


**Construction Notice  
City of Hamilton  
Substation 5 - New Transmission Pole Placement  
PUCO Case No. 20-1351-EL-BNR**

Submitted to:  
The Ohio Power Siting Board  
Pursuant to O.A.C. 4906-06

Submitted by:  
City of Hamilton, Ohio

August 4, 2020



	Title:	PUCO Construction Notice
	Project Name:	Substation 5 - New Transmission Pole Placement
	PUCO Case Number:	20-1351-EL-BNR

## 1 Introduction

This Construction Notice has been prepared by City of Hamilton, Ohio, in accordance with the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Section 4906-6-05 for the review of Accelerated Certificate Applications. The following Sections correspond to the administrative code sections for the requirements of a Construction Notice.

## 2 OAC 4909-6-05: Accelerated Application Requirements;

### 2.1 OAC 4906-6-05(B) General information

#### 2.1.1 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(1) Name of Project, Applicant's Reference Number, Brief Description and Construction Notice Requirement

- Name of Project: City of Hamilton, Substation 5 New Transmission Pole Placement
- Name and Reference Number of Resulting Circuits: New substation connection to 138KV Circuit L51-151 to substation 15
- Brief Description of the Project: City of Hamilton proposes to install two (2) new 138KV transmission poles and one (1) new 15KV transmission pole in place of one (1) existing 138KV transmission pole in an existing utility right-of-way. This is needed to connect an existing 138KV circuit to a new substation between existing substations 11 and 15, less than 150 ft to the West, on land owned by the city.
- Construction Notice Requirement: This project qualifies as a Construction Notice filing because it meets the requirements outlined in O.A.C. 4906-6-05, Appendix A, item (1)(a). Item (1)(a) which allows the filing of a Construction Notice for "New construction, extension, or relocation of single or multiple circuit electric power transmission line(s) or upgrading existing transmission or distribution line(s) for operation at a higher transmission voltage, as follows: (a) Line(s) not greater than 0.2 miles in length."

This project extends an existing transmission line less than 0.2 miles in length to connect to a new substation located completely on property owned by the applicant and connecting to the transmission line in utility right-of-way on the East edge of that property.

#### 2.1.2 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(2): Need for the Project –

*This project is needed to support continued growth in the Southeast corner of the service area for the City of Hamilton, including the nearby 170 acre Hamilton Enterprise Park (Business Hub) to the East, and other residential and business growth in the Hamilton (S3) PUCO Quadrangle.*

#### 2.1.3 OAC 4906 -6-05(B)(3): Location of the Project Relative to Existing or Proposed Lines and Substations

The location of the project is depicted in Attachments 1, 2, 3 and 4, at the intersection of the City of Hamilton and the City of Fairfield, in the center of Butler County Ohio.



Title:	PUCO Construction Notice
Project Name:	Substation 5 - New Transmission Pole Placement
PUCO Case Number:	20-1351-EL-BNR

The location of this project is 150 ft West of existing transmission pole 116 (L12-0037) of 138KV circuit L51-151, along the West side of State Route 4 Bypass between Hamilton-Mason Rd and Tylersville Rd in Butler County, Ohio. The new substation and transmission line tie-in is ~1.75 miles Northeast of the existing Hamilton substation at 8040 North Gilmore road, which is South of the Butler County Regional Airport, whereas the new substation is North of the airport.

#### **2.1.4 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(4): Alternatives Considered**

The proposed substation addition is the only reasonable alternative available to support the purpose and need for this project. A “no-build” or “do nothing” alternative would not address the purpose and need for this project to be completed. The proposed project will occur entirely within City of Hamilton property and no additional long-term impacts to adjacent properties are anticipated as a result of the project.

#### **2.1.5 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(5): Public Information Program**

The City of Hamilton, Substation 5 New Transmission Pole Placement Project is located on property owned by the City of Hamilton. The impacted property owner(s) will be notified prior to the proposed construction activities at the City of Hamilton Substation related to the placement of new transmission power poles.

#### **2.1.6 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(6): Construction Schedule and Proposed In-Service Date**

Construction is planned to begin in August 2020, pending approval of this Construction Notice. The project is anticipated to be completed and in-service by March 2021.

#### **2.1.7 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(7): Area Map**

*Attachments 1 and 2 depict the location of the project in Southwest Ohio and Butler County. Attachment 3 depicts the location with respect to adjacent townships. Attachment 4 depicts the Site Plan for the project with respect to adjacent roads and adjoining properties.*

#### **2.1.8 OAC 4909-6-05(B)(8): Property Owner List** *The project is located on property owned by the City of Hamilton. Adjacent property owners will be notified as discussed above.*

#### **2.1.9 OAC 4909-6-05(B)(9): Technical Features of the Project**

*The City of Hamilton proposes to connect the new substation into circuit L51-151. This involves installation of two (2) new 77' laminate monopoles in line with the existing transmission circuit, one (1) new 45' treated wood pole for the 15kV under-build circuit and removal of one (1) existing 138 kV pole. The two (2) new self-supporting laminate poles will turn and allow the installation of 150 ft (0.03 miles) of 138-kV single circuit, electrical transmission line to each of two connections at the new substation. The two (2) laminate structures will be direct embed with a height of 66 ft above ground and 11' embedded, and the one (1) treated wood pole will be direct embed with 38.5 ft above ground and 6.5 ft embedded.*



Title:	PUCO Construction Notice
Project Name:	Substation 5 - New Transmission Pole Placement
PUCO Case Number:	20-1351-EL-BNR

#### **2.1.9.1 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(9)(a): Operating Conditions**

Voltage: 138-kV

Structure Type: Three (3) laminate monopole structures

Conductors: 556.5MCM ACSR Shielded

Insulators: 138-kV Polymer post insulators and glass dead-end insulators

ROW Land Requirements: Property owned entirely by the City of Hamilton

#### **2.1.9.2 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(9)(b): Electric and Magnetic Fields**

*There are no occupied residences or institutions within one-hundred feet of the lines in this project; therefore, this section is not applicable.*

#### **2.1.9.3 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(9)(c): Estimated Cost of Proposed Project**

*The approximate cost for the proposed project is a \$100,000 to \$150,000 for the placement of new transmission poles and an additional \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000 for the completion of the new substation.*

### **2.2 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(10): Social and Economic Impact**

#### **2.2.1 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(10)(a): Land Uses**

*The project is located in the City of Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio, approximately 20 miles Northwest of the City of Cincinnati. The City of Hamilton, which covers 26.3 square miles, and includes a population of 62,447 people, based on 2010 census data. Land use immediately surrounding the project is predominantly undeveloped land, commercial and industrial property, with the Southern border of the property adjacent to a development of 2-story apartments.*

#### **2.2.2 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(10)(b): Agricultural Land**

The project is located on undeveloped property owned by the City of Hamilton and the pole placement will be in the right-of-way already in use for electrical transmission lines. The new substation is on the periphery of fallow land most recently used for agriculture 2-3 years ago and primarily on an uncultivated strip on land that buffers agricultural land from existing apartments. This project will have no significant impact to agricultural use.

#### **2.2.3 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(10)(c): Archaeological or Cultural Resources**

The Ohio History Connection, Ohio's Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) online mapping system, was consulted to identify previously recorded cultural resources within 1 mile of the project area. This review, along with a similar review by the ODNR of the Natural Heritage Database identified no records within the 1 mile radius search area.

#### **2.2.4 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(10)(d): Local, State, and Federal Requirements**

*As this project is expected to disturb less than one acre, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for storm water discharges from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) for the pole placement is not required.*

*No other local, state or federal permits or other authorizations are require for this project.*

Title:	PUCO Construction Notice
Project Name:	Substation 5 - New Transmission Pole Placement
PUCO Case Number:	20-1351-EL-BNR

### 2.2.5 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(10)(e): Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Species Investigation

As part of the ODNR inter-disciplinary site review, The Division of Wildlife (DOW) provided comments that can be found in ATTACHMENT 5. Likewise, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service performed a parallel review and their comments can be found in ATTACHMENT 9. The resulting guidance is summarized below.

Both agencies noted the potential presence of the state-endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalist*) and recommended preferred seasonal tree clearing timeframes. Summer habitat can include fallow fields and adjacent edges of agricultural fields as on this site. This site is mostly un-forested, with one small tree-line that will be crossed - guidelines will be followed.

ODNR-DOW also indicated that the project is within the range of one (1) state endangered and federally endangered mussel species (rayed bean, *Villosa fabalis*) and one (1) state threatened mussel (fawnsfoot, *Truncilla donaciformis*). Due to the location, and the fact that there is no in-water work proposed, this project is not going to impact these species

ODNR-DOW also indicated that the project is within range of one (1) state threatened reptile (Kirtland's snake, *Clonophis kirtlandii*), one (1) state endangered amphibian (cave salamander, *Eurycea lucifuga*), and one (1) state endangered bird species (upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*), whose habitat should be avoided during its nesting period of April 15 to July 31st. Due to the time period of the project, the location, the type of habitat present at the project and within the vicinity of the project, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service advised, if there were a federal nexus for the project, addition consultation would be required between their agency and the federal action agency. As there is no federal funding involved, no federal permits required.


### 2.2.6 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(10)(f): Areas of Ecological Concern

As part of the ecological assessment for this project, the ODNR was contacted and an inter-disciplinary site review was requested. The response received April 29, 2020 indicated they are unaware of any unique ecological sites, geological features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, state nature preserves, state or national parks, state or national forests, national wildlife refuges, or other protected natural areas within the project area.

Also as part of the ecological assessment for this project, a Surface Water Delineation Report for the site. Two (2) wetlands were identified, both of which will be avoided by this project. No streams were identified within the study area. There will no impact to regulated waters by this project. Future development in or around the indicated wetlands may require wetland permits and mitigation if performed proximate to those wetlands. The complete report is located in ATTACHMENT 8.

Consistent with feedback from both the ODNR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service, best management practices will be used to minimize erosion and restore disturbed areas.

As indicated in the interdisciplinary review by the ODNR, The Division of Water Resources recommended contacting the floodplain administrator to evaluate the possible need for floodplain permits or approvals. Planning and Zoning Specialist Mr. Larry Bagford was contacted 5/23/2020 and he confirmed this site does not cross any 100-year floodplains and/or waterways and does not require floodplain permits or approvals for this project.

	Title:	PUCO Construction Notice
	Project Name:	Substation 5 - New Transmission Pole Placement
	PUCO Case Number:	20-1351-EL-BNR

### 2.2.7 OAC 4906-6-05(B)(10)(g): Other Information

To the best of the City of Hamilton's knowledge, no unusual conditions exist that would result in environmental, social, health, or safety impacts. Construction and operation of the proposed project will meet all applicable safety standards established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and will be in accordance with the requirements specified in the latest revision of the NESC, as adopted by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission).

### 3 4906-6-07: Service and Public Distribution of Accelerated Certificate Applications

*Copies of this Construction Notice will be sent to officials in the City of Hamilton and Butler County and to the MidPointe Library Middletown prior to construction activities.*

### 4 ATTACHMENTS

#### FIGURES

ATTACHMENT 1 – FIGURE 1: Butler County Area Map

ATTACHMENT 2 – FIGURE 2: City of Hamilton Substation 5, County View

ATTACHMENT 3 – FIGURE 3: City of Hamilton Substation 5, Township View

ATTACHMENT 4 – FIGURE 4: PUCO Construction Notice Site Plan

ATTACHMENT 5 – FIGURE 5: C-01 Substation 5, Topographical Site Plan

#### CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

ATTACHMENT 6 – ODNR Inter-disciplinary Review Comments

ATTACHMENT 7 – Environmental Review Request to ODNR

ATTACHMENT 8 – Surface Water Delineation Report H3650001

ATTACHMENT 9 – US Fish and Wildlife Service Review Letter 2020-06-10

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

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**8/4/2020 4:27:39 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 20-1351-EL-BNR**

Summary: Application Construction Notice Application with attachments electronically filed by Mr. Eric M Hopkins on behalf of City of Hamilton Ohio and Hudson, Bill Mr.