

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

**In the Matter of the Letter of Notification Application by)
American Transmission Systems, Incorporated for a)
Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public) 15-0289-EL-BLN
Need for the Black River-Johnson No. 1 and No. 2 138)
kV Extensions to Lake Avenue Substation)**

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 31, 2015, 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.

Please present any concerns you or your designee may have with this case to my office at least four business days prior to July 31, 2015, which is the automatic approval date.

Sincerely,



Patrick Donlon
Director, Rates and Analysis
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-6692

OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 15-0289-EL-BLN
Project Name: Black River-Johnson No. 1 and No. 2
138 kV Extensions to Lake Avenue Substation
Project Location: City of Elyria and Elyria Township, Lorain County
Applicant: American Transmission Systems, Incorporated
Application Filing Date: May 1, 2015
Filing Type: Letter of Notification
Inspection Date(s): May 8, 2015
Report Date: July 24, 2015
Automatic Approval Date: July 31, 2015
Waiver Requests: None
Staff Assigned: J. O'Dell

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

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

Project Description

This project involves the installation of two 138 kilovolt (kV) extensions to the proposed Preferred Site for the Lake Avenue Substation (case number 14-2162-EL-BSB), which is currently under investigation by the Board. In addition, two other projects would be needed to support the new substation (case numbers 15-0288-EL-BNR and 15-0464-EL-BLN). If the Board selects the Alternate Site for the proposed Lake Avenue Substation, then the Applicant would submit new applications for any necessary interconnections. The Applicant presented detailed routing information at the public meeting held for the Lake Avenue Substation project on January 5, 2015. The Applicant proposes to extend two transmission line loops approximately 0.4 miles to the substation. This project utilizes wood pole structures for the transmission line extensions and steel monopoles within the existing transmission line right-of-way.

Site Description

The project is located in an industrial area, adjacent to an active railroad. The current land use is vacant. The Applicant has surveyed for cultural resources, wetlands, streams, and protected species and no significant impacts are expected.

Conclusion

Access is readily available from nearby roads. Therefore, temporary access roads are not needed. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 4906.10(A)(3), the construction of this project should pose only minimal negative social and ecological impacts. Staff recommends automatic approval of this case on July 31, 2015.

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Case No(s). 15-0289-EL-BLN

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