BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

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In the matter of the application of AEP Ohio Transmission Company for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need for West Bellaire-Glencoe 138 kV Transmission Line Project

Case No. 16-1557-EL-BTX

MOTION FOR PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND DETERMINATION OF EFFECTIVE DATE AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. ("AEP Ohio Transco") respectfully moves for a procedural schedule resuming the timeline for adjudication of this application and a determination of the date on which the accepted, complete application is deemed as filed, pursuant to O.A.C. 4906-3-08 and consistent with R.C. 4906.07(A). In order to commence certain construction activities as soon as practicable to maintain project schedules for the proposed facility and for other electric facilities in the area to be constructed in coordination with the proposed facility, AEP Ohio Transco requests that this Motion be considered on an expedited basis pursuant to O.A.C. 4906-2-27(C) and certifies that no party objects to the issuance of an expedited ruling on this Motion.

This Motion should be granted for good cause for the reasons more fully set forth in the accompanying memorandum in support.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Christen M. Blend Hector Garcia (0084517) Christen M. Blend (0086881) American Electric Power Service Corporation 1 Riverside Plaza, 29th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 Telephone: (614) 716-3410 (614) 716-1915 Fax: (614) 716-2950 Email: <u>hgarcia1@aep.com</u> <u>cmblend@aep.com</u>

(willing to accept service by e-mail)

Attorneys for Applicant AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

I. INTRODUCTION

Ohio Revised Code 4906.07(A) provides for the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB" or the "Board") to promptly fix a date for a public hearing "upon the receipt of an application complying with section 4906.06 of the Revised Code," no less than sixty nor more than ninety days after such receipt, and to conclude the proceeding as expeditiously as practicable. To this effect, Ohio Administrative Code section 4906-3-08 provides for the Board or Administrative Law Judge to file an entry in the case "indicating the date on which the accepted, complete application is deemed as filed," and setting the date of the Public Hearing. AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. ("AEP Ohio Transco" or the "Applicant") respectfully requests that its Application be deemed filed as of a date no later than August 25, 2017, and that a Public Hearing be scheduled for October 24, 2017, in order to allow for a prompt adjudication of its Application and to permit the start of construction of the Project as soon as practicable.

On May 12, 2017, the Administrative Law Judge issued an Entry establishing a procedural schedule for this proceeding. Pursuant to that Entry, the Administrative Law Judge found that on March 28, 2017, the Chairman of the Board notified AEP Ohio Transco that its Application was sufficiently complete to permit Staff to commence its review and investigation of the Application, and accepted the Application pursuant to Rule 4906-3-06. On April 10, 2017, AEP Ohio Transco tendered its Application fee pursuant to R.C. 4906.06(F) and O.A.C. 4906-3-12. On April 10, 2017, AEP Ohio

Transco also filed proof of service of its accepted and complete Application in accordance with O.A.C. 4906-3-07.. The Application filing date was deemed to be effective April 28, 2017. Pursuant to R.C. 4906.07(A), the Board promptly fixed a date for a public hearing, and for an adjudicatory hearing ten days later.

On June 16, 2017, prior to the scheduled date for the hearings, the Applicant requested a 30-day suspension of the procedural schedule to allow sufficient time for AEP Ohio Transco to provide additional information to the OPSB Staff which both the Applicant and OPSB Staff considered relevant for the review of the Application (the "Supplemental Information"), and to allow sufficient time for the OPSB Staff to review this information and take it into consideration during the preparation of the Staff Report to be filed in these proceedings. The Supplemental Information related to engineering adjustments to the specific proposed location of certain facilities required to facilitate construction in light of terrain characteristics in a small portion of the preferred route, and by undergrounding a short segment of the proposed transmission line to address a line crossing with other existing facilities. The Supplemental Information did not change the proposed facility in a way that would result in any material increase in any environmental impact of the facility or a substantial change in the location of all or a portion of the proposed facility.

The Administrative Law Judge granted AEP Ohio Transco's Motion on June 21, 2017. On August 18, 2017, AEP Ohio Transco filed the Supplemental Information publicly in the case, after continued communication with OPSB Staff. On August 25, 2017, OPSB Staff docketed a letter acknowledging the Applicant's filing of the Supplemental Information with the Board on August 18, 2017, and informing AEP Ohio

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Transco that its Application had been found to comply with Chapters 4906-01, *et. seq.*, of the Ohio Administrative Code.

AEP Ohio Transco requests that its Application be deemed as complete and the new effective date of the Application to be certified as of August 25, 2017. Given the need to commence certain construction activities as soon as practicable in order to maintain project schedules for the proposed facility and for other electric facilities in the area to be constructed in coordination with the proposed facility, the Applicant also respectfully requests that the date for the Public Hearing in this matter be scheduled for a date no later than October 24, and that the Adjudicatory Hearing be scheduled for a date shortly thereafter. AEP Ohio Transco also requests expedited ruling on this Motion pursuant to O.A.C. 4906-2-27(C) on this basis as well.

AEP Ohio Transco has filed its proof of compliance with the requirements of O.A.C. 4906-3-07. Once the dates for the Public Hearing and Evidentiary Hearing are fixed, AEP Ohio Transco will issue the necessary public notice for the hearings pursuant to the Entry filed by the Administrative Law Judge establishing the requested procedural schedule.

Therefore, AEP Ohio Transco respectfully requests that this Motion be granted for the good cause shown herein.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christen M. Blend Hector Garcia (0084517) Christen M. Blend (0086881) American Electric Power Service Corporation 1 Riverside Plaza, 29th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 Telephone: (614) 716-3410 (614) 716-1915

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(willing to accept service by e-mail)

Attorneys for Applicant AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a courtesy copy of AEP Ohio Transmission Company's *Motion for Procedural Schedule and Determination of Effective Date and Request for Expedited Ruling* was served by mailing a true and correct copy via electronic mail upon the individuals listed below this 19th day of September, 2017.

john.jones@ohioattorneygeneral.gov james.odell@puc.state.oh.us

> /s/ Christen M. Blend Christen M. Blend

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Summary: Motion for Procedural Schedule and Determination of Effective Date and Request for

Expedited Ruling electronically filed by Ms. Christen M. Blend on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Power Company, Inc.