



## Power Siting Board

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November 5, 2013

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The Eugene Mace Family  
8236 Williamsport Pike  
Williamsport, Ohio 43164-9505

Re: Biers Run – Circleville 138 kV Transmission Line Project  
Case No. 13-0430-EL-BTX

The Mace Family,

Thank you for contacting the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) regarding American Electric Power Transmission Company's (AEP Transco) proposed Biers Run – Circleville 138 kV Transmission Line Project. Your correspondence in regards to the project has been docketed in the official record for case number 13-0430-EL-BTX.

It is noted that your preference for the project is for the "Purple West" route proposal, as presented at AEP Transco's public informational meetings. Once an application is filed, specific routing plans for the line will be available on the OPSB website at [www.opsb.ohio.gov](http://www.opsb.ohio.gov). The routes will be referred to as a 'preferred' and an 'alternate' route.

When reviewing an electric transmission application, OPSB staff investigates each route to determine many criteria, including the impact on the continued agricultural viability of any land in an existing agricultural district. Further, OPSB staff assures that minimal impacts occur to local cultural resources and does so through a partnership with the Ohio State Historical Preservation Office.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact the OPSB at (866) 270-6772. Again, thank you for sharing the details of your concerns regarding this case.

Very truly yours,

Kim Wissman, Executive Director  
Ohio Power Siting Board

KW: sai

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Technician DNM Date Processed 11-5-13

October 25, 2013

The Ohio Power Sitting Board

180 East Broad Street

Columbus, OH 43215

**Re: Case No. 13-0430-EL-BTX**

We are writing to you to comment on American Electric Power's Biers Run Transmission Project, specifically the Biers Run to Circleville 138 kV Line – OPSB Case No. 13-0403-EL-BTX. We wish to express our preference for the Purple West route proposal. Further we wish to ask that the Purple East route proposal be dropped from consideration. The Purple West proposal maximizes utilization of roadway right ways thus allowing the needed upgrades to occur while minimize the disruption to land owners along the project route.

From the public meeting process, we understand that AEP has not yet walked the land for the proposed routes. For this reason, we wish to outline several issues we see with the proposed Purple East route. This proposed route would run through the heart of our family's farm which is located at 8236 Williamsport Pike, Williamsport, Ohio. The land AEP has selected to use would create a series of difficulties for both AEP and our family.

These problems include:

- 1) The land is currently part of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Specifically, the land has been restored with native grass and flowers to improve the Scioto River Valley. We are in the middle of a 15 year contract with the federal government as part of this program. The proposed towers would disrupt this.
- 2) The land is also partial wetland with patches of quick sand. We do not believe that the proposed pole locations themselves will be in the quick sand area but we believe that the proposed right away easements may be.
- 3) The area proposed to be utilized an area where significant Native American artifacts have been discovered. The land has been excavated by staff at the Hopewell Culture Center National Park in Chillicothe and is currently listed by the center as a significant area of Native American activity.
- 4) The placement of the poles would run through the middle of a large portion of our farm. Based on the information on pole placement and required right a ways required we believe that this would render a large portion of our farm unusable as farm land ever again. This land has been in our family for several generations and while we recognize that some portion of our land may need to be utilize for this project a loss of this magnitude would trigger a great hardship for our family. Further, we are not the only family facing this kind of impact. **Large portions of multiple family farms would be rendered virtually unfarmable under this proposed route.**

We recognize that these utility upgrades need to occur and that we ultimately benefit from the project. If the decision is made that the Purple East route must be the preferred route, for the reasons outlined above we then ask that AEP work with us on pole placement in order to address the issues outlined above – specifically avoidance of wetlands which would negatively impact the project and the placement of poles that would render a large portion of our farm virtually unusable as farmland in the future.

We are happy to answer additional questions or allow representatives from the board to exam the land and/or documentation regarding the issues we have outlined. To speak with us further, please contact Alex Mace at 740-993-4013 or at [emace@bright.net](mailto:emace@bright.net). We look forward to engaging further with both this body and AEP as the process moves forward.

Sincerely,

The Eugene Mace Family

Eugene Mace

Gerry Hannahs

Alex Mace

Mary Mace Miller

Dan Mace

David Hannahs

Neil Miller

Gena Shelton

Mike Shelton



Alex E. Mace  
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Williamsport, OH 43164-9505