

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Construction Notice Application by)
AEP Ohio Transmission Company for a Certificate of)
Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the) Case Number
New Market (SCP) 138 kV Transmission Line Tap in) 14-0145-EL-BNR
Highland County, Ohio.)

Members of the Board:

Chairman, Public Utilities Commission	Ohio House of Representative s
Director, Development Services Agency	State Senate
Director, Department of Health	
Director, Department of Agriculture	
Director, Environmental Protection Agency	
Director, Department of Natural Resources	
Public Member	

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 will be automatically approved on March 14, 2014, 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.

Any concerns you or your representative may have with this case must be presented to the Executive Director of the Power Siting Board at least four business days prior to March 14, 2014, which is the automatic approval date. 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: 14-0145-EL-BNR
Project Name: New Market (SCP) 138 kV Transmission Line Tap
Project Location: Highland County
Applicant: AEP Ohio Transmission Company
Application Filing Date: January 30, 2014
Filing Type: Construction Notice
Inspection Date: March 5, 2014
Report Date: March 6, 2014
Automatic Approval Date: March 14, 2014
Waiver Requests: None
Staff Assigned: J. Whitis, R. Huckleberry

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

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

Project Description:

AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP) proposes to build a new transmission line tap into the existing South Central Power distribution substation. The existing Seaman-Highland line is being converted from 69 (kilovolts) kV to 138 kV. The substation is currently being fed from a hard tap off of the Seaman-Highland 138 kV line, which is currently operating at 69 kV. The New Market facilities will be upgraded for the voltage change with a 3-way switch pole to increase reliability to the substation. The cost of the project is estimated at \$250,000. Construction is expected to commence in March 2014 and be completed by December 2014.

Site Description:

The project is located in New Market Township, Highland County. The project will be located on a new easement adjacent to the existing 69 kV easement. Additional right-of-way easements are required for this project. AEP is working with the property owners to obtain the necessary easements. Signed agreements with property owners are required prior to construction activity.

Conclusion:

Minimal vegetative clearing is required. The construction of this project should pose only minimal negative social and ecological impacts. Staff recommends automatic approval of this case on March 14, 2014 provided that the following condition is satisfied.

Staff Recommended Condition:

- (1) The Applicant shall adhere to seasonal cutting dates of October 1 and March 31 for removal of suitable Indiana bat habitat trees, if avoidance measures cannot be achieved.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

3/6/2014 11:20:10 AM

in

Case No(s). 14-0145-EL-BNR

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