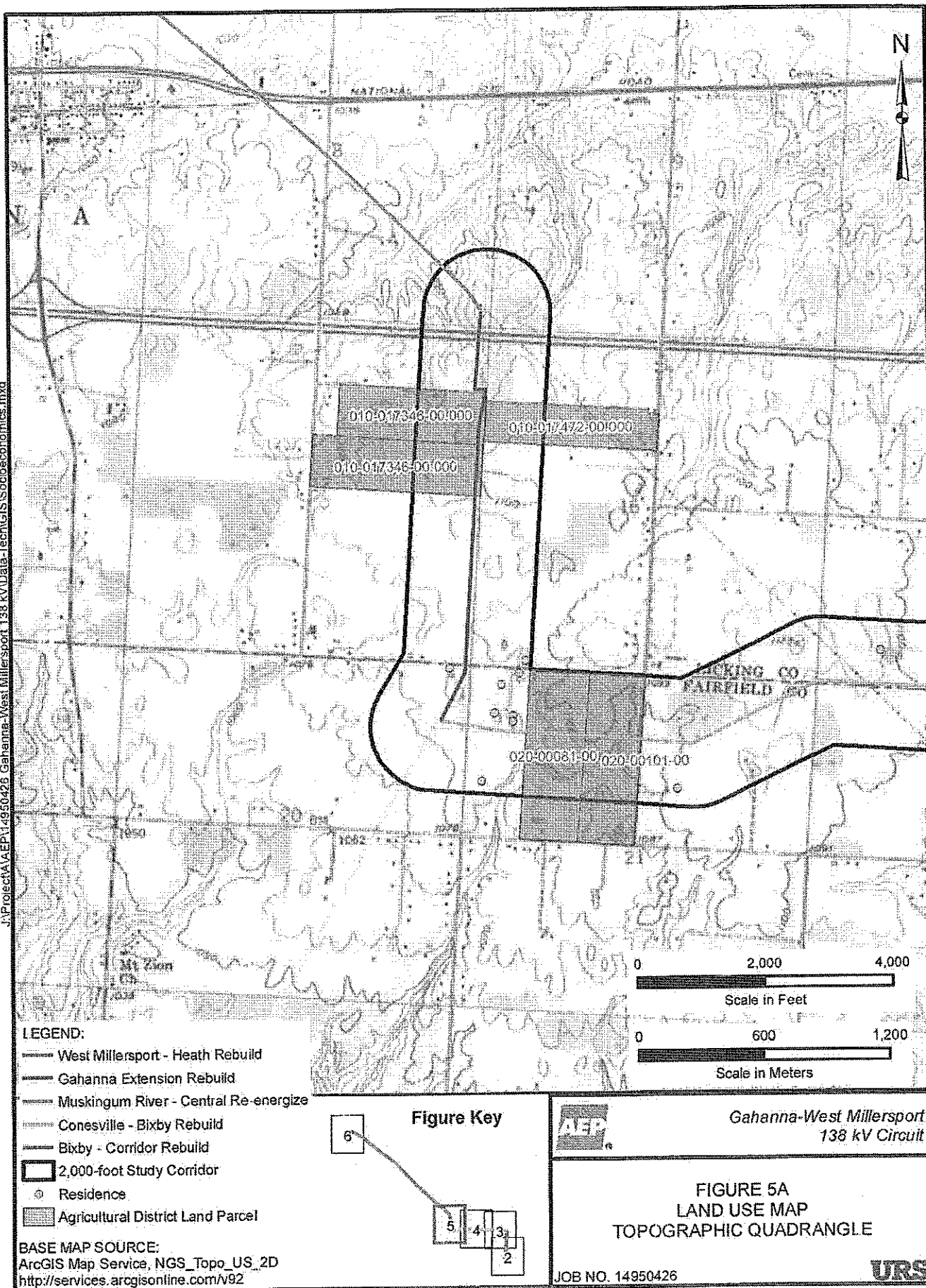




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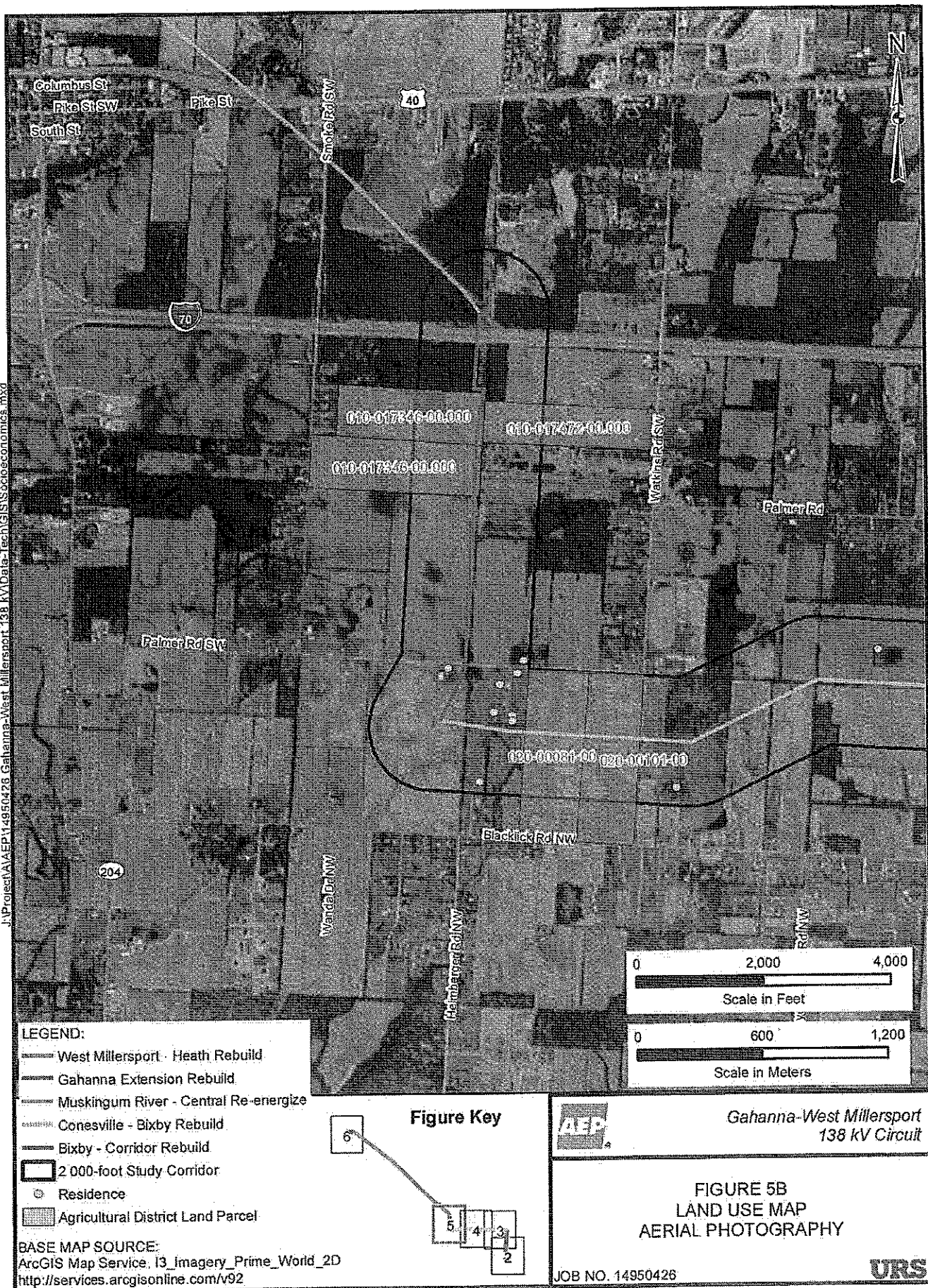


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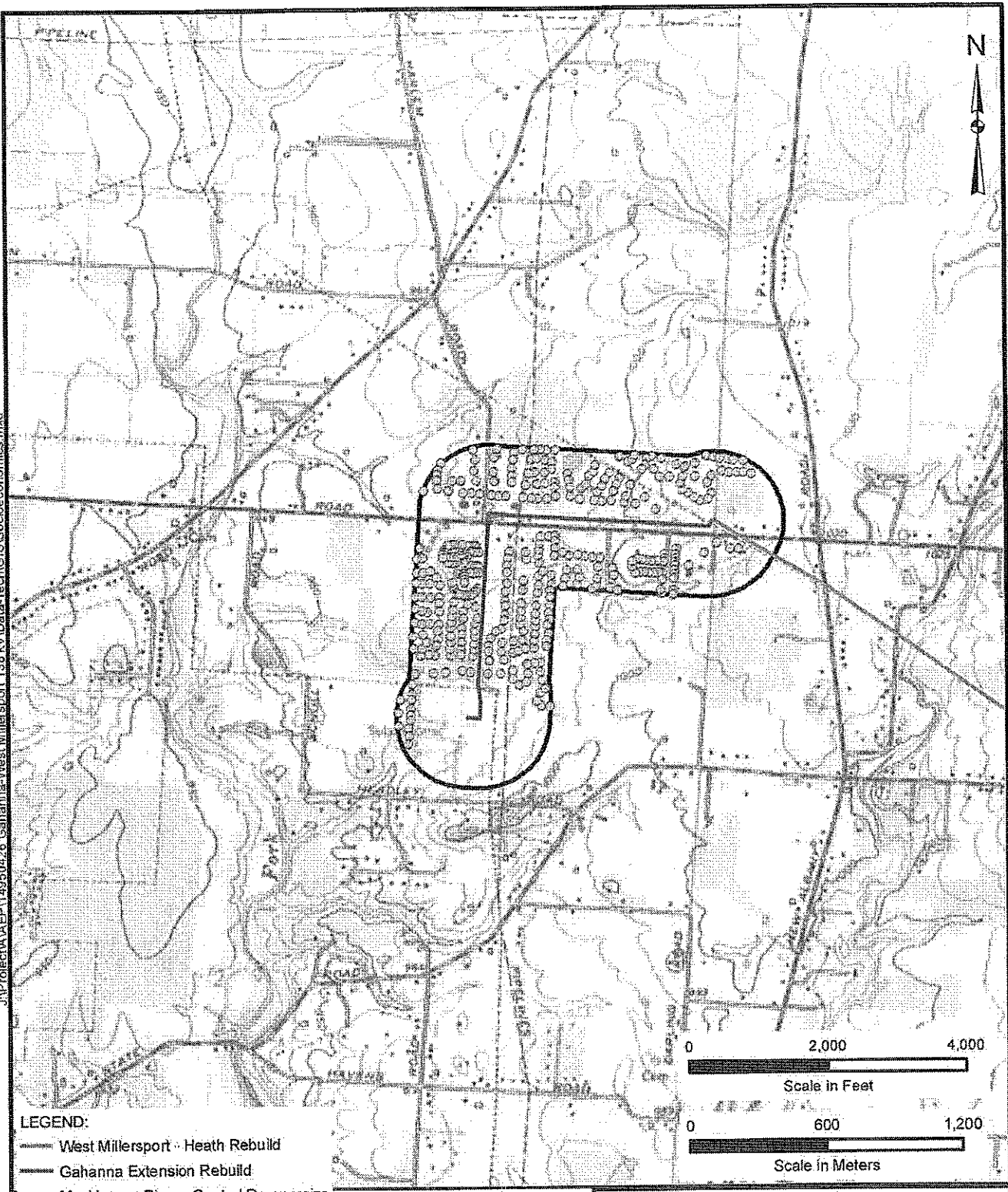




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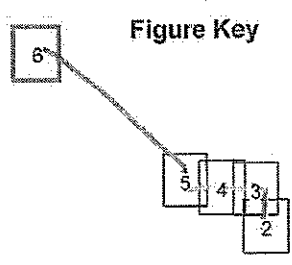
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**LEGEND:**

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- Gahanna Extension Rebuild
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- Bixby - Corridor Rebuild
- ▬ 2 000-foot Study Corridor
- Residence
- ▨ Agricultural District Land Parcel

**BASE MAP SOURCE:**  
ArcGIS Map Service, NGS\_Topo\_US\_2D  
<http://services.arcgisonline.com/v92>



**Gahanna-West Millersport**  
**138 kV Circuit**

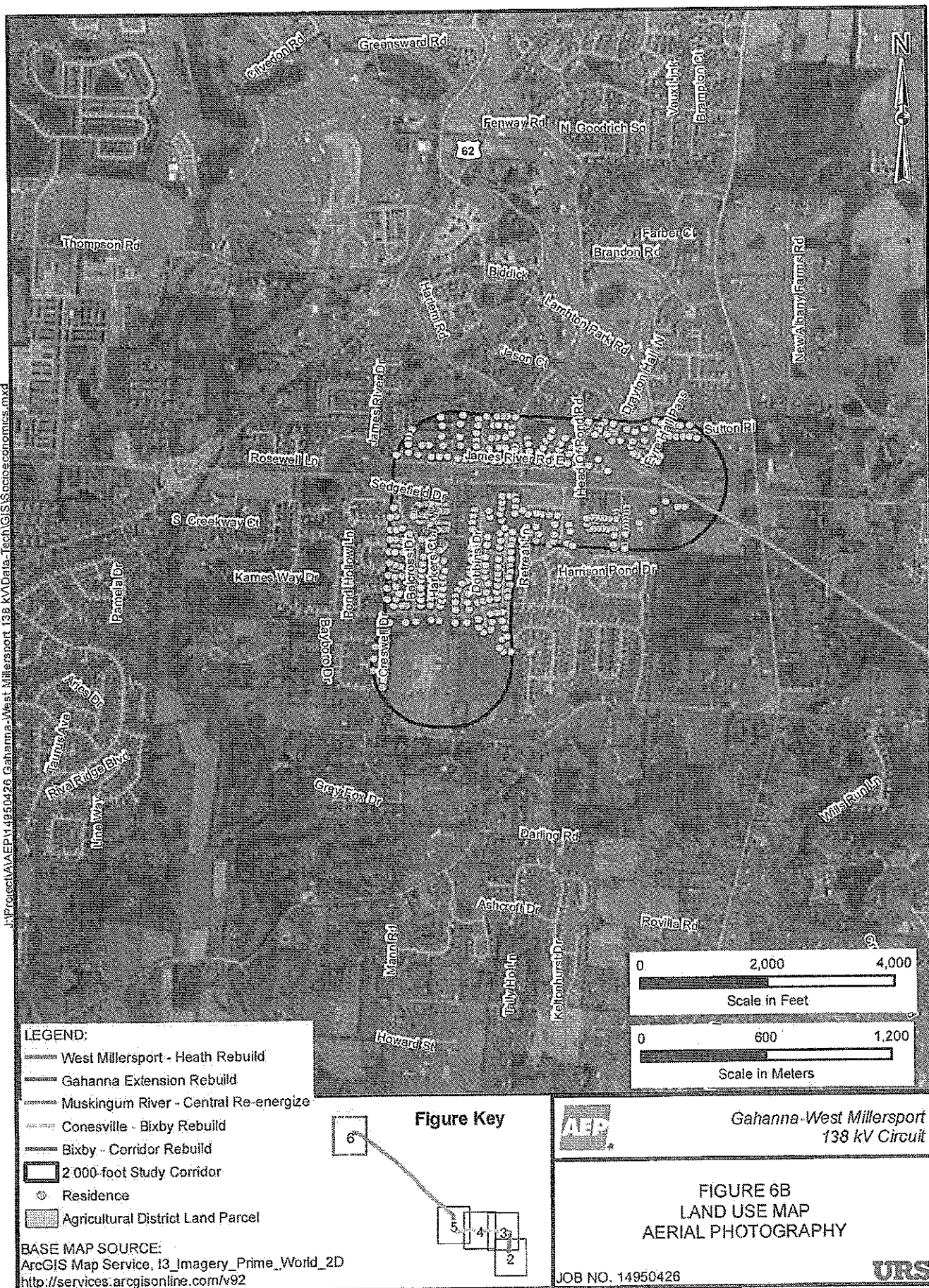
**FIGURE 6A**  
**LAND USE MAP**  
**TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE**

JOB NO. 14950426





J:\Project\IA\AEP\14950426 Gahanna-West Millersport 138 kV\Data-Tech\GIS\Scioeconomics.mxd



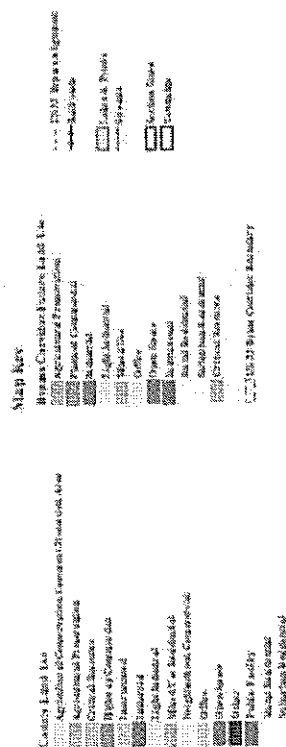
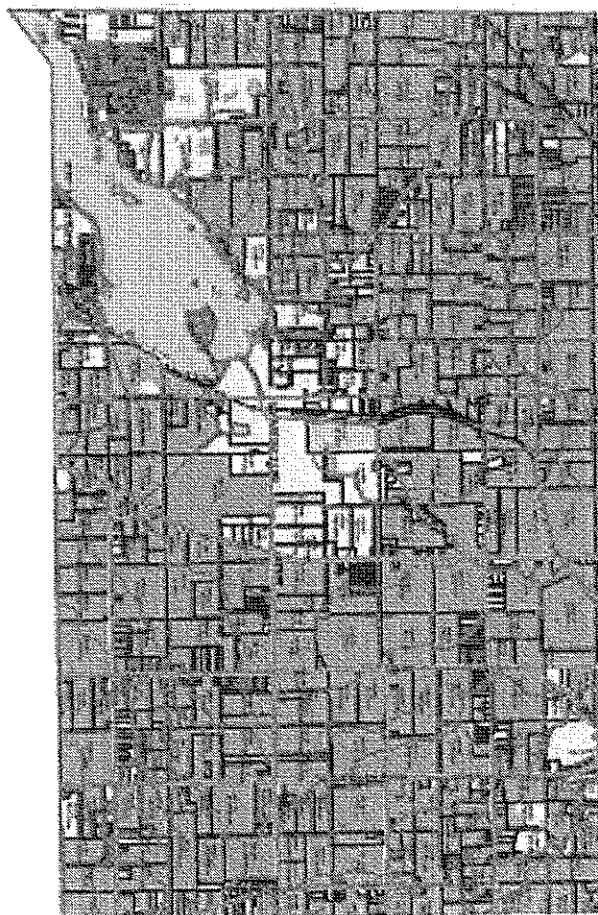
## **APPENDIX A**

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MAPS**

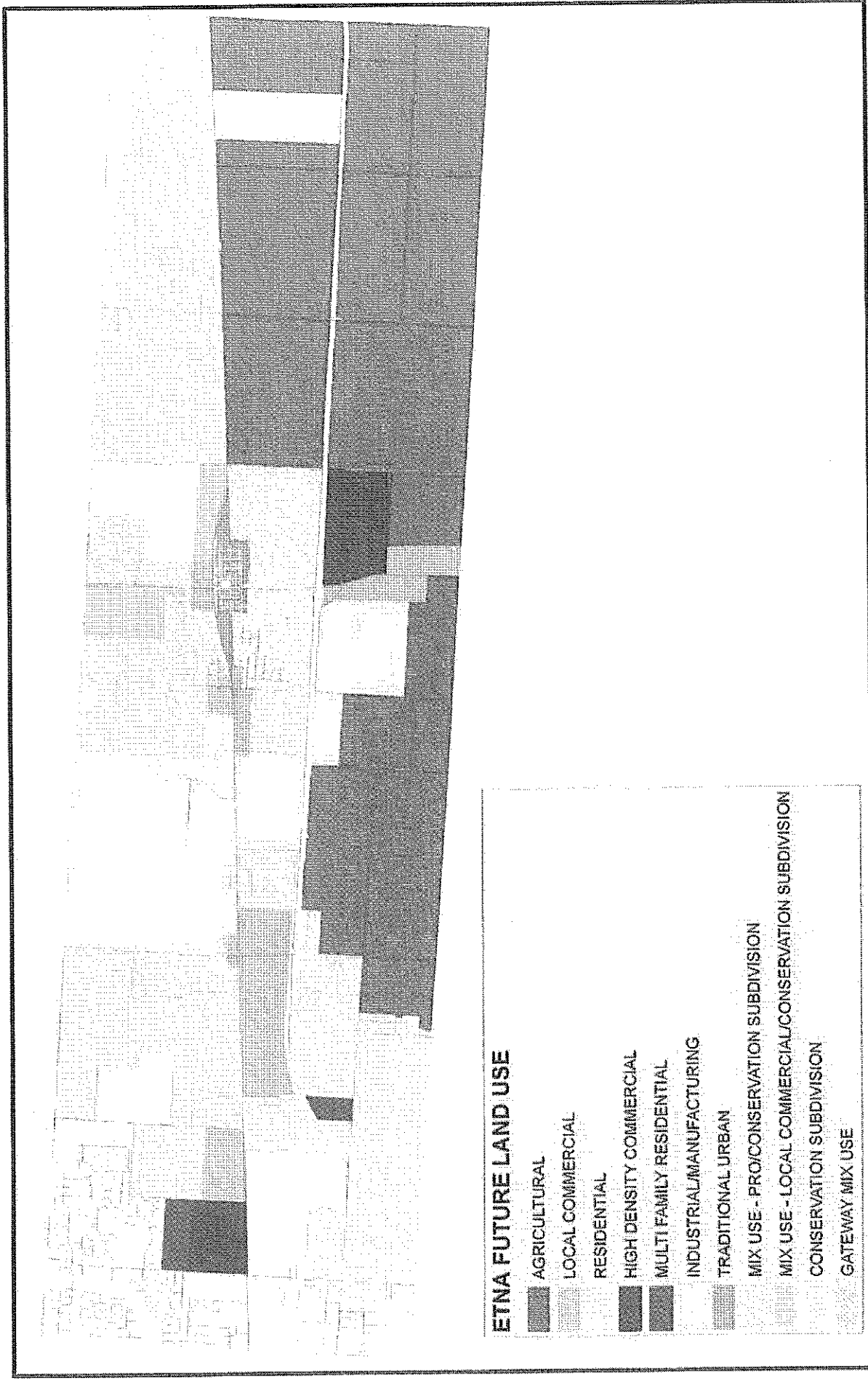
# Future Land Use Map

**Fairfield County Development Strategy  
& Land Use Plan  
and  
US Route 29  
Bypass Corridor  
Development Plan**

**CASE**



Note: Portion of project area cut from overall county map.



Map 22: The Etna Township Future Land Use Map.

The Southwest Quadrant currently consists of agricultural uses and single-family homes. It has the only area in the township that is solely zoned for multi-family housing. Also present in this area are several parcels zoned for manufacturing uses. The remainder of the current zoning in this quadrant is largely agricultural, with a few areas that have been zoned residential. Future development in this area should remain agricultural or single-family residential in nature. Residential development here should follow the requirement of the (PRCD) Planned Residential Conservation District (see Map 21).

Water and sewer services do not extend far into this quadrant. Because of this, the area should continue in agricultural production and large lot residential homesteads. Future extension of water and sewer services should not be considered in this area. There should be no future expansion of manufacturing in this quadrant. The areas currently zoned for manufacturing and multi-family uses should not be permitted to greatly increase. New manufacturing businesses should locate near the Etna Corporate Park or in the newly zoned manufacturing area near the intersection of U.S. Route 40 and State Route 158.

New multi-family developments are provided for in the Northwest Quadrant near the Reynoldsburg corporation limit.

#### Southwest Quadrant

The boundaries of the Southwest Quadrant are Kirkersville on the east, Smoke Road on the west, I-70 to the north and the Fairfield County line to the south.

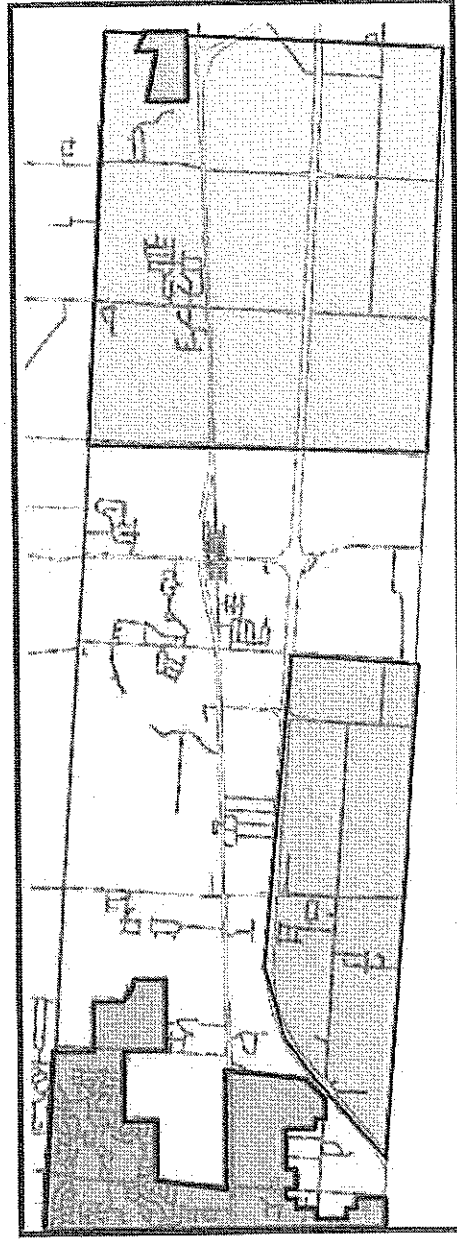
The land in the Southwest Quadrant is primarily agricultural in nature. Current use in this quadrant is mainly agricultural, with a few areas zoned for residential uses. These uses are in line with current zoning in the area. Members of this community have consistently noted their desire to maintain a rural environment in the township. This quadrant has been in agricultural production for many years and should so continue far into the future. This would be a prime area to utilize farmland

preservation programs such as the Agricultural Easement Purchase Program, offered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, or a Transfer of Development Rights program.

If development does occur in this area, the Planned Residential Conservation District (PRCD) section of the Etna Township Zoning Resolution should be used to guide that development. Subdivisions that maximize open space, use little infrastructure and contribute to the rural feel of the township should be encouraged in this quadrant.

#### Northeast Quadrant

The boundaries of the Northeast Quadrant are Kirkersville on the east, Smoke Road on the west, Refugee Road on the north and the I-70 on the south. Currently the section of this quadrant north of US 40 has a range of uses,



Map 21: The Planned Residential Conservation District (PRCD) overlay map.



# HARRISON TOWNSHIP FUTURE LAND USE MAP

(As adopted by the Harrison Township Trustees on October 4, 1993)

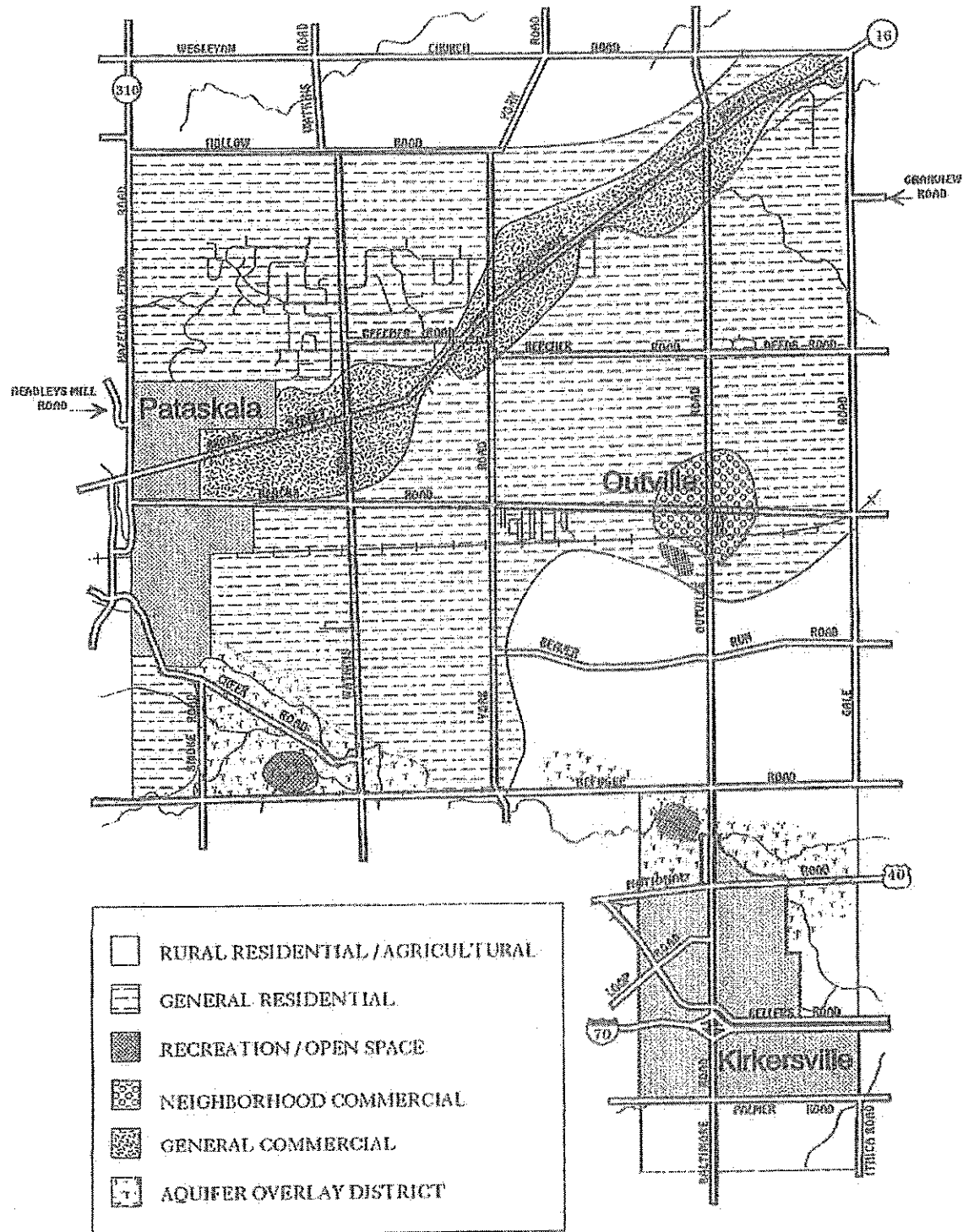
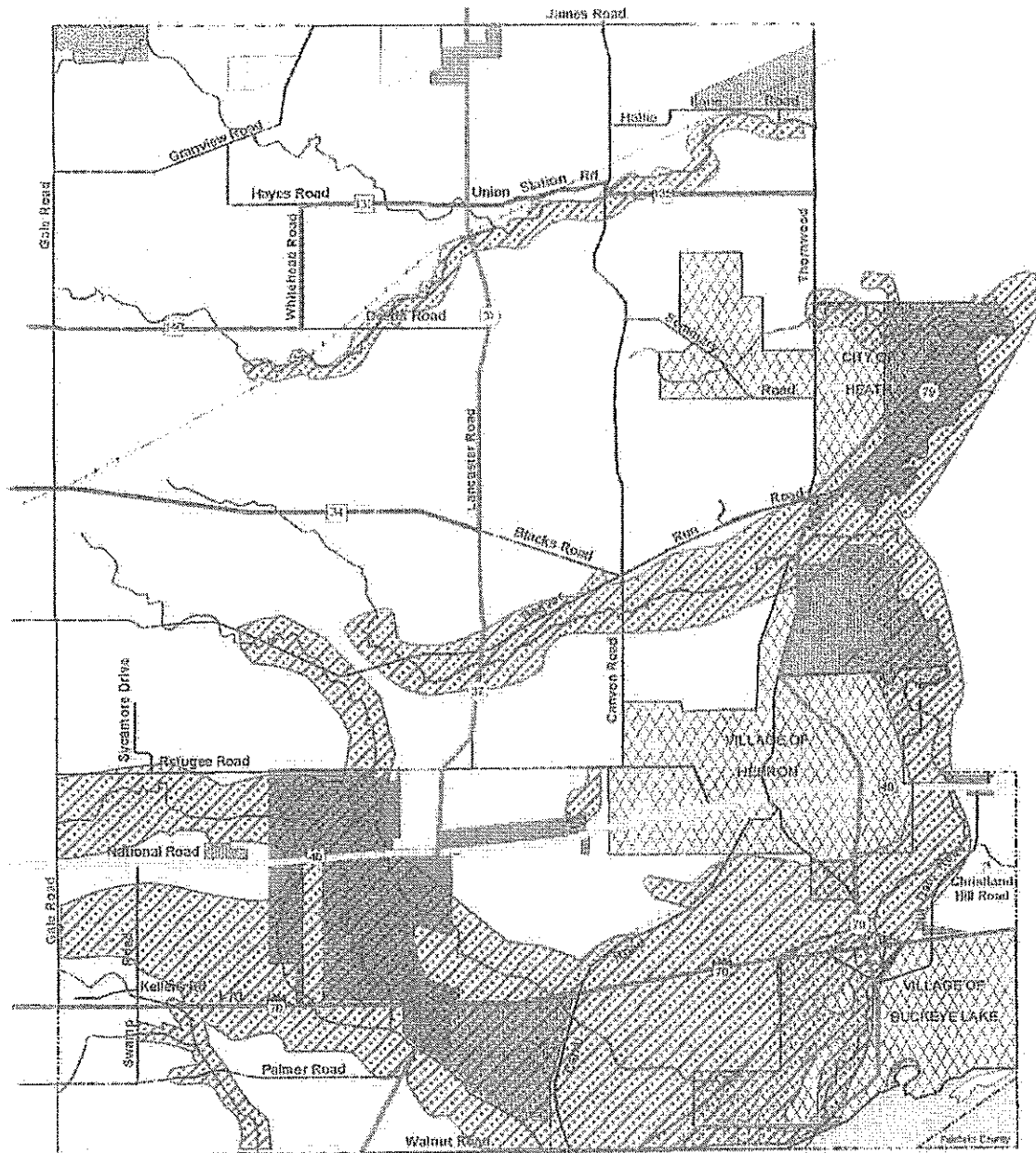








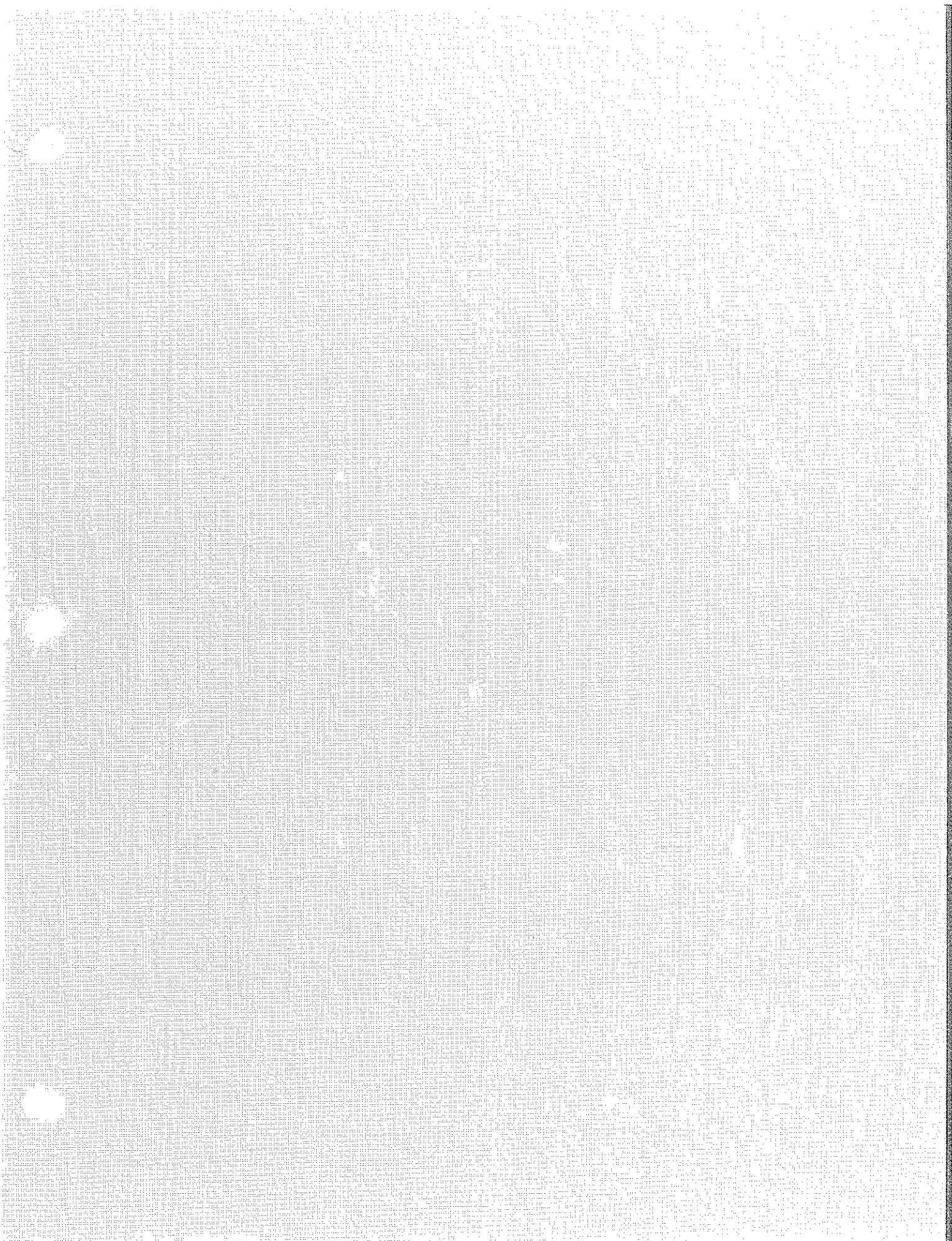


Figure 9.2

# UNION TOWNSHIP ZONING MAP



	AG, Agricultural District		GB, General Business District
	R-1, Low Density Residential District		AB, Accommodation Business District
	M-1, Light Manufacturing District		FP, Flood Plain Overlay District



# **GAHANNA-WEST MILLERSPORT 138 KV CIRCUIT PROJECT**

## **THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES SURVEY REPORT**

*Prepared for:*

American Electric Power Service Corporation  
700 Morrison Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Gahanna, Ohio 45230



*Prepared by:*

**URS**

36 East Seventh Street, Suite 2300  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Project #: 14950426

December 2011



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## FIGURES (follow text)

### Number

FIGURE 1	PROJECT OVERVIEW
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## APPENDIX (follows figures)

### Number

APPENDIX A	AGENCY RESPONSES
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## 1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This document presents the threatened and endangered species literature review and survey conducted by URS Corporation (URS) for American Electric Power (AEP) for the proposed Gahanna-West Millersport 138 kV Circuit Project (Project). AEP intends to rebuild or re-energize five sections of existing transmission lines to accommodate a new Gahanna-West Millersport 138 kV circuit through Franklin, Licking, and Fairfield counties in Ohio. As shown in Figure 1, the five sections of the Project include:

- West Millersport-Heath 138 kV Line: Rebuild the existing West Millersport-Heath 138 kV line on existing centerline between West Millersport Station and the existing Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line (2.9 miles). The existing H-frame structures support a single-circuit 138 kV line and will be replaced with new steel poles that will support double-circuit 138 kV lines.
- Gahanna 138 kV Extension: Rebuild the existing Gahanna 138 kV Extension on existing centerline between Gahanna Station and the Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line (1.2 miles) from existing single-circuit to double-circuit on new steel poles.
- Muskingum River-Central 345 kV Line: Re-energize a section of the existing Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line at 138 kV between the Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line and the Gahanna 138 kV Extension (11.1 miles). This is an existing steel tower transmission line. No new structure installation or wire stringing will be required.
- Conesville-Bixby 345 kV Line: Rebuild the existing Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line on existing centerline between the West Millersport-Heath 138 kV line and the existing Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line (5.1 miles). The existing H-frame structures that support a single circuit 345 kV line will be replaced with new steel poles that will support the existing 345 kV circuit as well as the new Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV circuit.
- Bixby-Corridor 345 kV Line: Rebuild the existing Bixby-Corridor 345 kV line on existing centerline between the Conesville-Bixby 345 kV line and the Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line (1.3 miles). The existing H-frame structures that support a single circuit 345 kV line will be replaced with new steel poles that will support the existing 345 kV circuit as well as the new Gahanna – West Millersport 138 kV circuit.

AEP has stated the rebuilt sections of transmission line will involve approximately structure for structure replacement from existing, predominantly H-frame structures to new steel poles with concrete foundations on the existing centerline. Construction will occur within existing rights-of-way except where slight widening will be needed at some of the intersections of the lines to be rebuilt due to the way the existing circuits are configured. In these cases, widening is limited to approximately 50 to 100 feet in order to keep the new circuit on the appropriate side of the existing lines. Two of the areas are in agricultural fields, but the third area will require approximately 1,000 feet of tree clearing north and south of Interstate



70. No new construction or wire stringing is planned for the re-energized portion of the new circuit along the Muskingum River-Central 345 kV line.

As part of the OPSB Letter of Notification requirements, AEP is required to assess and report the presence or absence of federal and state species of concern as stated in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 4906-11-01(E)(1). This rule states:

(E) *Environmental data. Describe the environmental impacts of the proposed project. This description shall include the following information:*

(1) *A description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of federal and state designated species (including endangered species, threatened species, rare species, species proposed for listing, species under review for listing, and species of special interest) that may be located within the area likely to be disturbed by the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.*

AEP retained URS to conduct threatened and endangered species review within counties crossed by the proposed Project and a field survey within 100 feet of the Project centerline. This report will be used to assist AEP's efforts to avoid impacts to threatened and endangered species potentially present in the study area during construction activities.

## 2.0 METHODS

The first phase of the survey involves a review of online lists of federal and state species of concern. In addition to the review of available literature, URS submitted a request to Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Biodiversity Database for GIS records of species of concern that are within close proximity to the Project. These GIS records were overlain on the Project GIS maps to identify designated species and other sensitive areas as reported by ODNR in relation to the Project. URS also submitted a coordination letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) soliciting comments on the Project. USFWS provided a response indicating suitable bat roost trees for the Indiana bat should be cut between April 1 and September 30 or mist net surveys may be warranted. Impacts to other special status species including the clubshell mussel, northern riffleshell, rayed bean, Scioto madtom, and bald eagle were not anticipated. Copies of the letters provided by ODNR with the Biodiversity Database GIS data and USFWS are included as Appendix A. Agency identified species and available species-specific information was reviewed to determine the various habitat types that listed species are known to frequent. This information was used during the field survey to assess the potential for these species of concern in, or near the approximately 200-foot wide Project study corridor.

## 3.0 RESULTS

URS field ecologists conducted a designated species habitat survey in conjunction with the stream and wetland field surveys on November 7 through November 9, 2011.



### 3.1 State Species of Concern

A November 7, 2011 letter from ODNR Biodiversity Database identified that GIS data for the Project area revealed no state species of concern being located within or in close proximity to the Project. A unique habitat (beech-oak-red maple forest) was provided within the GIS data, but the area identified was approximately 1,500 feet from the re-energized line portion of the Project and almost four miles from the nearest rebuild section.

No state species of concern, or signs of these species, and no unique habitats were observed during the field survey, and the ODNR Biodiversity Database revealed no threatened, endangered, special interest, or extirpated species within the vicinity of the Project area. Additionally, construction will be limited predominantly to pole locations within existing right-of-way, with the exception of short distances where slight deviations are needed at the intersections of the lines to be rebuilt due to outage requirements. These deviations include approximately 1,000 feet of wooded area adjacent to existing right-of-way north and south of Interstate 70. Therefore, no state species of concern are expected to be impacted by the proposed Project.

### 3.2 Federal Species of Concern

To address the Project's potential to impact federally protected species, URS conducted a literature review of U.S. Fish and Wildlife's (USFWS) *Federally Listed Species by Ohio Counties, September 30, 2011*, to determine what species are known to potentially occur in the counties crossed by the Project. Table 1 lists the nine species identified during the USFWS literature review along with comments regarding the Project's potential to impact the species.

**TABLE 1  
FEDERALLY LISTED SPECIES THAT COULD INHABIT  
FAIRFIELD, FRANKLIN, AND LICKING COUNTIES, OHIO**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	County or Counties
<b>Mammals</b>			
Indiana bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Endangered	Fairfield, Franklin, Licking
<b>Mussels</b>			
Clubshell	<i>Pleurobema clava</i>	Endangered	Fairfield, Franklin
Rayed bean	<i>Villosa fabalis</i>	Potentially Endangered	Fairfield, Franklin
Northern riffleshell	<i>Epioblasma torulosa</i>	Endangered	Franklin
Snuffbox	<i>Epioblasma triquetra</i>	Potentially Endangered	Franklin
Rabbitsfoot	<i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i>	Candidate	Franklin
<b>Reptiles</b>			
Eastern massasauga	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>	Candidate	Fairfield, Licking

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

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**Case No(s). 12-0308-EL-BLN**

Summary: Letter of Notification 1 of 3 Parts electronically filed by Erin C Miller on behalf of American Electric Power