

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

**In the Matter of the Construction Notice Application by)
American Transmission Systems, Incorporated for a)
Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public) Case No. 17-2010-EL-BNR
Need for the East Springfield-Tangy 138 kV)
Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project)**

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 Ohio Power Siting Board (Board) rules. The accelerated certificate application in this case is subject to an automatic approval process as required by Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 4906.03 and Ohio Administrative Code 4906-6.

Staff recommends the application for automatic approval on October 30, 2017, unless suspended by the Board, an administrative law judge, or the chairperson or executive director of the board for good cause shown. 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 October 30, 2017, 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) 644-8932
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OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 17-2010-EL-BNR
Project Name: East Springfield-Tangy 138 kV Transmission
Line Structure Replacement
Project Location: Delaware County
Applicant: American Transmission Systems, Incorporated
Application Filing Date: October 6, 2017
Filing Type: Expedited Construction Notice
Inspection Date: October 17, 2017
Report Date: October 23, 2017
**Recommended Automatic
Approval Date:** October 30, 2017
Waiver Requests: None
Staff Assigned: J. O'Dell, J. Cross

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

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

Project Description and Need

American Transmission Systems, Incorporated (Applicant or ATSI) proposes to replace Structure 11548 on the East Springfield-Tangy 138 kilovolt Transmission Line with a new structure that is approximately 10 feet taller in the same location. The project is needed to comply with National Electric Safety Code regulations.

In a previously certificated case, ATSI modeled the existing transmission line to replace the static wire with optical ground wires (Case No. 17-1288-EL-BNR). That simulation revealed that the existing structure would be loaded to 151 percent under certain conditions. The Applicant's recommended solution is to replace the existing wood pole structure with a taller wood pole tangent structure utilizing brace-post insulators. The capital costs of the project total approximately \$60,500.

Nature of Impacts

Land Use

The project area is located in Delaware Township, adjacent to the Tangy Substation. Land use in proximity to the project area consists of agricultural, railroad, and suburban residential uses. The project area is located on existing right-of-way, and no new easements are required.

ATSI conducted a cultural resource survey to ascertain potential impacts to historical properties and archaeological sites. The survey determined that adverse impacts to historical properties and archaeological sites are not expected.

Ecological Impacts

The Applicant conducted an ecological review in preparation of their application, which included coordination with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife and consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Based on this evaluation, ATSI concluded that it is unlikely that the proposed project would have a significant adverse impact on ecological resources.

No work is proposed within wetlands, streams, or other aquatic habitats. However, ATSI's access road parallels the northern boundary of an emergent wetland located directly north of the existing substation. To minimize any potential wetland impacts, the Applicant will utilize best management practices. These practices include measures such as temporary fencing and construction matting. No significant vegetative clearing activity is anticipated.

Conclusion

Staff's review of the application included consideration of the requirements listed in R.C. 4906.10. Based on Staff's review, the application meets the necessary criteria for granting a certificate. Staff recommends automatic approval of this application on October 30, 2017.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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in

Case No(s). 17-2010-EL-BNR

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