

**BEFORE
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of AEP	:	
Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. for a	:	Case No. 16-1557-EL-BTX
Certificate of Environmental	:	
Compatibility and Public Need for the	:	
Construction of the West Bellaire-Glencoe	:	
138 kV Transmission Line Rebuild	:	
Project.	:	

**PREFILED TESTIMONY
OF
JAMES S. O'DELL
SITING, EFFICIENCY, AND RENEWABLE ENERGY DIVISION
RATES AND ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT**

Staff Exhibit 2

November 20, 2017

1 1. Q. Please state your name and your business address.

2 A. My name is James S. O'Dell, and my business address is 180 East Broad
3 Street, Columbus OH 43215.
4

5 2. Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) as a
7 senior Siting Specialist in the Siting, Efficiency and Renewable Energy
8 Division of the PUCO's Rates and Analysis Department.
9

10 3. Q. Please summarize your educational background and work experience.

11 A. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science (1988) and a Bach-
12 elor of Science degree in Sociology (1997), both from The Ohio State
13 University. Additionally, I received a Master of Science degree in City and
14 Regional Planning from The Ohio State University in 1992. Also, I have
15 completed significant course work towards a Master of Public Policy
16 degree from Central Michigan University.
17

18 I have been employed by the PUCO since 1991. I have worked almost
19 exclusively on power siting activities during that time. I have provided
20 analysis for over 280 cases before the Ohio Power Siting Board (Board).
21 My responsibilities typically include application review and the preparation
22 of analysis for major utility facility applications in Ohio. Additionally, I

1 process and review accelerated filings such as Letters of Notification and
2 Construction Notices. I have been the lead analyst for more than 46 appli-
3 cations for generation facilities, substations, and transmission line applica-
4 tions, responsible for the preparation of staff reports and coordination of
5 Staff review and field work for major utility facilities.

6
7 4. Q. Have you testified in prior proceedings before the Board?

8 A. Yes. I last testified as the lead analyst for the Avon Lake Gas Addition
9 Project, Case Number 14-1717-GA-BLN.

10
11 5. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

12 A. I am sponsoring the Staff Report of Investigation (Staff Report) that was
13 filed October 27, 2017 in this docket. I am the Staff project lead. I man-
14 aged the Staff investigation and preparation of the Staff Report in this case.
15 In addition, Staff is a signatory party supporting the Joint Stipulation and
16 Recommendation that was filed in this docket on November 17, 2017.

17
18 6. Q. What kind of case is this?

19 A. Applicant proposes to construct, own, operate, and maintain the West
20 Bellaire-Glencoe 138 kV overhead electric Transmission Line for a dis-
21 tance of approximately 6 miles between the existing West Bellaire and
22 Glencoe substations in Belmont County, Ohio. The Applicant states the

1 project is needed to improve the quality and reliability of electric service
2 and to expand the electric transmission system to meet anticipated growth
3 in the Belmont County area for the near future.
4

5 7. Q. Please summarize Staff's investigation that was conducted in this case?

6 A. Staff's investigation included reviewing the application, conducting site
7 visits to the proposed facility location, acquiring additional information
8 from the applicant, obtaining input from state agencies that compose the
9 Board along with other relevant state and federal agencies, and preparing a
10 Staff Report of Investigation that presents Staff's analysis, conclusions, and
11 recommendations. As a result of Staff's investigation, Staff is recom-
12 mending that the Board approve the application, subject to the 21 condi-
13 tions that are presented in the Staff Report of Investigation.
14

15 8. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

16 A. Yes, it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testi-
17 mony, as new information subsequently becomes available or in response
18 to positions taken by other parties.
19

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Prefiled Testimony of **James S. O'Dell** submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board, was served via electronic mail upon the following parties of record this 20th day of November, 2017.

/s/ John H. Jones

John H. Jones

Assistant Attorney General

Parties of Record:

Christen M. Blend
Hector Garcia
American Electric Power Service
Corporation
1 Riverside Drive, 29th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
cblend@aep.com
hgarcia@aep.com

Administrative Law Judge:

Dan Fullin
dan.fullin@puco.ohio.gov

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

11/20/2017 11:49:05 AM

in

Case No(s). 16-1557-EL-BTX

Summary: Testimony /Prefiled Testimony of James S. O'Dell submitted by Assistant Attorney General John Jones on behalf of the Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board. electronically filed by Kimberly L Keeton on behalf of Ohio Power Siting Board