John R. Kasich, Governor Thomas W. Johnson, Chairman 2014 SEP 30 PM 1: 14

PUCO

September 30, 2014

Mr. Shawn Malone, Project Manager American Electric Power 700 Morrison Road Gahanna, OH 43230

Commencement of Construction – Phase II Elk Transmission Line Project, Case Number: 11-4505-EL-BTX

Dear Mr. Malone:

Staff attended your September 29, 2014 pre-construction conference for the portion of work related to vegetation clearing, access roads and foundations (herein referred to as Phase II) for the southern leg (structures 6-112) of the Elk Transmission Line project located in Vinton and Jackson counties. Staff has reviewed and approves information provided that is pertinent to Phase II of construction for this project for the Preferred Route as approved by the OPSB March 11, 2013; including plan and profile drawings, access plans provided as part of the project SWPPP, environmental specialist information, erosion and sediment control measures, hours of construction activity, complaint resolution and utilization of the existing laydown yard.

Staff finds that the OPSB Board's conditions for Phase II of the project related to these items have been adequately addressed. Additionally, Staff field reviewed AEP's cultural resource avoidance planning mechanisms and finds the measures taken to be appropriate.

Phase II construction may now commence. Staff looks forward to working with AEP and its contractors on this project as it moves forward. Please update Staff as Phase II progresses, and please also note that Staff will periodically be on-site throughout construction of this phase of the project, and will check in with your office prior to entering portions of the site.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please contact myself or Jon Pawley at (614) 644-7631.

Sincerely,

Patrick Donlon Interim Executive Director Ohio Power Siting Board (614) 466-6692

ContactOPSB@puc.state.oh.us