



Legal Department

American Electric Power
1 Riverside Plaza
Columbus, OH 43215-2373
AEP.com

March 7, 2014

Chairman Todd A. Snitchler
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Matthew J. Satterwhite
Senior Counsel –
(614) 716-1915 (P)
(614) 716-2014 (F)
mjsatterwhite@aep.com

RE: Request for Expedited Treatment: In the Matter of the Letter of Notification of the Tiffin Center-Fremont Center 138kV Line Rebuild Project. Case No. 14-143-EL-BLN

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

Attached please find a copy of the Letter of Notification (LON) for the TIFFIN CENTER–FREMONT CENTER 138KV LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. This filing and notice is in accordance with O.A.C. 4906-11-01.

A copy of this filing is also being presented to the executive director or the executive director's designee. An abbreviated copy was provided earlier in the week via electronic message to provide advance notice. The Company already submitted a check in the amount of \$2,000 to the Treasurer, State of Ohio, for Fund 5610 for the expedited fees.

Please contact me if there are any questions..

Respectfully submitted,

//ss// Matthew J. Satterwhite

Matthew J. Satterwhite
Senior Counsel

cc: Werner Margard, Counsel OPSB Staff
Kim Wissman and Klaus Lambeck, OPSB

**LETTER OF NOTIFICATION FOR THE
TIFFIN CENTER – FREMONT CENTER 138KV LINE
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

PUCO Case No. 14-0143-EL-BLN

Submitted pursuant to OAC 4906-11-01

**AEP Ohio Transmission Company
(AEP Ohio Transco)**

March 2014

LETTER OF NOTIFICATION

Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Project

American Electric Power Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Ohio Transco) is providing the following information in accordance with the procedures delineated in Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-11-01: Letter of Notification Requirements of the Rules and Regulations of the Ohio Power Siting Board.

4906-11-01 (B): General Information

4906-11-01 (B)(1)

The proposed Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project consists of rebuilding the Tiffin Center – Fremont Center line from a single circuit wood pole 138kV line to a new double circuit 138kV line with single steel poles. The project begins at the existing Tiffin Center station off of State Route 101 (aka Portland Road) in Clinton Township, Seneca County, Ohio and continues to the existing Fremont Center station off of Yingling Road in the Ballville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio. This line crosses Seneca and Sandusky Counties, Ohio. The Tiffin Center-Fremont Center line is part of AEP's Fremont Area Improvement Plan – a transmission reinforcement effort designed to help AEP maintain adequate transmission reliability in northwestern Ohio. This improvement project addresses low-voltage concerns identified by PJM. The project extends for approximately 12.6 miles.

The project is located in Sections 2 and 10 of Clinton Township (T2N, R15E), Sections 4, 9, 15, 16, 22, 27, and 34 of Pleasant Township (T3N, R15E) in Seneca County, and Sections 9, 16, 21, 28, and 33 of Ballville Township (T4N, R15E) in Sandusky County, Ohio. This project will utilize the temporary construction staging and laydown yard included with the Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV transmission line project letter of notification (OPSB Case Number 13-2009-EL-BLN) at 745 South County Route 13, Clinton Township, Seneca County. Map 1 depicts the Project Area.

The project is defined by Item (4)(a) of the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4906-01, Appendix A "Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission

Lines,” which requires a Letter of Notification. This project consists of replacing electric power transmission line structures with a different type of structure where less than two miles of new right-of-way is required. This project has been assigned PUCO Case No. 14-0143-EL-BLN.

4906-11-01 (B) (2)

The purpose of the Tiffin Center-Fremont Center 138kV Line Improvement project is to install a second circuit by rebuilding from single circuit H-Frame structures to double circuit single steel poles from the existing Tiffin Center Station to the existing Fremont Center Station. This project is a critical component of the Fremont Area Improvement project which addresses a critical need for AEP Ohio Transco to reinforce its transmission system in parts of the Fremont-Fostoria area of Seneca County. The project will help to accommodate growth in this region and to upgrade the company’s transmission system in northwestern Ohio. The addition of this circuit will also help address reliability concerns that were identified by PJM in their 2009 Regional Transmission Expansion Plan (RTEP), under Identifier B1667, as this is a PJM mandated project related to voltage violations in the area for year 2015 and beyond.

4906-11-01 (B)(3)

The general location of the Project is shown in Map 1.

4906-11-01 (B)(4)

No alternative locations were considered. The Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Line is an existing transmission facility.

4906-11-01 (B)(5)

Construction of the project is scheduled to begin June of 2014 with reinforcement and building of access roads. Tree clearing will occur in October 2014 where necessary. Construction is scheduled to continue through the end of June 2016.

4906-11-01 (B)(6)

Map 1 has been prepared to show the project location in relation to other transmission lines in the area. To view the project from Columbus, take US 23 north to Upper Sandusky to Ohio 53. Take Ohio 53 north to Ohio 67 east to Tiffin. In Tiffin turn right onto Ohio 101 East (West Market Street). Follow Ohio 101 East approximately 4 miles, the Tiffin Center Station is on the south side of the road. The line runs north from the station. To view the north end of the line at Fremont Center Station head northeast on Ohio 101 (E. Portland Road) from the Tiffin Center Station, take the immediate left onto County Road 15, continue north approximately 12 miles, the road changes to N. County Road 51, and then Tiffin Road. Turn left onto W. Cole Road, take the 2nd right onto Yingling Road. The station is located on the east side of the road at the intersection of Yingling Road and Laird Drive.

4906-11-01 (B)(7)

The existing line consists of existing easements that were obtained by American Electric Power prior to construction of the original transmission line. AEP Ohio Transco may obtain supplemental easements for the rebuild of this line where necessary. AEP Ohio Transco has notified property owners of the transmission line project and will continue to communicate the status of the project.

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

4906-11-01 (C)(1)

The existing single circuit wood pole structures will be replaced with new double circuit galvanized steel poles along the existing centerline. The line will be re-spanned for the purpose of using less structures. The new transmission line will be designed and constructed for 138 kV operations and in accordance with the current National Electric Safety Code.

The transmission line work will include installing (22) self-supporting single pole deadend structures and (123) direct embedded single pole structures. New conductors, insulators and hardware will be installed on the new structures. The Project has the following characteristics:

Voltage: 138 kV

Structure type: Double circuit steel pole on concrete pier foundation (Figure 1)
Double circuit steel pole direct embedded (Figure 2)

Shield wire: (1) 96 Fiber OPGW, (1) 7#8 Alumoweld

Conductor: (6) 959.8 kcmil Type 16 – 2 layer trapezoidal “Suwannee/TW”

4906-11-01 (C)(2)

Electric and Magnetic Fields During Operation

(a) *Calculated Electric and Magnetic Field Levels*

Three loading conditions were examined: (1) normal maximum loading, (2) emergency line loading, and (3) winter normal conductor rating. Normal maximum loading represents the peak flow expected with all system facilities in service; daily/hourly flows fluctuate below this level. Emergency loading is the maximum current flow during unusual (contingency) conditions, which exist only for short periods of time. Winter normal (WN) conductor rating represents the maximum current flow that a line, including its terminal equipment, can carry during winter conditions. It is not anticipated that this line would operate at its WN rating in the foreseeable future.

Line Loading and Rating

Circuit	Normal Maximum Loading (MW) (MVARs)	Emergency Loading (MW) (MVARs)	Winter Normal Conductor Rating (MVA)
Fremont Center – Tiffin Center #1 138kV	46.9 7.9	63.1 8.6	257
Fremont Center – Tiffin Center #2 138kV	46.9 7.9	63.1 8.6	257

The electric and magnetic field levels for the proposed project were calculated for the conductor configurations as depicted by Figure: D/C Deadend & D/C Tangent (See appendix).

Calculated Electric and Magnetic Fields

Line Extensions and Configuration Type	Electric Field (kV/m)	Magnetic Field (mG)		
		Nominal Maximum Load	Emergency Load	Winter Normal Rating
Fremont Center-Tiffin Center, Figure: D/C Deadend	0.2/2/0.2	13/28/13	18/37/18	75/168/75
Fremont Center-Tiffin Center, Figure: D/C Tangent	0.1/2.2/0.1	11/29/11	15/39/15	63/189/63

*Current flow direction is towards Fremont Center.

**EMF levels (left ROW edge/maximum/right ROW edge) calculated one meter above ground at the point of minimum ground clearance, assuming balanced phase currents and nominal voltages.

(b) Discussion of the Company's Design Alternatives Regarding EMF Levels

The majority of the new 138kV line will be installed within the right of way of the existing 138kV line. This new rebuilt section of 138kV will employ a vertical single-pole design to minimize the right-of-way requirements. Such designs facilitate the use of a more compact line configuration that reduces the strength of the electric and magnetic fields.

4906-11-01 (C)(3)

The 2013 capital cost estimates for the proposed project have been tabulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Electric Plant Transmission Accounts:

FERC Accounts	Estimated Capital Costs
355 Poles and Fixtures	\$1,750,165
356 Overhead Conductors and Devices	\$2,481,839
Total Cost	\$4,232,004

4906-11-01 (D): Socioeconomic Data

4906-11-01 (D)(1)

This Project is located in Clinton and Pleasant Townships of Seneca County and Ballville Township of Sandusky County on existing AEP easements. Commonwealth Associates, Inc., an independent environmental consultant, has prepared a detailed land use description and population density. Commonwealth's report is provided in the Appendix.

4906-11-01 (D)(2)

Commonwealth performed a study to determine if any Agricultural District Land parcels were located within the study corridor. Twenty Agricultural District Land parcels as defined by Chapter 929 of the Ohio Revised Code were identified within the 2,000 foot study corridor. These 20 parcels belong to 12 different owners. Eighteen are in Seneca County, two are in Sandusky County. The transmission line easement crosses 17 of these parcels. No changes in agricultural practices are anticipated as a result of this project; no new impacts to agricultural district land are anticipated.

4906-11-01 (D)(3)

A Phase I Archaeological Investigation was conducted for this project. Weller & Associates, Inc. completed a Phase I archaeological investigation in Clinton and Pleasant Townships, Seneca County, and Ballville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio in December 2013. This investigation concluded no further cultural resource management work is warranted. A copy of this report will be provided to the Ohio Power Siting Board under separate cover.

4906-11-01 (D)(4)

Copies of this Letter of Notification have been sent to the Seneca and Sandusky County Commissioners, the Township Trustees for Clinton, Pleasant and Ballville townships, the Tiffin-Seneca Public Library, and the Birchard Public Library. Copies of the cover letters to these officials and the local libraries are attached in the Appendix.

AEP will advise local officials of features and the status of the proposed transmission line Project as necessary.

4906-11-01 (D)(5)

There is no known current or pending litigation involving this Project.

4906-11-01 (D)(6)

A Notice of Intent will be filed with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for authorization of construction stormwater discharges under General Permit OHC000003. A Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) for a Section 10 aerial crossing nationwide permit for crossing the Sandusky River will be filed with the US Army Corp of Engineers. There are no other known local, state, or federal requirements that must be met prior to commencement of the proposed Project.

4906-11-01 (E): Environmental Data

During the field survey, a total of nine (9) wetlands were identified within the survey corridor. The nine (9) wetlands identified total 5.2 acres within the utility line corridor. All of the wetlands are of palustrine habitat type. Within the survey corridor, eighteen (18) streams, totaling 597 feet in width and 4,846 feet in length, were assessed: four (4) ephemeral, ten (10) intermittent, and (4) four perennial. Wetlands and streams will be avoided where possible. Commonwealth has prepared a Wetland Delineation and Stream Assessment Report, which is located in the Appendix.

4906-11-01 (E)(1)

AEP Ohio Transco retained Commonwealth to conduct a threatened and endangered species review within the area crossed by the project centerline, and field survey within the 100 foot right of way for the entire length of the project. The field survey was conducted by Commonwealth in October 2013. Commonwealth has prepared a detailed threatened and endangered species survey report, which is located in the Appendix.

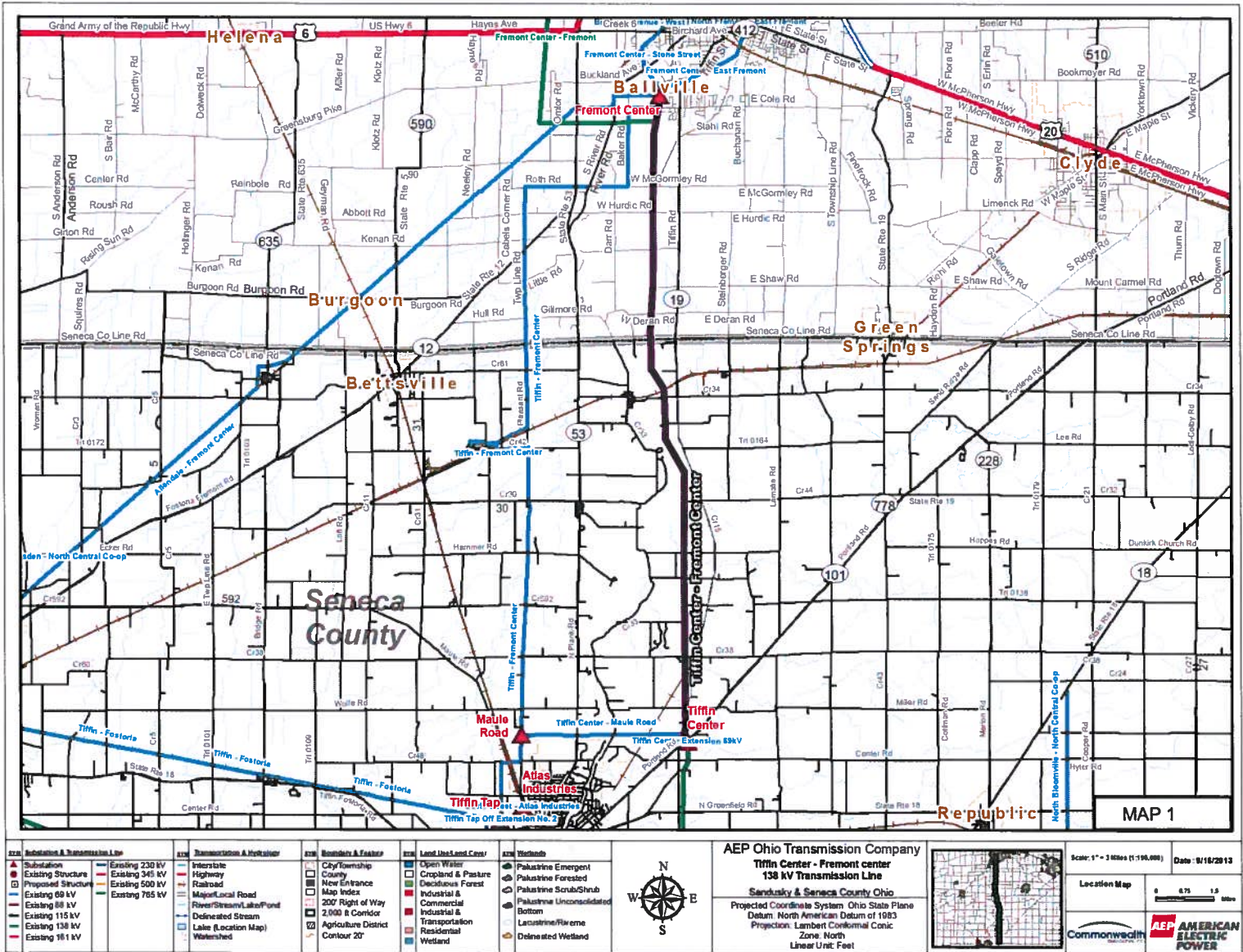
4906-11-01 (E)(2)

There are areas of ecological concern located within the project area of the proposed project, however no adverse impacts are anticipated, as this is a rebuild of an existing line. The project crosses the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Sugar Creek Wildlife Area on existing ROW. No other national forests or parks, designated or proposed wilderness areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, wildlife areas, wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, or wildlife sanctuaries were identified within 1,000 feet of the proposed Project. The Sandusky River is an Ohio designated Scenic River. AEP will minimize clearing of the riparian zone where necessary. The project will also cross 100-year flood zone areas. No changes in flood elevations are anticipated as a result of the Project.

4906-11-01 (E)(3)

There are no known unusual conditions or circumstances associated with this Project that will result in significant environmental, social, health or safety impacts.

Construction and operation of the proposed Project will meet all applicable safety standards established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and will be in accordance with the requirements specified in the latest revision of the National Electrical Safety Code as adopted by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which will include the Access Plan, will be provided to the OPSB under separate cover, after submission of this Letter of Notification.



228 Substation & Transmission Line ▲ Substation ● Existing Structure □ Proposed Structure — Existing 69 kV — Existing 115 kV — Existing 138 kV — Existing 161 kV	229 Transmission & Waterway — Interstate — Highway — Railroad — Major/Local Road — River/Stream/Lake/Pond — Delineated Stream — Lake (Location Map) — Watershed	230 Boundary & Feature □ City/Township □ County □ New Entrance □ Map Index □ 200' Right of Way □ 2,000 ft Corridor □ Agriculture District □ Contour 20'	231 Land Use & Land Cover □ Open Water □ Cropland & Pasture □ Deciduous Forest □ Industrial & Commercial □ Industrial & Transportation □ Residential □ Wetland	232 Wetlands ● Palustrine Emergent ● Palustrine Forested ● Palustrine Scrub/Shrub ● Palustrine Unconsolidated Bottom ● Lacustrine/Riparian ● Delineated Wetland	AEP Ohio Transmission Company Tiffin Center - Fremont Center 138 kV Transmission Line Sandusky & Seneca County Ohio Projected Coordinate System: Ohio State Plane Datum: North American Datum of 1983 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic Zone: North Linear Unit: Feet	MAP 1
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Scale: 1" = 3 Miles (1:190,000) Date: 9/18/2013

Location Map

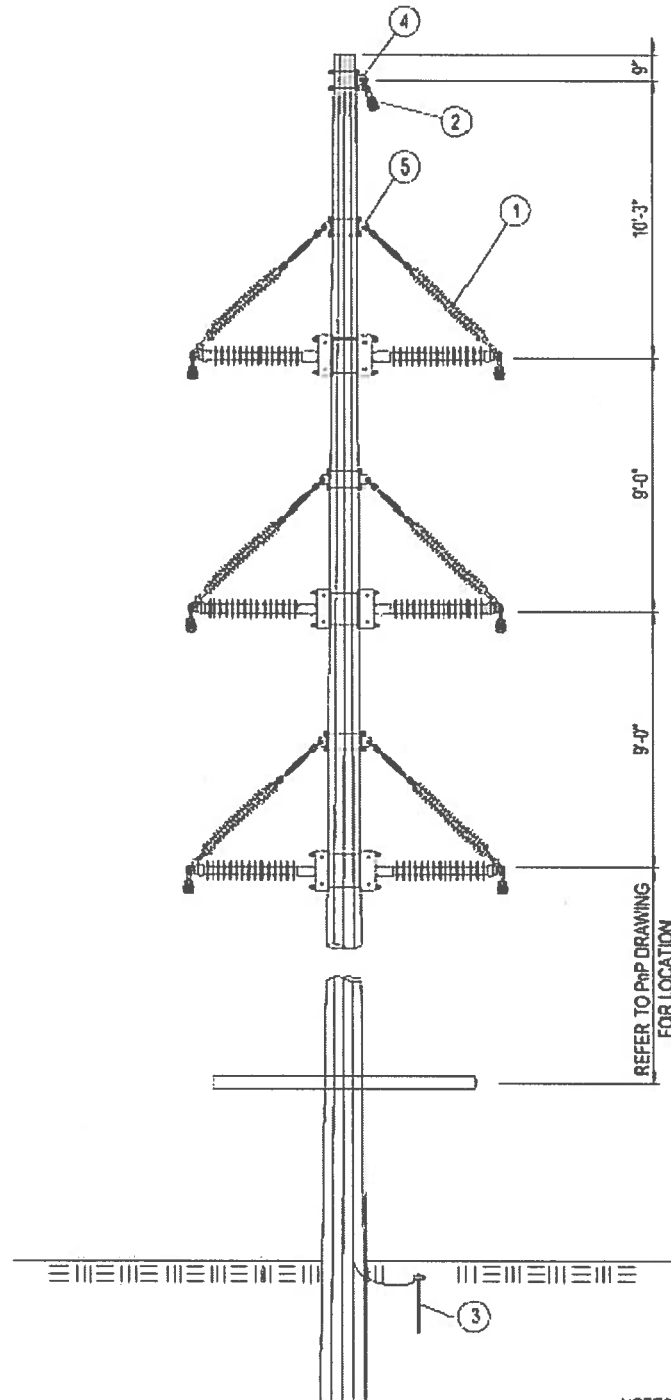
0 0.75 1.5 Miles

Commonwealth of Ohio

AEP AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

REF. DRAWINGS


ITEM	QTY.	ASSEMBLY	DESCRIPTION	
1	6	13B5-1282	138KV INSULATOR, POLYMER, ZERO DEGREE BRACED POST, BACK TO BACK	
2	1	30T0-1102	OHGW, SUSPENSION, CONCRETE, STEEL OR WOOD POLE	
3	1	21SE-1456	GROUND ROD FOR DIRECT EMBEDDED STEEL POLE	
4	1	71A0-1231	3/4 IN FLAT DEAD-END TEE	
5	3	71A0-1234	7/8 IN FLAT DEAD-END TEEBACK TO BACK	



NOTES:
1. T-LINE ENGINEER TO SELECT THE OPTION OF WELDED VANGS OR BOLTED DEAD-END TEES

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STANDARD REFERENCE						POLYMER - 138KV DOUBLE CIRCUIT, VERTICAL, ZERO DEGREE BRACED POST, STEEL		
REVISED GROUNDING ASSEMBLY								
	McP	07/01/10	TRANSMISSION LINE ENGINEERING					
			APPROVED BY:	JCN	DATE:	04/18/07	DRAWING No:	
DESCRIPTION	APPR	DATE	DRAWN BY:	McP	SCALE:	NONE	FIGURE 1	
							SHEET No:	1
							REV No:	4

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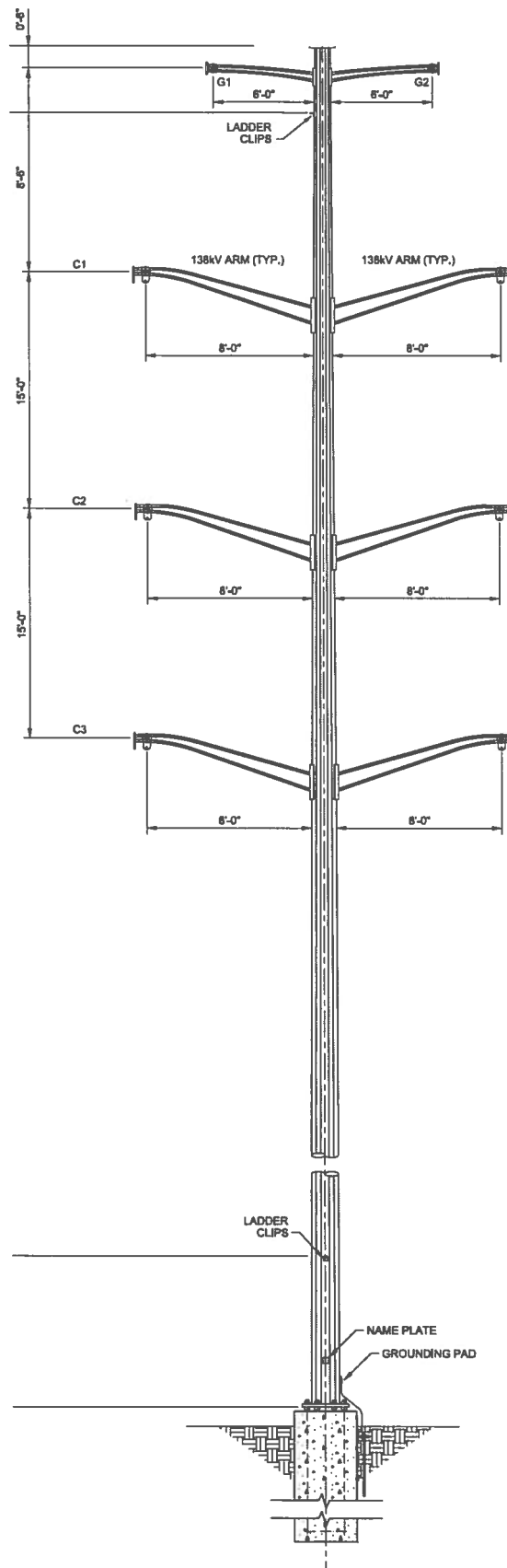


FIGURE 2



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

February 26, 2014

Mr. David Stotz
Mr. Robert Kusmer
Mr. Richard Geyer
Ballville Township Board of Trustees
2200 Tiffin Road
Fremont, Ohio 43420

RE: Letter of Notification
Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Township Trustees:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

The proposed Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project, PUCO Case Number 14-0143-EL-BLN, consists of rebuilding the Tiffin Center – Fremont Center line from a single wood pole line to a new double circuit 138kV line with single steel poles from the existing Tiffin Center station off of State Route 101 (aka Portland Road) in Clinton Township, Seneca County, Ohio to the existing Fremont Center station off of Yingling Road in the Ballville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio. This line crosses Seneca and Sandusky Counties, Ohio. The Tiffin Center-Fremont Center line is part of AEP's Fremont Area Improvement Plan – a transmission reinforcement effort designed to help AEP maintain adequate transmission reliability in northwestern Ohio. This improvement project addresses low-voltage concerns identified by PJM. The project extends for approximately 12.6 miles.

The project is located in Sections 2 and 10 of Clinton Township (T2N, R15E), Sections 4, 9, 15, 16, 22, 27, and 34 of Pleasant Township (T3N, R15E) in Seneca County, and Sections 9, 16, 21, 28, and 33 of Ballville Township (T4N, R15E) in Sandusky County, Ohio.

In compliance with Rule 4906-11-02 of the OPSB Rules and Regulations, we have prepared and filed the attached Letter of Notification. This Notice contains details on the line location, project description and construction schedule, and is submitted for your information.

Please feel free to contact me at (614) 552-1395 and I would be happy to answer any questions concerning this project.

Sincerely, 

Todd Sides
Project Management



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

February 26, 2014

Mr. Tim Hagen, Director
Tiffin-Seneca Public Library
77 Jefferson Street
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification
Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

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Sincerely, - -

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Todd Sides
Project Management



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

February 26, 2014

Ms. Pam Hoesman, Director
Birchard Public Library
423 Croghan Street
Fremont, Ohio 43420

RE: Letter of Notification
Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

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Todd Sides
Project Management



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

February 26, 2014

Mr. Douglas Stacy
Pleasant Township Trustee
8550 N. CR 51
Green Springs, Ohio 44836

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Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

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Todd Sides
Project Management



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

February 26, 2014

Mr. David Kingsborough
Pleasant Township Trustee
5475 N. CR 33
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

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Project Management



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

February 26, 2014

Mr. Dennis Moyer
Mr. Jim Distel
Mr. Dennis Kingseed
Clinton Township Board of Trustees
P.O. Box 336
837 N SR 101
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification
Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

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In compliance with Rule 4906-11-02 of the OPSB Rules and Regulations, we have prepared and filed the attached Letter of Notification. This Notice contains details on the line location, project description and construction schedule, and is submitted for your information.

Please feel free to contact me at (614) 552-1395 and I would be happy to answer any questions concerning this project.

Sincerely, .

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd Sides", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Todd Sides
Project Management



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

January 26, 2014

Mr. Matt Damschroder
Mr. Dan Polter
Mr. Terry Thatcher
Sandusky County Board of Commissioners
622 Croghan Street
Fremont, Ohio 43420

RE: Letter of Notification
Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Township Trustees:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

The proposed Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project, PUCO Case Number 14-0143-EL-BLN, consists of rebuilding the Tiffin Center – Fremont Center line from a single wood pole line to a new double circuit 138kV line with single steel poles from the existing Tiffin Center station off of State Route 101 (aka Portland Road) in Clinton Township, Seneca County, Ohio to the existing Fremont Center station off of Yingling Road in the Ballville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio. This line crosses Seneca and Sandusky Counties, Ohio. The Tiffin Center-Fremont Center line is part of AEP's Fremont Area Improvement Plan – a transmission reinforcement effort designed to help AEP maintain adequate transmission reliability in northwestern Ohio. This improvement project addresses low-voltage concerns identified by PJM. The project extends for approximately 12.6 miles.

The project is located in Sections 2 and 10 of Clinton Township (T2N, R15E), Sections 4, 9, 15, 16, 22, 27, and 34 of Pleasant Township (T3N, R15E) in Seneca County, and Sections 9, 16, 21, 28, and 33 of Ballville Township (T4N, R15E) in Sandusky County, Ohio.

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Todd Sides
Project Management



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

February 26, 2014

Mr. William Biller
Pleasant Township Trustee
2026 W. TR 148
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification
Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Township Trustees:

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Todd Sides
Project Management



American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

February 26, 2014

Mr. Fred Zoeller
Ms. Holly Stacy
Mr. Jeffrey D. Wagner
Seneca County Board of Commissioners
111 Madison Street
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification
Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Township Trustees:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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Todd Sides
Project Management

SOCIOECONOMIC, LAND USE AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT REVIEW REPORT

TIFFIN CENTER – FREMONT CENTER 138KV LINE PROJECT

SENECA AND SANDUSKY COUNTIES, OHIO

Prepared for:



*American Electric Power
700 Morrison Rd.
Gahanna, OH 43230*

Prepared by:



*Commonwealth Associates, Inc.
2700 W. Argyle St.
Jackson, MI 49202*

Report Date: December 2013

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MAPS

(Follows text)

Location Map

Map Set A, Land Use with Aerial Base

Map Set B, Land Use with USGS Quad Map Base

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

AEP Ohio Transco's proposed Tiffin Center – Fremont Center 138kV transmission line project consists of rebuilding the Tiffin Center – Fremont Center line from a single wood pole line to a new double-circuit 138kV line with single steel poles from the existing Tiffin Center station off of State Route 101 (Portland Road) in Clinton Township, Seneca County, Ohio, to the existing Fremont Center station off of Yingling Road in Ballville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio. This line crosses Seneca and Sandusky counties, Ohio. The Tiffin Center – Fremont Center line is part of AEP's Fremont Area Improvement Plan, a transmission reinforcement effort designed to help AEP maintain adequate transmission reliability in northwestern Ohio. The project extends for approximately 12.6 miles.

The project is located in sections 2 and 10 of Clinton Township (T2N, R15E); sections 4, 9, 15, 16, 22, 27, and 34 of Pleasant Township (T3N, R15E) in Seneca County; and sections 9, 16, 21, 28, and 33 of Ballville Township (T4N, R15E) in Sandusky County, Ohio, as shown in the Location Map1.

As part of the Ohio Siting Board (OSB) Letter of Notification (LON) requirements, AEP Ohio Transco is required to describe the environmental impacts of the proposed project, as stated in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 4906-11-01(D)(1 & 2). This rule states:

- (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 Ohio Transco retained Commonwealth to conduct a desktop review of socioeconomic, land use, and agricultural district land in the project area. A study corridor of 2,000 feet centered on the transmission line centerline was established. In conjunction with aerial photo interpretation and the ecological field and site access reviews, Commonwealth noted land uses crossed by the right of way. This report will be used to assist in 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 DESCRIPTIONS

Land use within the 2,000-foot-wide study corridor (centered on the transmission line centerline) of the project is shown on map sets A and B. Current land use characteristics were obtained through review of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) digital aerial photography taken in 2006; United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute Topographic Map of Tiffin North and Fremont West (2010), <http://www.usgs.gov>; Land Use/Land Cover (data collected in 1976) obtained from webGIS, www.webgis.com and updated using photo interpretation; base map data obtained from GIS Data Depot (U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line 2011), www.data.geocomm.com; county property parcel data obtained from Seneca County Auditor Julie A. Adkins, <http://www.senecacountyauditor.org>, and Sandusky County Auditor William L. Farrell, <http://sanduskyoh-auditor.ddti.net>; and field reconnaissance conducted in August and September 2013.

Land use within the 2,000-foot corridor is primarily agriculture. Around 80 percent of the land within the 2,000-foot corridor is agriculture. Residential land use comprises approximately 5 percent, while forested land accounts for approximately 12 percent, commercial/industrial is 1 percent, and wetlands make up 2 percent. Approximately 102 homes were identified within 1,000 feet of the corridor centerline, while approximately 4 were identified within 150 feet. One cemetery on North County Road 33, south of Old Fort, approximately 1,500 feet from the right of way, was identified in the study corridor. No churches or schools were noted. The corridor crosses one active railroad. The corridor also crosses county and state roads, including State Route 101. None of these roads are divided or limited access.

General land use trends in Seneca and Sandusky counties indicate there is a slow conversion of farmland to residential use. This change in land use primarily radiates out from the incorporated areas of Tiffin and Fremont and includes some large-lot residential development along major roads throughout the rural areas.

Commonwealth reviewed the “Seneca County Comprehensive Plan Update, 2001” prepared for the Seneca Regional Planning Commission by Burns, Bertsch & Harris, Inc. and Bennet & Williams Environmental Consultants, Inc. The plan contained comprehensive land use for the county both existing and planned. Commonwealth reviewed the “Sandusky County Comprehensive Update, 2013” prepared by the Sandusky County Regional Planning Commission. The plan, which has no enforcement power, was developed with input from public and private officials and residents of the county and offers insight into the land use and development guidance for the county. Both plans are consistent with our field observations of the significant percentage of agricultural land in the three townships and the slow conversion to residential use concentrated along the outskirts of the urban areas and spread out along major roads.

3.0 POPULATION DENSITY ESTIMATES

Population density estimates for land within the 2,000-foot-wide study corridor were calculated based on percentage of land area and the average number of persons per household for the county. The study area encompasses approximately 3,100 acres. The total area of the counties is 352,650 acres for Seneca County and 261,408 acres for Sandusky County. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Seneca County has an estimated population of 56,745, for a total population density of 0.16 people per acre, and Sandusky County has an estimated population of 60,944, for a total population density of 0.23 people per acre. Estimated population within the project study area, based on percentage of land area, is approximately 576. Approximately 103 homes were identified within the study area. The estimated household size for Seneca County is 2.47 persons, and for Sandusky County it is 2.45 persons. The estimated population within the project study area based on number of homes along the route is approximately 254 persons. As this project is located outside the more populated areas of the two counties, it is not unexpected that the estimate based on land area and population density is significantly higher than the estimate based on number of homes and household size. These estimates are limited to the available statistics and generalizations across the counties. Census population data is summarized in Table 1.

TABLE 1
STUDY AREA CENSUS POPULATION ESTIMATES

Government Unit	Percentage of corridor	2010 Census
Seneca County	63	56,745
Clinton Township		4,109
Pleasant Township		650
Sandusky County	37	60,944
Ballville Township		2,736

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, <http://www.census.gov>

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. An existing transmission line is present along the length of this project. The changes will be primarily construction impacts, which will be temporary.

4.0 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT LAND

Commonwealth contacted the offices of the Seneca and Sandusky county auditors to request parcels registered in the State of Ohio Agricultural District Land Program within the three

townships within the 2,000-foot-wide corridor study area. There are 20 parcels within the study area belonging to 12 different owners. Eighteen are in Seneca County, two are in Sandusky County. The transmission line easement crosses 17 of these parcels. In addition, much of the study area is actively farmed. Efforts to minimize disturbance during construction will be made. AEP Ohio Transco will compensate property owners for any monetary losses due to the project through the right of way settlement in accordance with easement agreements and policy. AEP Ohio Transco has and will continue to work with each owner to avoid and minimize damages to property. The construction, operation and maintenance of this transmission line are not expected to affect the viability of agricultural land with the study area. This project, when complete, will not require changes in agricultural practices from what they are currently.

5.0 CONCLUSION

No significant impacts to socioeconomic characteristics, land use or agricultural district land are expected in the study area as a result of this project, as an electric transmission line currently exists. Construction and conductor stringing efforts will cause short-term changes. These changes will be temporary and localized to structure locations and access roads. The project is not expected to impact any existing or future land use any differently than the existing transmission line.

6.0 REFERENCES

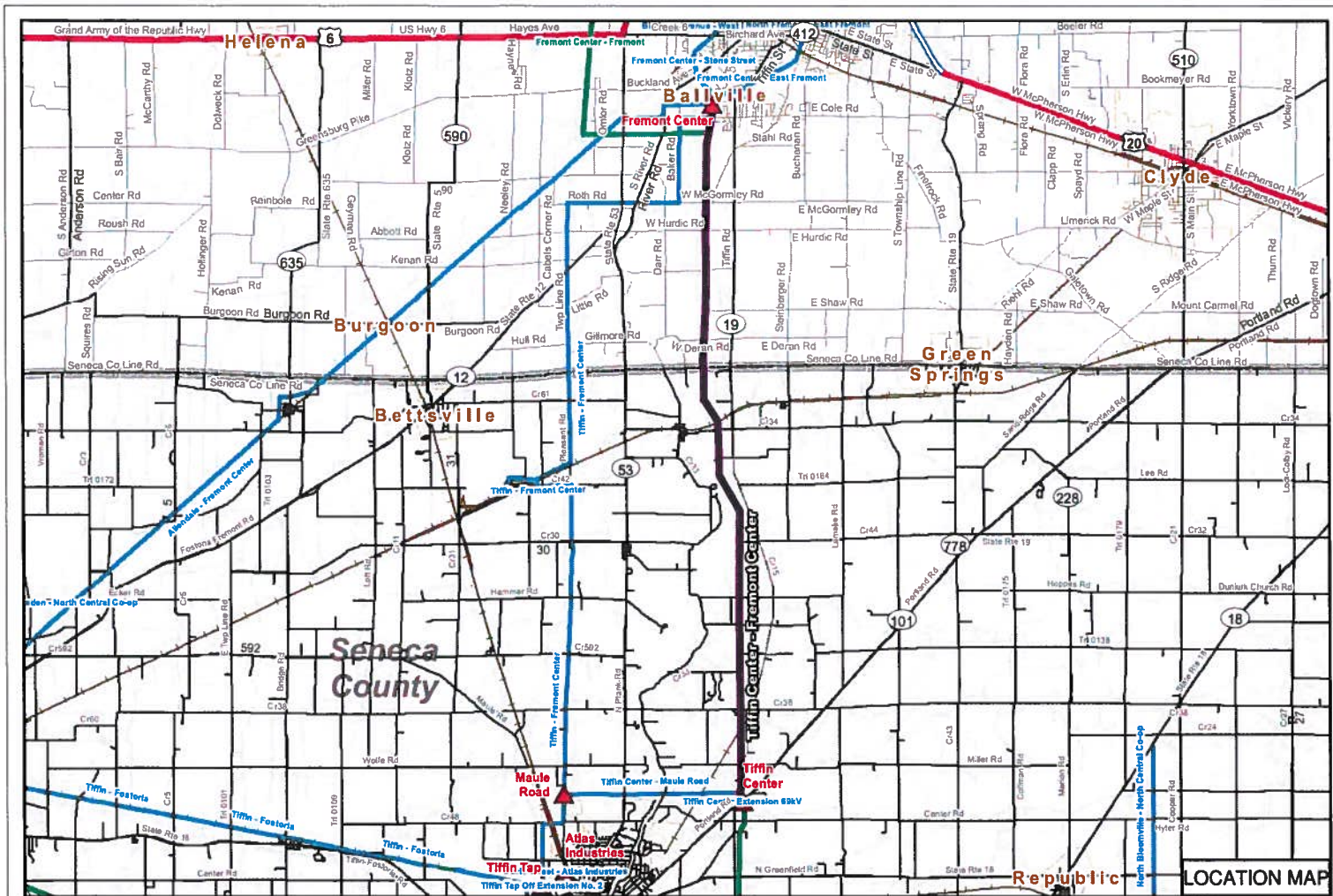
Adkins, Julie A, Seneca County Auditor, Office of. Email correspondence and online property search. Seneca County, Ohio. Retrieved from <http://www.auditor.co.Seneca.oh.us>. Accessed August 21, 2013.

Farrell, William L., Sandusky County Auditor, Office of. Email correspondence and online property search. Sandusky County, Ohio. Retrieved from <http://sanduskyoh-auditor.ddti.net/Home.aspx>. Accessed August 28, 2013.

Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation. SC Comprehensive Plan – 2013 Update. Retrieved from <http://www.sanduskycountyedc.net/index.php?page=SC-Comprehensive-Plan---2013>. Accessed November 26, 2013.

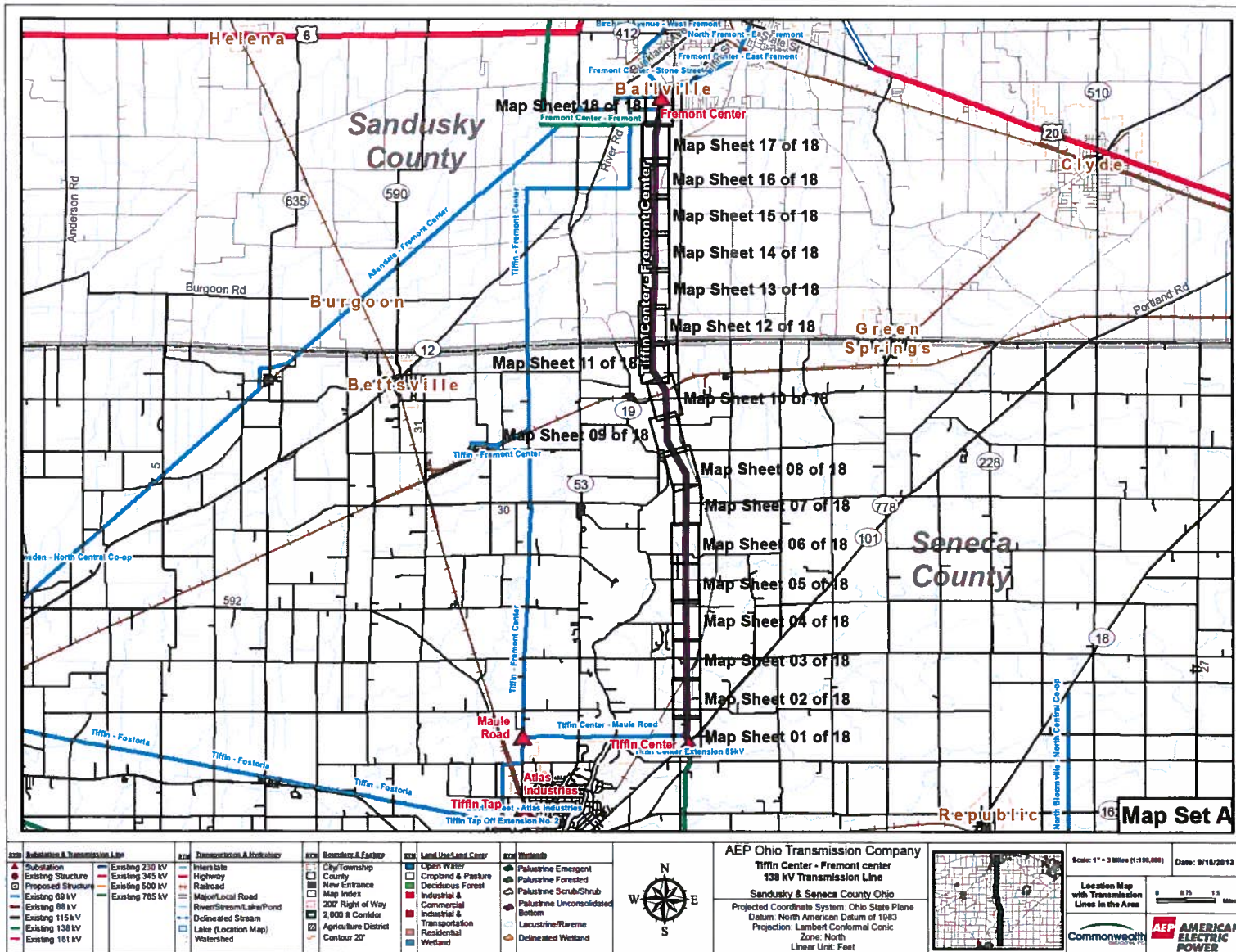
Seneca Regional Planning Commission, Seneca County Comprehensive Plan Update, Seneca County, Ohio. Retrieved from <http://www.senecarpc.org/land-development>. Accessed August 27, 2013.

U.S. Census Bureau. Census of Population and Housing, 2010. Washington, D.C. Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov>. Accessed August 27, 2013.

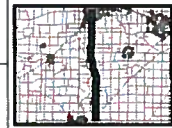


LOCATION MAP

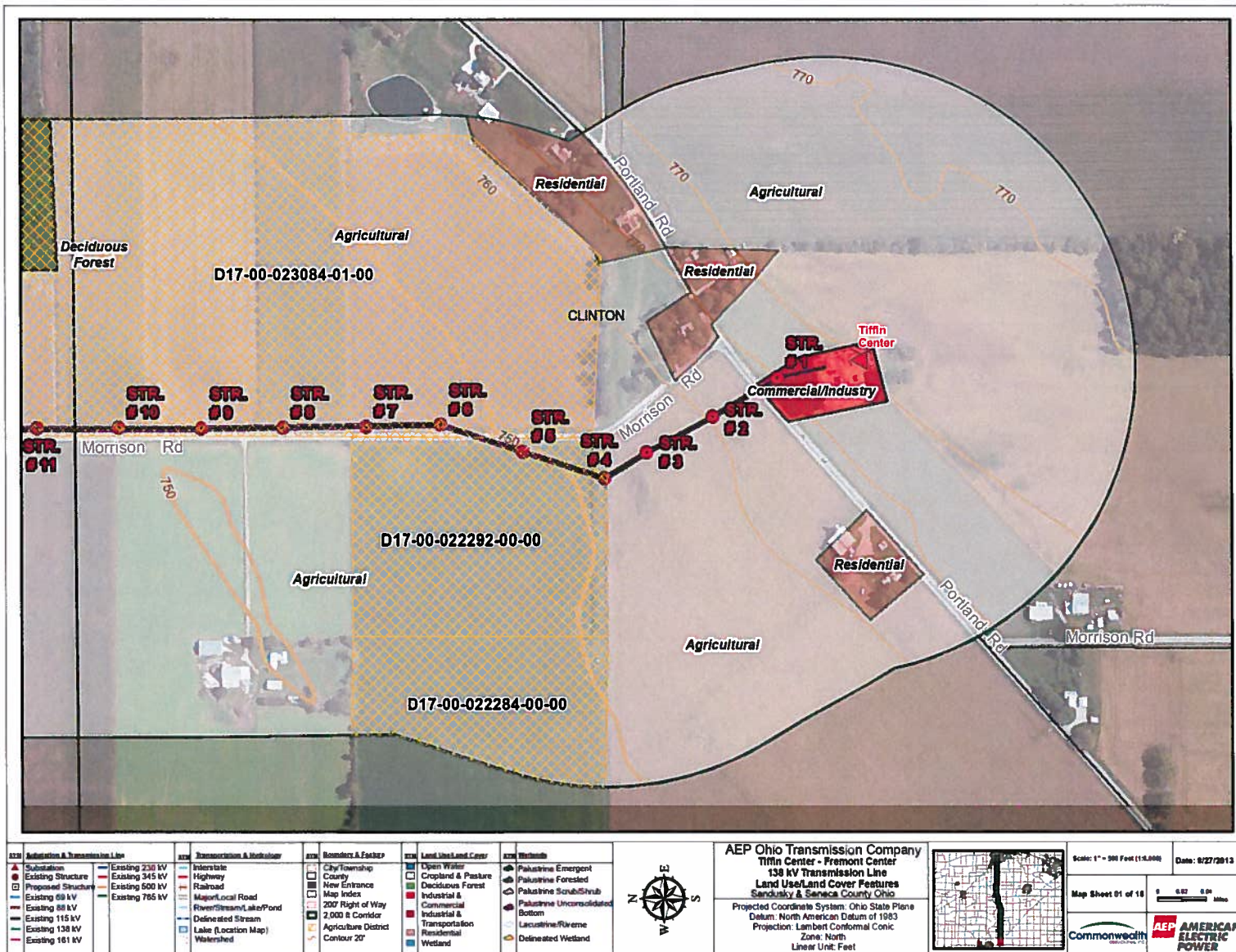
Substation & Transmission Line Substation Existing Structure Proposed Structure Existing 69 kV Existing 88 kV Existing 115 kV Existing 138 kV Existing 161 kV	Transmission & Highway Interstate Highway Railroad Major Local Road River/Stream/Lake/Pond Delineated Stream Lake (Location Map) Watershed	Boundary & Feature City/Township County New Entrance Map Index 200' Right of Way 2,000 ft Corridor Agriculture District Contour 20'	Land Use & Land Cover Open Water Cropland & Pasture Deciduous Forest Industrial & Commercial Industrial & Transportation Residential Wetland	Wildlife Pastureland Emergent Pastureland Forested Pastureland Scrub/Shrub Pastureland Unconsolidated Bottom Lacustrine/Riverine Delineated Wetland	AEP Ohio Transmission Company Tiffin Center - Fremont Center 138 kV Transmission Line Sandusky & Seneca County Ohio Projected Coordinate System: Ohio State Plane Datum: North American Datum of 1983 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic Zone: North Linear Unit: Feet	 Scale: 1" = 3 Miles (1:190,080) Date: 8/16/2013 Location Map 0 0.75 1.5 Miles
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AEP Ohio Transmission Company
Tiffin Center - Fremont Center
138 kV Transmission Line
Sandusky & Seneca County Ohio
 Projected Coordinate System: Ohio State Plane
 Datum: North American Datum of 1983
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Zone: North
 Linear Unit: Feet



Scale: 1" = 3 Miles (1:180,000)
 Date: 9/18/2013
 Location Map with Transmission Lines in the Area
 Commonwealth of Ohio
AEP AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER



This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

3/7/2014 2:40:05 PM

in

Case No(s). 14-0143-EL-BLN

Summary: Letter of Notification Tiffin Center-Fremont Center (Part 1 of 7) electronically filed by Mr. Matthew J Satterwhite on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Company