

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

**In the Matter of the Construction Notice Application by
Columbia Gas of Ohio for a Certificate of Environmental
Compatibility and Public Need for the Sawmill
Road/Hard Road Mandatory Relocation Project** **) Case Number
) 14-1164-GA-BNR
)**

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 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 August 9, 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 from the date of suspension.

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 designee may have with this case must be presented to the Executive Director of the Power Siting Board at least four business days prior to August 9, 2014 which is the automatic approval date. To contact the Executive Director with concerns, reply to the email to which this document was attached, or use the ContactOPSB email address listed below.

Sincerely,

RAS

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

OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 14-1164-GA-BNR
Project Name: Sawmill Road/Hard Road Mandatory Relocation Project
Project Location: Franklin County
Applicant: Columbia Gas of Ohio
Application Filing Date: June 27, 2014
Filing Type: Construction Notice
Inspection Date: July 30, 2014
Report Date: July 31, 2014
Automatic Approval Date: August 9, 2014
Applicant's Waiver Requests: none
Staff Assigned: E. Steele

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

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

Project Description

Columbia Gas of Ohio (Applicant) proposes to relocate approximately 1,100 feet of 10-inch high-pressure pipe along the west side of Sawmill Road in Dublin, Ohio. The proposed relocation starts at a location approximately 600 feet south of Hard Road and terminates at a location approximately 600 feet north of Hard Road. The Applicant would replace the existing 10-inch steel pipe with 12-inch steel pipe with a maximum allowable operating pressure of 190 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) and an operating pressure of approximately 135 psig. The proposed project is expected to begin construction on or about October 3, 2014, and the in-service date of the proposed project is expected to be on or about October 20, 2014. The Applicant estimates the project would cost approximately \$450,000. The entire project will be directionally drilled to avoid impacting a nearby stream and trees in the area.

Site Description

This proposed project is located in Franklin County in the city of Dublin, Ohio. The project area south of Hard Road is open field with some wooded areas and a stream. North of Hard Road the project area is more densely wooded with a bike path stub and commercial entities to the north. The proposed pipeline would be installed in private right-of-way, and easements have been acquired by the Applicant. The entire project would be directionally drilled to avoid impacting a nearby stream and trees in the area and will not affect traffic due to it being installed approximately 90 feet from the centerline of Sawmill Road.

Need

The cities of Columbus and Dublin have required the Applicant to relocate this pipeline due to the planned widening and resurfacing of Sawmill Road and Hard Road, which will include the addition of curbs and gutters, sidewalks, and a shared-use path.

Nature of Impacts

Because the route is completely underground, no permanent impacts are anticipated. The only temporary impact would include construction noise.

Conclusion

The proposed project would be located in a combination of private right-of-way and private utility easements and will be installed by directional drilling to avoid impacting resources in the area. This would allow the planned widening and resurfacing of Sawmill Road and Hard Road, including the addition of curbs and gutters, sidewalks, and a shared use path. Staff recommends automatic approval of this case on August 9, 2014 provided that the following condition is satisfied.

Conditions

1. Prior to construction, the Applicant shall provide for Staff's review a frac-out contingency plan that addresses potential impacts related to any horizontal directional drilling activity.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Case No(s). 14-1164-GA-BNR

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