

BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

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

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PROCEEDINGS

Before Daniel Fullin, Administrative Law Judge,  
at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180  
East Broad Street, Hearing Room 11-D, Columbus,  
Ohio, on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at 10:00  
A.M.

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Armstrong & Okey, Inc.  
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1 APPEARANCES:

2 Ms. Christen M. Blend  
3 Senior Counsel  
4 and  
5 Mr. Hector Garcia  
6 1 Riverside Plaza  
7 Columbus, Ohio 43215

8 On behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission  
9 Company, Inc.

10 Mr. John Jones  
11 Assistant Attorney General  
12 30 East Broad Street  
13 16th Floor  
14 Columbus, Ohio 43215

15 On behalf of the Staff of the  
16 Ohio Power Siting Board.

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Tuesday Morning,  
November 21, 2017.

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ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE FULLIN:

The Power Siting Board has called for hearing at this time and place Case No. 16-1557-EL-BTX being In the Matter of the Application of AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the West Bellaire-Glencoe 138 kV Transmission Project.

My name is Daniel E. Fullin, I am the Administrative Law Judge assigned by the Board to hear this case. And we will begin by taking appearances starting with the Applicant.

MS. BLEND: Thank you, Your Honor. Good morning. On behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. Christen M. Blend, and Hector Garcia, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1 Riverside Plaza, 29th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

ALJ FULLIN: Thank you. And on behalf of the Staff.

MR. JONES: Good morning, Your Honor. On behalf of the Staff of the Ohio Power

1 Siting Board, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine,  
2 Assistant Attorney General John Jones, 30 East  
3 Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

4 ALJ FULLIN: Thank you. I guess we  
5 will begin by letting the Applicant go first  
6 with presentation of any testimony or anything  
7 else.

8 MS. BLEND: Thank you, Your Honor.  
9 Before we call Ron Howard in support of  
10 the stipulation that has been filed in this case  
11 I would like to mark several exhibits.

12 ALJ FULLIN: Okay.

13 MS. BLEND: First AEP Ohio Transco  
14 Exhibit No. 1 which is the proof of notification  
15 regarding public information filed October 13th,  
16 2016. A copy of each of these exhibits has been  
17 provided to the court reporter and also to the  
18 Bench.

19 ALJ FULLIN: Thank you.

20 MS. BLEND: The second exhibit is  
21 AEP Ohio Transco Exhibit No. 2, the  
22 Pre-Application notification letter filed on  
23 October 13th, 2016.

24 The third exhibit is AEP Ohio  
25 Transco Exhibit No. 3, the application filed in

this case on January 27th, 2017, as supplemented  
August 18th, 2017.

AEP Ohio Transco Exhibit No. 4 are  
proofs of notification filed on September 15th  
and 18th, 2017.

AEP Ohio Transco Exhibit No. 5 is  
proof of notification filed on October 30th,  
2017.

AEP Ohio Transco Exhibit No. 6 is  
proof of publication filed on November 2nd,  
2017.

AEP Ohio Transco Exhibit No. 7,  
proof of publication filed on November 7th,  
2017.

AEP Ohio Transco Exhibit No. 8, the  
Direct testimony of Ronald M. Howard, Jr., filed  
on November 17th, 2017.

And Joint Exhibit No. 1 which is the  
Joint Stipulation and Recommendation filed on  
November 17th, 2017.

ALJ FULLIN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. BLEND: Thank you, Your Honor.

The parties pursuant to the stipulation have  
stipulated to the admissibility of each of those  
documents. And we would like to call Ronald M.

1 Howard.

2 ALJ FULLIN: He can testify from  
3 where he is but I will swear you in first.

4 (WITNESS SWORN)

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6 RONALD M. HOWARD, JR.  
7 called as a witness, being first duly sworn,  
8 testified as follows:

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 By Ms. Blend:

11 Q. Good morning, Mr. Howard. Would  
12 you please state your name and your employer for  
13 the record?

14 A. Sure. Ronald M. Howard, Jr., AEP  
15 Ohio Transco.

16 Q. And what's your business address?

17 A. 700 Morrison Road, Gahanna, Ohio.

18 Q. What is your position with AEP Ohio  
19 Transco?

20 A. I am the transmission line siting  
21 specialist.

22 Q. I would like to hand you what's been  
23 marked AEP Ohio Transco Exhibit No. 8. Is this  
24 the direct testimony that you caused to be filed  
25 in this case on November 17th, 2017?



1           A.    Yes, it is.

2           Q.    And was this testimony prepared by  
3 you or at your direction?

4           A.    Yes, it was.

5           Q.    Do you have any corrections or  
6 changes to your testimony?

7           A.    I do not.

8           Q.    And if I asked you each of the  
9 questions contained in the testimony today would  
10 your answers be the same?

11          A.    Yes.

12          Q.    Thank you.  And included as  
13 Attachment E to your testimony is the Joint  
14 Stipulation and Recommendation filed in this  
15 case; correct?

16          A.    Correct.

17          Q.    And a copy of that Joint Stipulation  
18 and Recommendation has also been marked Joint  
19 Exhibit No. 1; is that correct?

20          A.    Correct.

21                MS. BLEND:  Thank you.  Your Honor,  
22 at this time move for the admission of AEP Ohio  
23 Transco Exhibits 1 through 8 and Joint Exhibit  
24 No. 1 subject to any cross-examination.

25                ALJ FULLIN:  All right.  Thank you.

1 Any cross-examination?

2 MR. JONES: None, Your Honor.

3 ALJ FULLIN: I don't have any  
4 either, so I will go ahead and admit all those  
5 exhibits into evidence at this time.

6 (EXHIBITS HEREBY ADMITTED INTO  
7 EVIDENCE)

8 MS. BLEND: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 ALJ FULLIN: Anything further from  
10 the Company?

11 MS. BLEND: No, Your Honor.

12 ALJ FULLIN: Okay. I will give  
13 Staff the opportunity --

14 MR. JONES: Your Honor, Staff has two  
15 Exhibits. And I would like to go ahead and mark  
16 those for identification.

17 The first would be Staff Exhibit 1  
18 which is the Staff Report of Investigation that  
19 was filed in this case on October 27, 2017.

20 And Staff Exhibit 2 is the prefilled  
21 testimony of James S. O'Dell that was filed in  
22 this docket on November 20th, 2017.

23 Staff would like to move for the  
24 admission of Staff Exhibits 1 and 2 without  
25 calling Mr. O'Dell to the stand since the

1 parties are stipulating to these exhibits being  
2 admitted.

3 ALJ FULLIN: All right. Thank you.  
4 I don't have any cross-examination either, or I  
5 guess he doesn't need to be put on the stand.

6 So I will admit those exhibits into  
7 evidence at this time.

8 (EXHIBITS HEREBY ADMITTED INTO  
9 EVIDENCE)

10 ALJ FULLIN: Is there anything  
11 further from the Staff?

12 MR. JONES: Nothing further, Your  
13 Honor.

14 ALJ FULLIN: Do any of the parties  
15 have anything else we need to bring up on the  
16 record at this time? Seeing no --

17 MS. BLEND: Actually, Your Honor,  
18 one final item to bring on the record is just to  
19 make the request on behalf of AEP Ohio  
20 Transmission Company, Inc. that the Board set  
21 this case for decision in the December meeting  
22 if at all possible.

23 ALJ FULLIN: We will make an effort  
24 to see if that can be done. I am not really  
25 sure whether it can be.

1 MS. BLEND: We understand.

2 ALJ FULLIN: Okay. Thank you. If  
3 there is nothing further I will adjourn this  
4 hearing today. Thank you everyone.

5 MS. BLEND: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 MR. JONES: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 (At 10:05 A.M. the hearing was  
8 concluded)

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CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing  
is a true and correct transcript of the  
proceedings taken by me in this matter on  
November 21, 2017, and carefully compared with  
my original stenographic notes.

Michael O. Spencer  
Michael O. Spencer,  
Registered Professional  
Reporter.

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**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

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**in**

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

Summary: Transcript In the Matter of the Application of AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. For a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Construction of the West Bellaire-Glencoe 138 kV Transmission Line Rebuilt Project, hearing held on November 21, 2017. electronically filed by Mr. Ken Spencer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc. and Spencer, Michael O. Mr.