

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Letter of Notification Application by)
American Electric Power Ohio Transmission Company)
for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and) Case Number
Public Need for the Panda Road 138 kV Transmission) 14-1120-EL-BLN
Line Extension Project in Carroll County, Ohio.)

Members of the Board:

Chairman, Public Utilities Commission	Ohio House of Representatives
Director, Development Services Agency	Ohio 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 **July 26, 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.

The Staff Report includes recommended conditions of the certificate. Prior to the automatic approval date, the applicant must file a supplement to its application that adopts these conditions. Absent such supplement, Staff will recommend that the case be suspended.

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 **July 26, 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,



Patrick Donlon
Interim Executive Director
Ohio Power Siting Board
(614) 466-6692
ContactOPSB@puc.state.oh.us

OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 14-1120-EL-BLN
Project Name: Panda Road 138 kV Transmission Line Extension Project
Project Location: Carroll County
Applicant: American Electric Power Ohio Transmission Company
Application Filing Date: June 27, 2014
Filing Type: **Expedited** Letter of Notification
Inspection Dates: July 11, 2014
Report Date: July 17, 2014
Automatic Approval Date: July 26, 2014
Applicant's Waiver Requests: None
Staff Assigned: J. Pawley, A. Holderbaum

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

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

Project Description

The purpose of this project is to build a new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line extension from the existing AEP Tidd-Wagenhals 138 kV transmission line for service to a natural gas compressor facility (Access Midstream Partners, L.P.). The extension will be 0.27 miles in length. The cost of the overall project is estimated at \$1.25 million. Construction of the project is expected to commence in August 2014 and be completed by the end of September 2014. The project will require five new steel pole single-circuit structures: two tangent structures and three dead-end structures.

Site Description

The transmission line extension will be located on one property, and, according to the Applicant, all necessary easements have been obtained for the project. Surrounding land use consists of pipeline storage, private gravel drives, and adjacent industrial complexes. No agricultural district parcels, residences, or other businesses were identified in the project limits.

Nature of Impacts

The Applicant has access to the Tidd-Wagenhals transmission line and tower to be used for the take-off point for the transmission line connector. The new 0.27 mile transmission line follows gravel roads internal to the overall Access Midstream Partners, L.P. property. No wetlands, streams, agricultural, or residential properties should be affected by this project. Minimal tree clearing/trimming will be needed directly adjacent to the existing transmission line tower. The project will not involve the removal or demolition of any buildings. Per the filing requirements

for a Letter of Notification, as of the time of this report, the Applicant is completing its discussion of the electric and magnetic field strength levels for this project and has committed to supplying that information to Staff prior to the commencement of construction. There are no residences, businesses, or other structures within the 0.27 mile transmission line right-of-way.

Conclusion

With the following conditions, the construction of this project should pose only minimal negative social and ecological impacts. Staff recommends automatic approval of this case on July 26, 2014.

Staff Recommended Conditions:

1. Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant shall obtain all applicable permits and authorizations as required by federal and state entities for any activities where such permit or authorization is required;
2. The Applicant shall adhere to seasonal cutting dates of October 1 and March 31 for removal of suitable Indiana bat habitat trees, if present, if avoidance measures cannot be achieved;
3. Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant shall provide for the record, information per Rule 4906-11-01(C)(2), O.A.C. (discussion of the electric and magnetic field strength levels pertaining to this project).

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Case No(s). 14-1120-EL-BLN

Summary: Staff Report of Investigation electronically filed by Mr. Matt Butler on behalf of Staff of OPSB