

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Letter of the Construction Notice of)
Dominion Energy Ohio for an Extension of PIR 620) Case No. 18-1110-GA-BNR
Pipeline 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 July 20, 2018, 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 July 20, 2018, which is the recommended automatic approval date.

Sincerely,



Raymond W. Strom
Chief of Siting, Efficiency and Renewables Division
Rates and Analysis Department
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-7707
ContactOPSB@puc.state.oh.us

OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 18-1110-GA-BNR
Project Name: Extension of PIR 620 Pipeline Line Replacement Project
Project Location: Stark County
Applicant: Dominion Energy Ohio
Application Filing Date: July 11, 2018
Filing Type: Construction Notification Report
Inspection Date: July 11, 2018
Report Date: July 13, 2018
Recommended Automatic Approval Date: July 20, 2018
Applicant's Waiver Requests: None
Staff Assigned: E. Morrison

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

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

Project Description

The Applicant, Dominion Energy Ohio, proposes to replace 1,100 feet of existing steel pipeline with 16-inch standard wall, coated steel pipeline. The replacement pipeline would have a maximum allowable operating pressure of 160 pounds per square inch gauge (PSIG) and would be cathodically protected.

The Applicant would use open cut trenching installation methods to install the proposed gas main in public road right-of-way. The Applicant proposes to begin construction in July 2018 and to place the line in service by September 2018. The Applicant estimates the total cost of the project to be approximately \$604,000.

The project corridor would be constrained to the road right-of-way of Southway Street, beginning at the western terminus of the project approved in Case No. 17-1944-GA-BNR and continuing west for 1,100 feet. There, it would tie into the existing 16-inch gas main.

As the project approved in Case No. 17-1944-GA-BNR is currently under construction, and the need for this extension was just discovered, the Applicant requests a shorter automatic approval date than the 21 day construction notice requirement, as described in Ohio Adm.Code 4906-6-03(C). Staff recommends approval of this expedited processing request.

Site Description

The project site is located in the vicinity of residential and agricultural properties. However, because the pipeline would be placed entirely within road right-of-way, impacts to these properties would be limited to temporary construction related inconveniences.

Basis of Need

The Applicant states that the project is needed in order to reach suitable pipe for interconnection with the project approved in Case No. 17-1944-GA-BNR. As explained by the Applicant, the need for this additional segment was discovered during installation of the previously approved project. As with the previously approved project, the currently proposed project would eliminate key bottlenecks, thus improving system capacity that would be available to meet demand. Additionally, replacement of the existing steel pipeline in this section would allow for improved system integrity evaluation.

Nature of Impacts

Socioeconomic Impacts

The Applicant sent notification about the project to area public officials and affected property owners.

Agricultural Land

The proposed pipeline would be located adjacent to agricultural property that is designated as agricultural district land. Construction and operation of the natural gas pipeline is not expected to impact agricultural production.

Cultural Resources

The Applicant completed a cultural resources literature review for the area of potential effects for the project. Based on the studies conducted for the project presented in Case No. 17-1944-GA-BNR, no cultural resources were identified in the area of the proposed project.

Surface Waters

The proposed gas transmission line corridor contains no streams or wetlands. No additional surface water features were identified within the proposed project area by the Applicant. The Applicant concluded that construction of the proposed project would not disturb any jurisdictional surface water features.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The project area is within the range of the state and federal and state endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the federal threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). As tree roosting species in the summer months, the habitat of these species may be impacted by the project. Per the review of project 17-1944-GA-BNR, in order to avoid impacts to the Indiana bat and the northern long-eared bat, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommend the seasonal tree cutting dates of October 1 through March 31 for removal of any trees greater than or equal to three inches in diameter. The Applicant does not anticipate that any tree clearing would be necessary for this project. In the event trees three inches in diameter or larger need to be removed, the Applicant would perform the removal between October 1 and March 31.

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 July 20, 2018, provided that the following conditions are satisfied.

Conditions:

- (1) Prior to the commencement of construction activities in areas that require permits or authorizations by federal or state laws and regulations, the Applicant shall obtain and comply with such permits or authorizations. The Applicant shall provide copies of permits and authorizations, including all supporting documentation, to Staff within seven days of issuance or receipt by the Applicant.
- (2) The Applicant shall adhere to seasonal cutting dates of October 1 through March 31 for removal of any trees greater than three inches in diameter, unless coordination efforts with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allows a different course of action.
- (3) The Applicant shall segregate soils during construction activities involving the disturbance of top soil, and restore any disturbed area to original or better conditions. This condition may be waived with the consent of the property owner.
- (4) Where the installation of the pipeline results in damage to driveways, parking areas, or roads, the impacted areas shall be repaired promptly to their pre-construction state.
- (5) A late-filed written document from the Applicant's environmental contractor shall be docketed as soon as it is received.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

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in

Case No(s). 18-1110-GA-BNR

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