

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

**In the Matter of the Construction Notice Application by
Duke Energy Ohio for a Certificate of Environmental
Compatibility and Public Need for the Fairfield F-3886
Transmission Line.**

)
)
) **Case Number**
) **13-1843-EL-BNR**
)

Members of the Board:

Todd Snitchler, Chairman, PUCO
David Goodman, Director, ODSA
Dr. Ted Wymyslo, Director, ODH
David Daniels, Director, ODA
Scott Nally, Director, Ohio EPA
Jim Zehringer, Director, ODNR
Jeffery J. Lechak, PE, Public Member

Peter Stautberg, State Representative
Sandra Williams, State Representative
Michael Skindell, State Senator
Bill Seitz, State Senator

To the Honorable Power Siting Board:

Please review the attached Staff Report of Investigation, which has been filed in accordance with the Board's rules. The applicant's accelerated certificate application in this case is subject to an automatic approval process as required by Section 4906.03 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The application would be automatically approved on September 17, 2013, unless suspended by the Board's chairperson, the executive director, or an administrative law judge. If suspended, the Board must render a decision on the application within 90 days. However, in this instance Duke Energy Ohio has requested a waiver of the expedited application 21-day review process. Duke Energy Ohio has determined in system-wide outage planning efforts, that to meet PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. commitments, project construction should commence on September 5, 2013.

Any concerns you or your representative may have with this case must be presented to the Executive Director of the Power Siting Board by no later than 1 p.m. on September 4, 2013. To contact the Executive Director with concerns, you can reply to the email to which this document was attached, or use the ContactOPSB email address listed below.

Sincerely,



Kim Wissman
Executive Director
Ohio Power Siting Board
(614) 466-6692
ContactOPSB@puc.state.oh.us

OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 13-1843-EL-BNR
Project Name: Fairfield F-3886 Line
Project Location: Fairfield, Ohio
Applicant: Duke Energy Ohio
Application Filing Date: August 26, 2013
Filing Type: Construction Notice
Inspection Date: August 29, 2013
Report Date: September 3, 2013
Automatic Approval Date: September 17, 2013
Waiver Requests: One
Staff Assigned: J. Whitis, R. Huckleberry, G. Zeto

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

Application: ☒ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☐ Approval with Conditions
Waiver: ☒ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☐ Not Applicable

Project Description

Duke Energy Ohio proposes the splitting of the circuit at the F-3886 Transmission line adjacent to the Fairfield Substation. Duke Energy will be replacing two existing transmission poles with two new transmission poles that will allow for the splitting of the F-3886 circuit and the slight re-routing of the F-5783 and F-3885 circuits at the Fairfield Substation. Construction is scheduled to start September 5 and take approximately 21 days to complete during a short outage window.

Site Description

The section of line is located adjacent to the Fairfield Substation. The entire project is located on the property of Duke Energy Ohio. This project is a preparatory portion of a future Fairfield ring bus project expected to be constructed at the Fairfield Substation in 2014. No additional Right-of-Way easement is required for this project.

Capital Costs

The capital cost for this project is estimated at \$600,000.

Need

The F-3886, F-3885 and F-5783 circuits will ensure that Duke Energy will continue to meet its commitments to PJM Interconnection, LLC. Duke Energy Ohio's forecasting reflects that the September outage window would be the most advantageous time period to complete the project.

Nature of Impacts

Vegetation management will be required and performed as needed for access and construction activities and will be consistent with standard practices used for normal line clearance activities. Duke Energy Ohio has secured applicable permits as required.

Conclusion

The proposed project will ensure that Duke Energy Ohio will continue to meet its commitments to PJM Interconnection, LLC.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Case No(s). 13-1843-EL-BNR

Summary: Report of investigation electronically filed by Mr. Adam S Bargar on behalf of Staff of OPSB