

**BEFORE
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of	:	
American Transmission Systems, Inc., for	:	Case No. 12-1636-EL-BTX
a Certificate of Environmental	:	
Compatibility and Public Need to	:	
Construct the Hayes-West Freemont 138	:	
kilovolt Transmission Line.	:	

**PREFILED TESTIMONY
OF
JAMES S. O'DELL
FACILITIES SITING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
OHIO POWER SITING BOARD STAFF**

STAFF EX. ____

May 28, 2014

1 1. Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is James S. O'Dell, and my business address is 180 East Broad
3 Street, Columbus OH 43215.
4

5 2. Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission)
7 as a Siting Specialist in the Facilities Siting and Environmental Analysis
8 Division of the Commission's Department of Energy and Environment.
9

10 3. Q. Please summarize your educational background and work experience.

11 A. I hold Bachelor's Degrees from The Ohio State University in Political
12 Science (1988) and Sociology (1997). Additionally, I received a Master's
13 Degree in City and Regional Planning from The Ohio State University in
14 1992. I also have significant course work completed towards a Master's
15 Degree in Public Policy from Central Michigan University.
16

17 I have been employed by the Commission since 1991. I have worked
18 almost exclusively on power siting activities during that time. I have
19 developed analysis for over 250 cases before the Ohio Power Siting Board
20 (Board). My responsibilities typically include application review and the
21 preparation of analysis for major utility facilities in Ohio. Additionally, I
22 process and review minor filings such as Letters of Notification and

1 Construction Notices. In the past, I also have been the primary author for
2 the Board's annual reports. I have been the lead analyst in excess of 40
3 applications, responsible for the preparation of staff reports and
4 coordination of Staff review and field work for major utility facilities.

5
6 4. Q. Have you testified in prior proceedings before the Ohio Power Siting
7 Board?

8 A. Yes. Most recently, I testified as the lead analyst for the Black River
9 substation and transmission projects, Case Nos. 11-5855-EL-BTB and 11-
10 5856-EL-BTX.

1 5. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

2 A. I am sponsoring the Staff Report of Investigation (Staff Report) issued in
3 this case. I was the Staff project lead on this case, and managed the Staff
4 investigation and preparation of the Staff Report. In addition, as a
5 signatory party, Staff supports the Joint Stipulation and Recommended
6 Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law that was filed in this case on May
7 23, 2014.

8
9 6. Q. What kind of a case is this?

10 A. The Applicant proposes to construct, own, operate, and maintain a 138 kV
11 Transmission Line project in Sandusky and Erie counties. The project is
12 needed to improve and maintain the quality of electric service and
13 reliability to the bulk electric system in northern Ohio.

14
15 7. Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to make to the Staff Report of
16 Investigation?

17
18 8. A. I have no corrections to the Staff Report as docketed. However, Staff
19 recently became aware that some paper copies of the Staff Report contain a
20 typographical error in the depiction of the Alternate Route on map pages 1-
21 3 and 9-10. These map pages have a ghost image in the same color as the
22 Alternate Route. Staff believes the ghost image was caused by a software

1 error. I would reiterate that the officially docketed copy is accurate and that
2 the typographical error is not present. A corrected paper copy of the Staff
3 Report will be provided at the hearing on June 2, 2014.
4

5 10. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

6 A. Yes. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testimony as
7 described herein, as new information subsequently becomes available or in
8 response to positions taken by other parties.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Prefiled Testimony of James S. O'Dell, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board, was served by regular U.S. mail, postage prepaid, hand-delivered, and/or delivered via electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 28th day of May, 2014.

/s/John H. Jones

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Case No(s). 12-1636-EL-BTX

Summary: Testimony Prefiled Testimony of Jemes S. O'Dell electronically filed by Mrs. Tonneta Y Scott on behalf of PUCO