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PUCO

July 13, 2009

Ms. Reneé Jenkins, Secretary Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Docketing Division 13th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215-3973

Re:

Letter of Notification - Line F5689 138 kV Electric Transmission Line Loop to

Rockies Express Substation

PUCO Case No. 09-597-EL-BLN

Ms. Jenkins:

Enclosed for filing are one original and ten copies of a Letter of Notification (LON) regarding a Duke Energy project.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me at (513) 287-2379.

Sincerely, Duke Energy

Stephen R. Lane Environmental Scientist

Enclosures

Сc

Mr. Jim O'Dell (OPSB) Mr. Rick Hicks (Duke Energy) Mr. Gabe Seibel (Duke Energy)

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of positions.

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LETTER OF NOTIFICATION FOR

LINE F5689 138 KV ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE LOOP TO ROCKIES EXPRESS SUBSTATION

PUCO Case Number 09-___-EL- BLN

Submitted pursuant to OAC 4906-11-01

Duke Energy Ohio

July 13, 2009

(A) Need Statement

(1) Project Name, Description, and Need

(a) Name: This proposed project is the Line F5689 138,000 (138 kV) Electric Transmission Line Loop to Rockies Express Substation.

This project qualifies as a Letter of Notification (LON) because it fits the criteria of OAC 4906-1-01, Appendix A (1)(c), "Line(s) one hundred twenty-five kV and above but less than three hundred kV, and not greater than two miles in length." The proposed new 138 kV transmission line loop is approximately 1.3 miles in length and will extend from Duke Energy Ohio's 138 kV Line F5689 north and east to the Rockies Express Substation. There is approximately 3,400 feet of new line north to the new substation, then back again about the same distance to Line F5689 from the substation

(b) Description: This project will provide 138 kV service to the Rockies Express Substation. This project is required to provide electric service to the Rockies Express Hamilton Compressor Station.

A project vicinity map and engineering line drawings for the project are included.

- (c) Need: This project is required to provide 138kV electric service to the Rockies Express Hamilton Compressor Station.
- (2) Reference per Long-Term Forecast Report (LTFR)

This proposed project is not included in the 2009, or earlier, LTFRs.

(3) Alternatives Considered

A LON for an alternative along Interstate 75 was filed with the Public Utilities Commission on June 16, 2008 (PUCO Case No. 08-0736-EL-BLN). Investigation Report and Recommendation dated July 24, 2008 recommended project approval with the condition of a required cultural resource investigation. This LON was withdrawn by Duke Energy on January 16, 2009 due to strong landowner resistance to the project along what the landowner considered "prime frontage real estate". Pursuing the route along the Interstate would have required full condemnation procedures, the filing of an Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the project, and as a consequence the development of an alternate route for the project. The goal was to determine whether or not the landowner would be amenable to the alternate route before beginning condemnation proceedings. This LON is for that alternate route for which the easement rights have now been obtained. Although the proposed alternative in this LON is slightly more expensive that the original route proposed in Case No. 08-0736-EL-BLN, this additional cost will not be borne by the Ohio rate-payer as the project will be fully paid for by Rockies Express. Except for the additional cost the expected impacts of the 2 routes are comparable.

(4) Construction Schedule

Work on the project is planned to begin mid-September 2009. The overall project has an in-service date of early June 2009.

(5) Area Maps and Directions to Project Area

A street line map of the project vicinity is attached to this LON; smaller scale engineering line drawings of the project route is also attached. One way to reach the project location from Columbus is to take I-71 south for about 73 miles then take exit #32 west on State Route 123 (SR-123) for 3.4 miles to Lebanon. Continue to travel west on SR-123/48

through Lebanon and on SR-63 for approximately 7 miles to the west side of I-75. After crossing over I-75 turn right onto New Garver Road, then left onto Garver Road. Drive north on Garver Road approximately 0.9 mile, turn right onto Reed Road and drive east for approximately 1,500 feet mile. Drive through the BEI Trailer & Construction gate at the end of Reed Road and take an immediate left. As this is private property there is a recommendation of visiting the on-site BEI office before proceeding. Drive north past the trailers, from this location you can walk west-northwest until you reach the southwestern end of the project route. The northern end of the project route can be reached by following SR-63 (Hamilton Lebanon Road East) west to Cincinnati-Dayton Road (North Main Street), north on Cincinnati-Dayton Road, and then east on Greentree Road to the construction entrance for the substation.

(B) <u>Technical Features</u>

(1) Operating Characteristics

The proposed transmission line loop will operate at 138 kV and require approximately 1.3 miles feet of new 954ACSR45x7 conductor, 26 new steel poles, 4 H-frame structures, and the associated appurtances. The locations of the new poles are identified on the included engineering line drawings, the poles will be between 75 and 85 feet in height. The specifications for these structures are included in Appendix A. At the south-western end of the project route the loop passes under the 345 kV Dayton Power & Light transmission line located north of F5689 and over an agricultural drainage ditch using H-frame structures.

(2) Electric and Magnetic Fields

Duke Energy ran estimates of the electric and magnetic fields using the "Enviro" program for the proposed 138 kV transmission line loop at the lowest point of conductor sag along the length of the loop. This study shows that the maximum magnetic field directly under

the middle conductor at one meter above ground would be a maximum of 212 milligauss (mG) at , tapering off to 8.4 mG at 300 feet if the line were loaded to its maximum winter rating. At the distance of the nearest residence to the transmission line loop, located approximately 950 feet west of the south-western end of the project route, magnetic fields are expected to be at background levels.

It is reasonable that the electric field strengths, measured in kilovolts per meter (kV/m), are the same regardless of line loadings because the electric fields are dependent on voltage, which is held constant at 138,000, while magnetic field strengths depend on amperage, which varies by demand for electricity.

Duke Energy designs its facilities according to the National Electric Safety Code (NESC), at a minimum. The structure height and configuration was chosen based on the NESC, engineering parameters, and cost.

(3) Estimated Cost

The project is expected to cost approximately \$2,000,000.

(C) Socioeconomic Data

(1) Land Use

At the time of this filing Duke Energy Ohio has secured an easement with the property owner. Land use in the vicinity of the project route is undeveloped agricultural, light industrial/commercial, and scattered residential. The project right-of-way is 120 feet wide in addition to 50 feet along the north side of the easement to avoid disturbing existing billboards and to avoid having to clear trees in the woodlot north of the section of route that runs east and west.

The nearest residence to the transmission line loop is located on East Garver Road approximately 950 feet west of the south-western end of the project route. The nearest industrial/commercial facility is located about 1,700 feet south of the line, south of Line F5689 and the 345 kV Dayton Power & Light transmission line.

(2) Agricultural District Land

According to data received from the Warren County Auditors' Office, no property along the project route is included in the ORC 929 agricultural district program.

(3) Cultural Resources

Natural and Ethical Environmental Solutions, a cultural resource services consultant, will be retained to perform a Section 106 compliance Phase I Cultural Resources Study for pole locations along the project route, which will include a literature review and field survey to identify existing cultural or historic resources within the immediate project vicinity. A copy of the Phase I Archaeology Survey will be forwarded to the Ohio Power Siting Board Staff (OPSB) staff under separate cover.

(4) Notification of Officials

Copies of the letters transmitting this Letter of Notification to officials of Warren County, Turtle Creek Township, and the City of Monroe are included in Appendix B. No public information program, materials, or meetings were conducted for the siting of this proposed facility although public meetings have been held by Rockies Express for the Hamilton Conpressor Station and associated natural gas pipeline.

(5) Current and Pending Litigation

There is no current or pending litigation involving the proposed facility.

(6) Other Agency Permits and Requirements

No other agency permits or requirements exist for the transmission line loop.

(D) Environmental Data

A Duke Energy biologist/environmental scientist conducted a field survey of the project route on June 18, 2009. This survey included an evaluation of potential habitat for species of concern likely to be found on the project route, a wetland determination, and an assessment of surface drainages in the project vicinity. A summary of the findings is given below.

(1) Species of Concern

No species of concern or habitat suitable for such species were observed during the field survey. The habitat along the project route is primarily active agricultural land currently in soybean production. The south-western end of the project route crosses an agricultural drainage ditch bordered by a thin strip of wooded scrub/shrub. At the line crossing location characteristic early suscessional tree species are dominated by 8 to 12 inch dbh black locust (Robinia pseudoacacia), box elder (Acer negundo), and black willow (Salix nigra). No suitable Indiana bat roosting trees were observed.

At the crossing location the man-made drainage ditch does represent amphibian habitat, but only for those common species that can handle the excess pesticide and herbicide runoff from the adjacent farm field. Evidence of this agricultural runoff and the resulting eutrophication (i.e. high levels of nitrogen and/or phosphates) include duckweed presence in the drainage ditch and the lack of any observed fish. Removal of limited tree cover on either side of this drainage ditch is not expected to affect this limited water resource.

(2) Areas of Ecological Concern

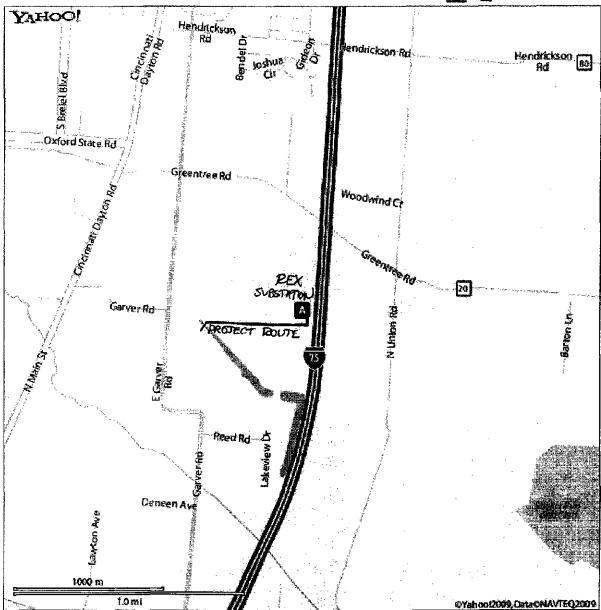
No wetlands or other areas of ecological concern were identified along the project route. One man-made agricultural drainage ditch is crossed at the south-western end of the project route, this drainage ditch is representative of low quality limited resource water.

(3) Additional Information

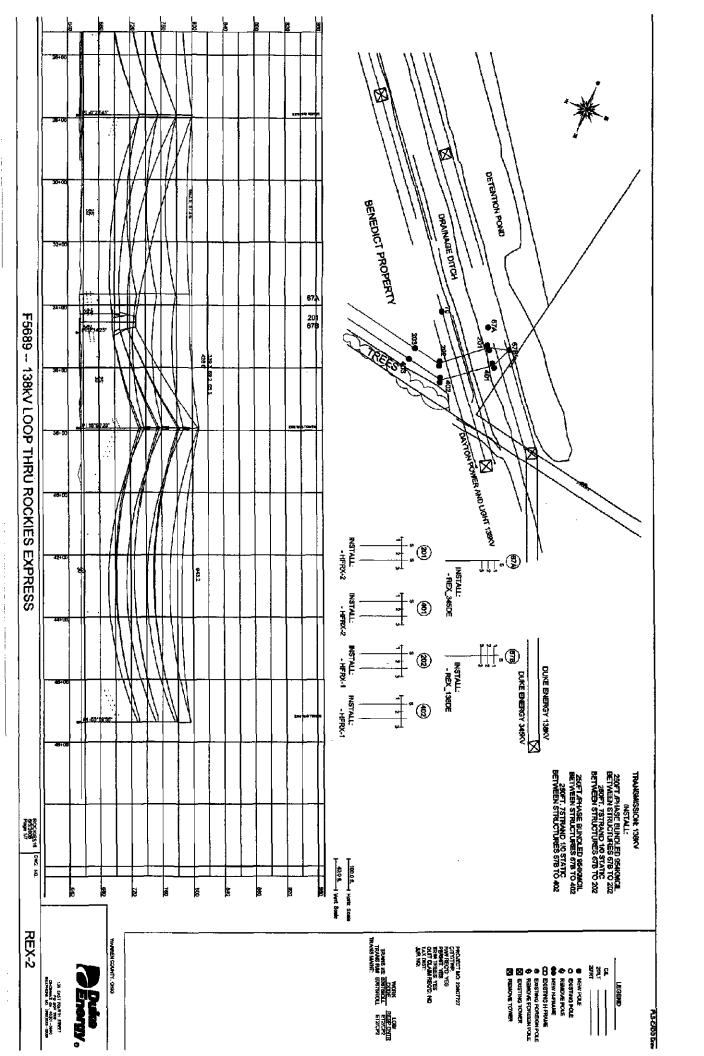
There is no known additional information that will describe any unusual conditions resulting in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.

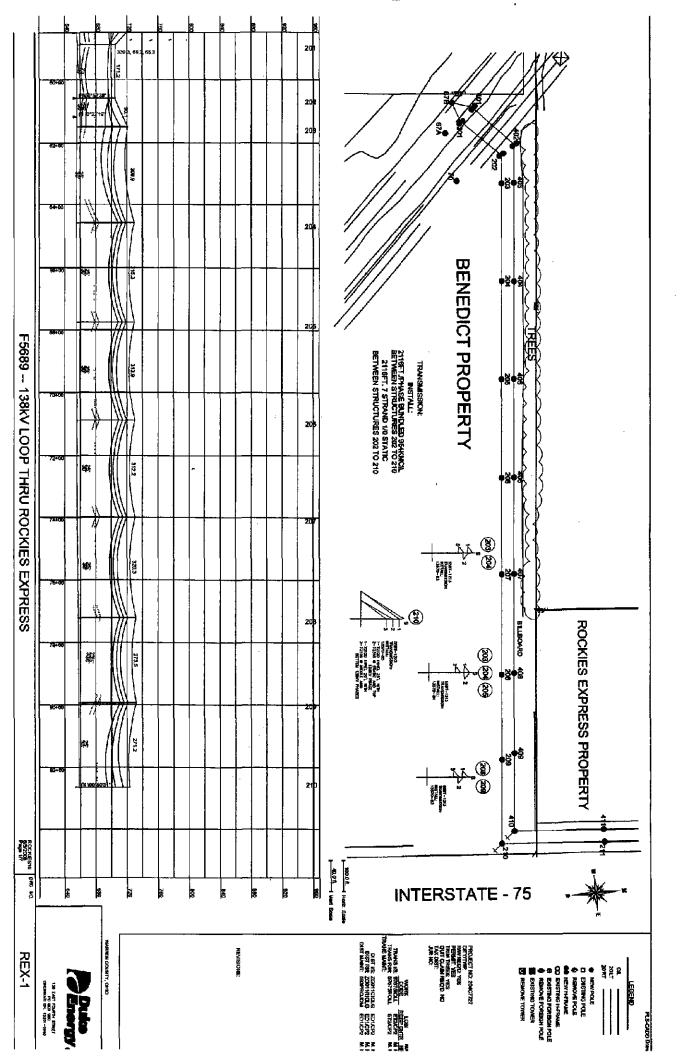
Map of 39.46301,-84.328092

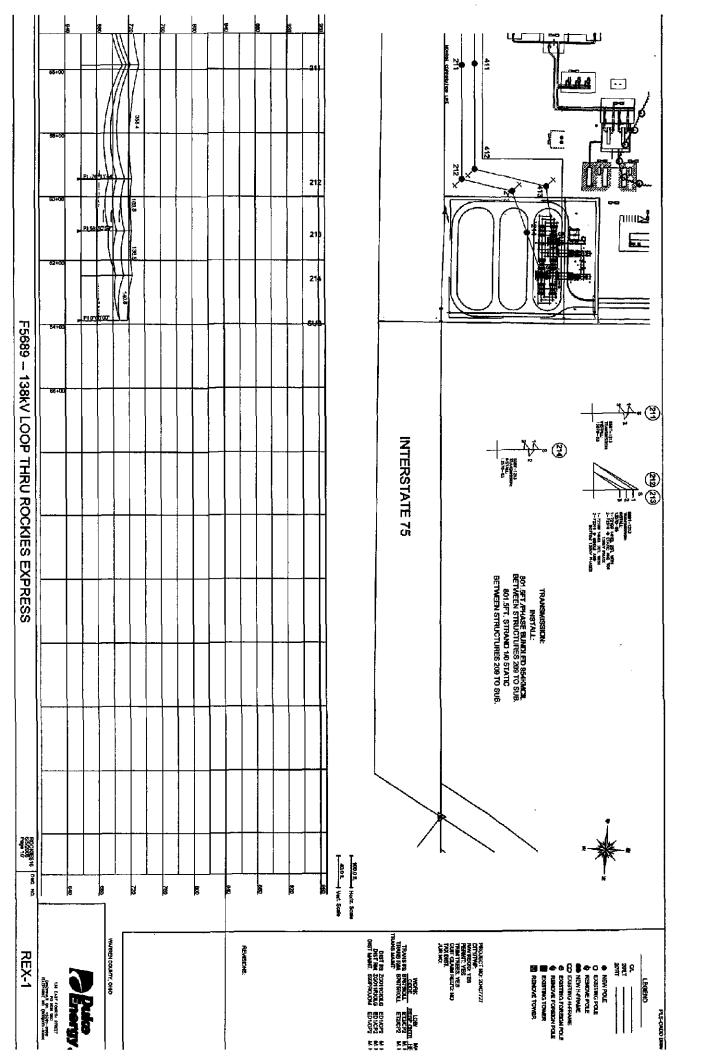


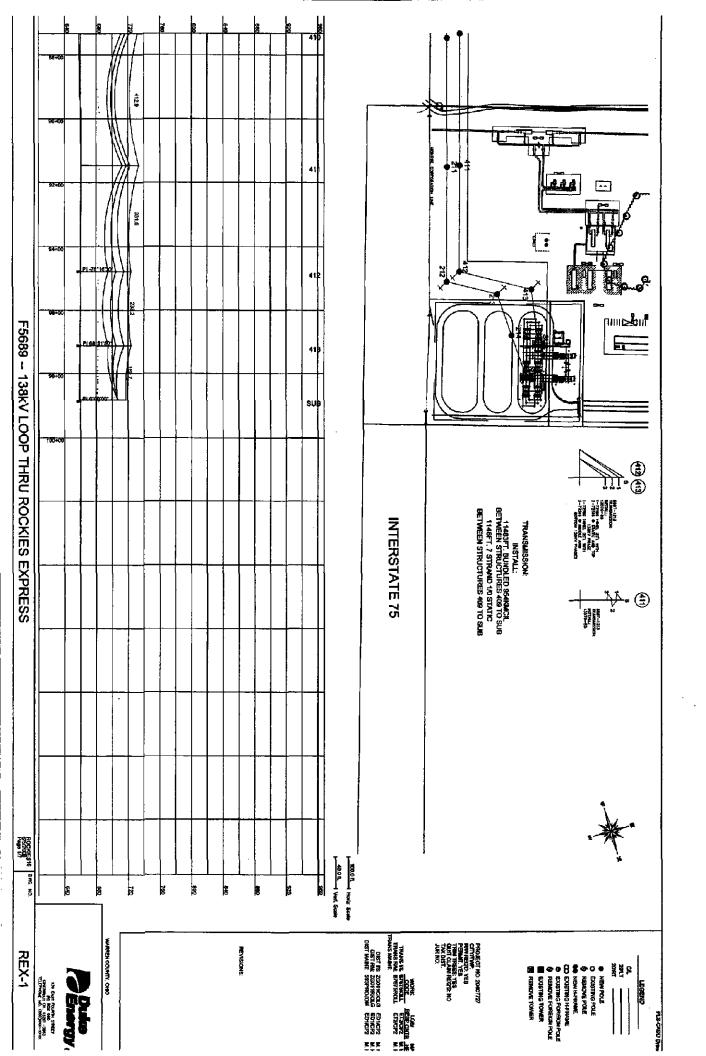


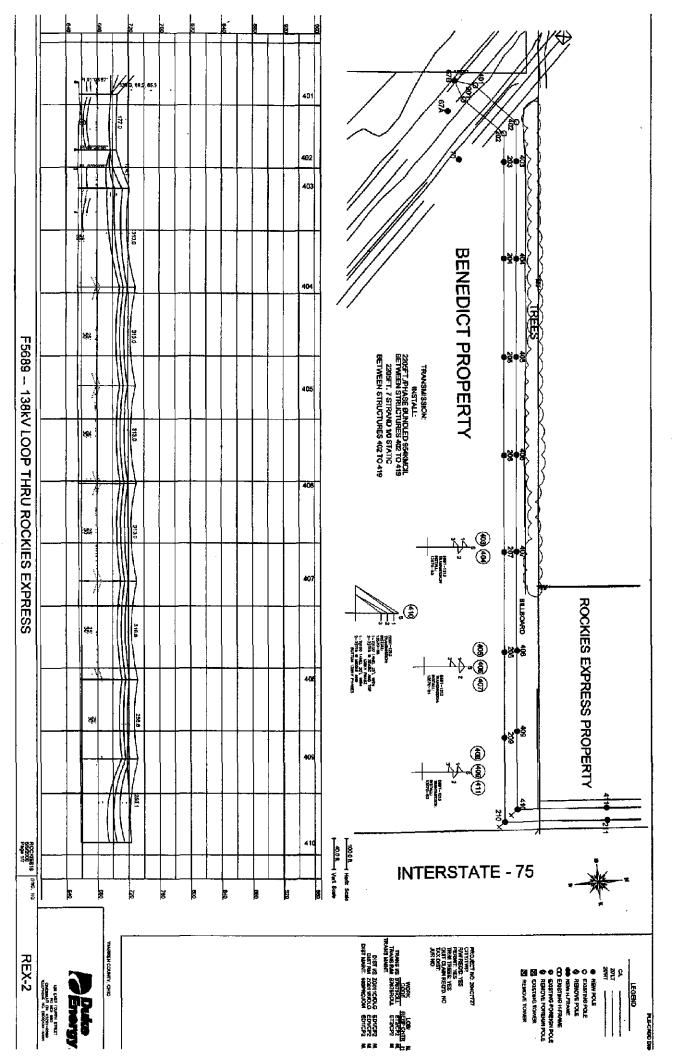
When using any driving directions or map, it's a good idea to do a reality check and make sure the road still exists, watch out for construction, and follow all traffic safety precautions. This is only to be used as an aid in planning.



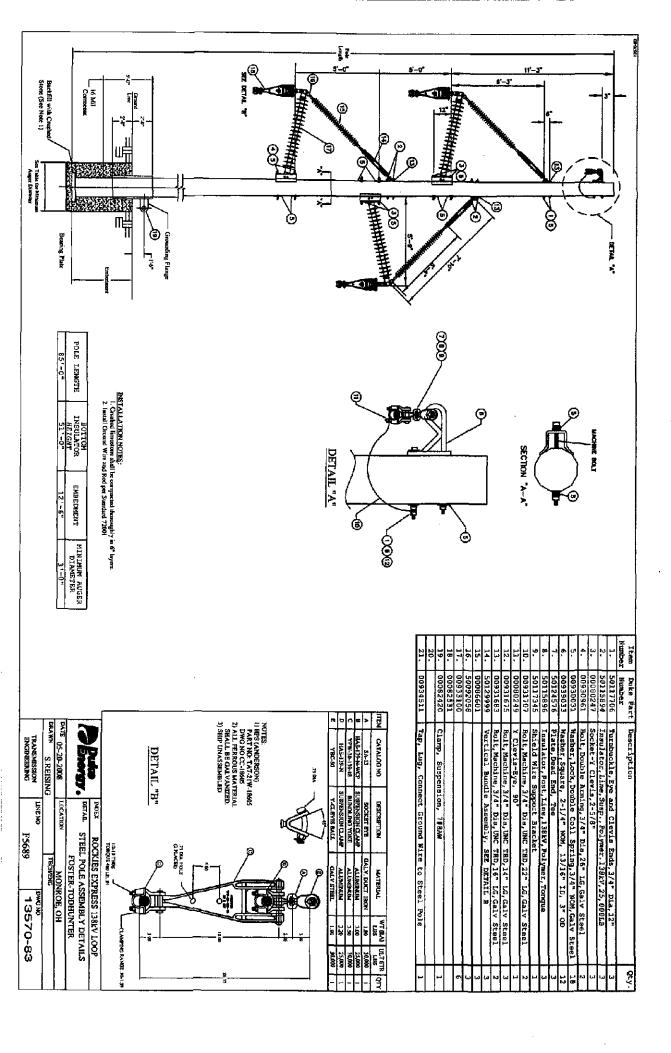


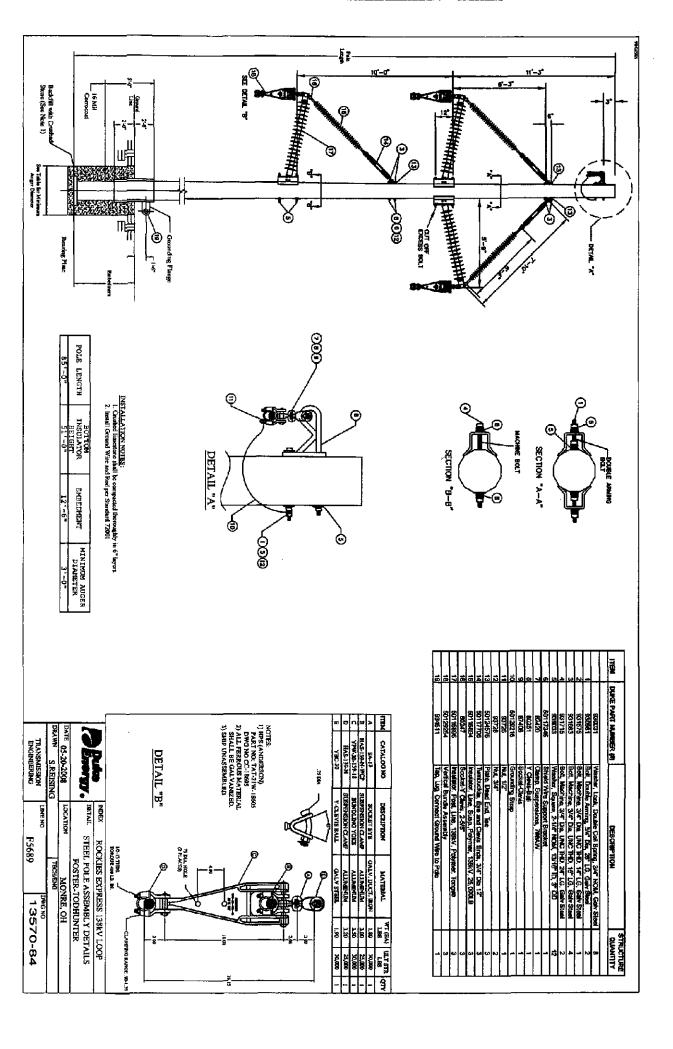


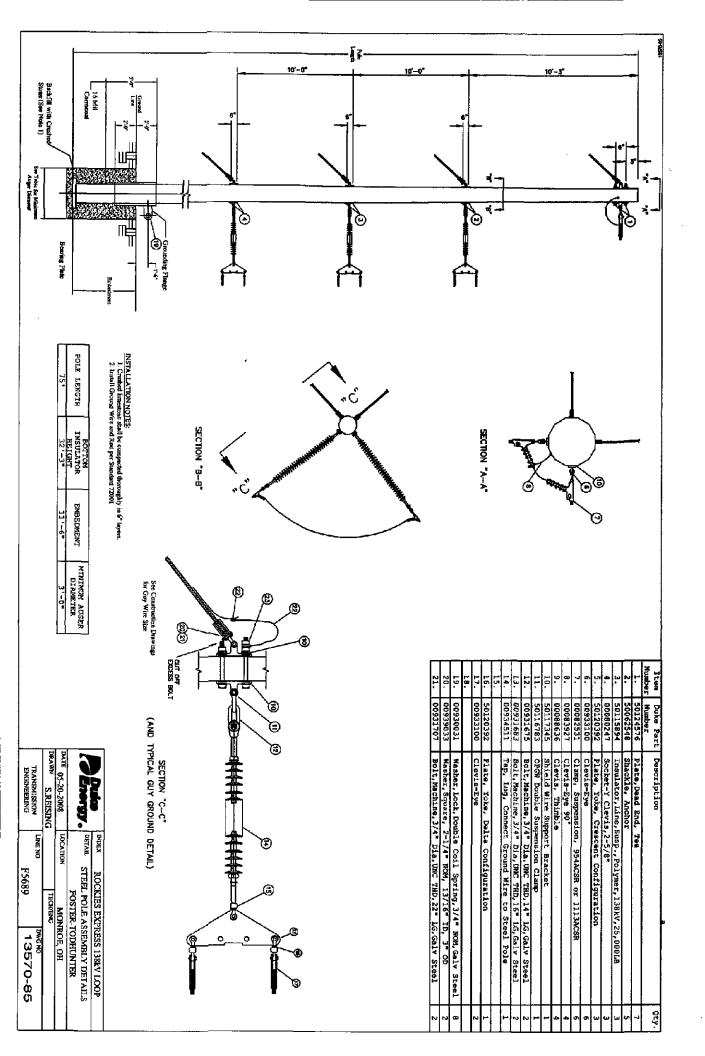


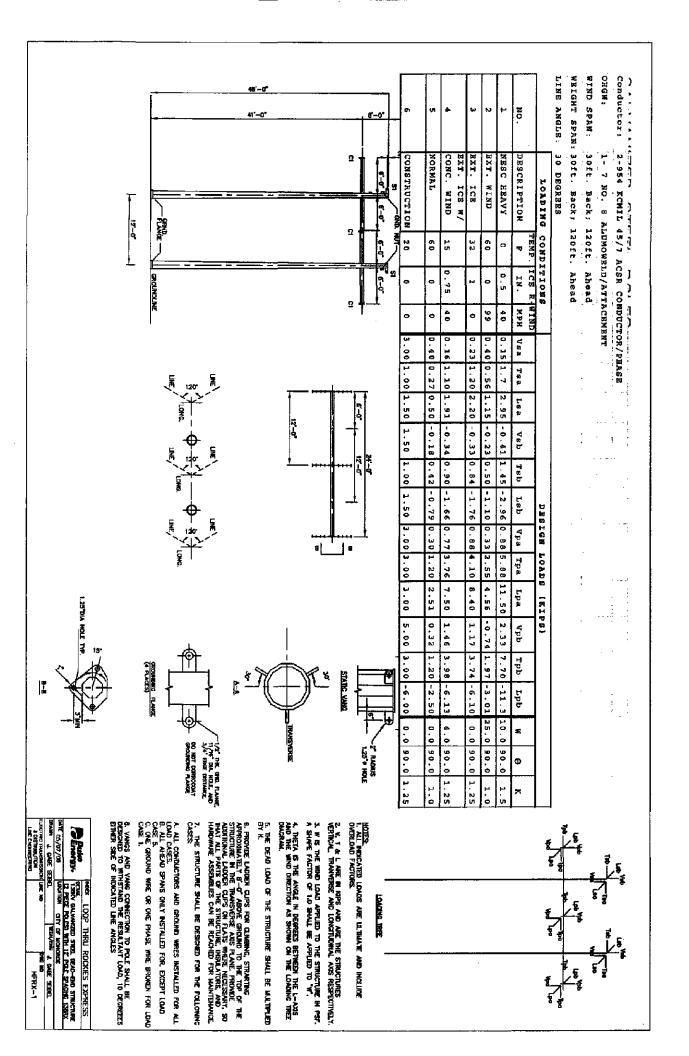


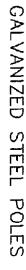
APPENDIX A ENGINEERING SPECIFICATIONS







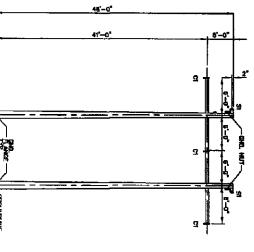


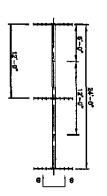


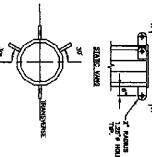
Conductor: 2-954 KCMIL 45/7 ACSR CONDUCTOR/PHASE 1- 7 NO. 8 ALUMONTED/ATTACHMENT

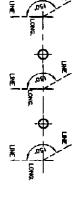
WEIGHT SPAN: 120ft. Back; 200ft. Ahead

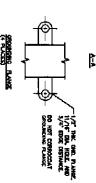
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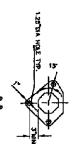












2281 PHE/PO	

NOTES: 1. ALL INDICATED LONDS ARE ULTIMATE AND INCLUDE OVERLOAD FACTORS.

3. WIS THE WIND LOAD APPLIED TO THE STRUCTURE IN PSY. A SHAPE FACTOR OF 1.0 SHALL BE APPLIED TO "N". 2. V. T & L ARE IN KIPS AND ARE THE STRUCTURES VERTICAL, TRANVERSE AND LONGITUDINAL AXIS RESPECTIVELY.

5. THE DEAD LOAD OF THE STRUCTURE SHALL BE MULTIPLIED BY $\kappa_{\rm s}$ 4. THETA IS THE ANGLE IN DEGREES BETWEEN THE L-AXIS AND THE WIND DIRECTION AS SHOWN ON THE LOADING TREE DIAGRAM.

6. PROVIDE LADDER CLIPS FOR CLIMBING, STRARTING
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THAT ALL PARTS OF THE STRUCTURE, INSULATIONS, AND
HANDWAYER ASSOCIATES CAN BE REACHED FOR MAINTENANCE.

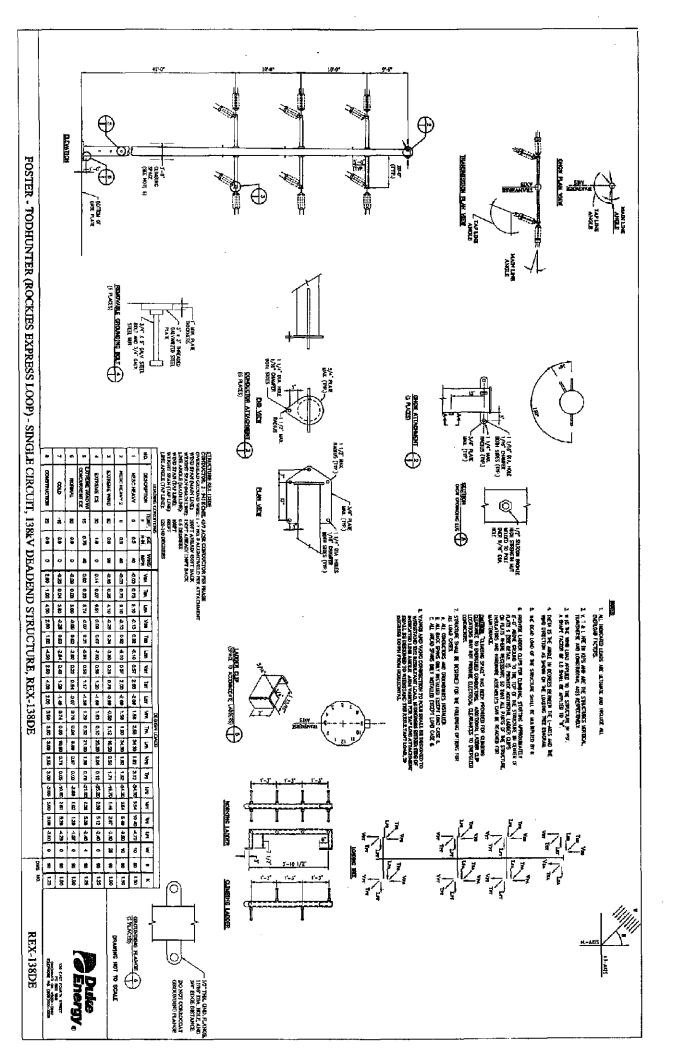
7. THE STRUCTURE SHALL BE DESIGNED FOR THE FOLLOWING CASES: A, ALL CONDUCTORS AND GROUND WIRES INSTALLED FOR ALL [DAY CASES.

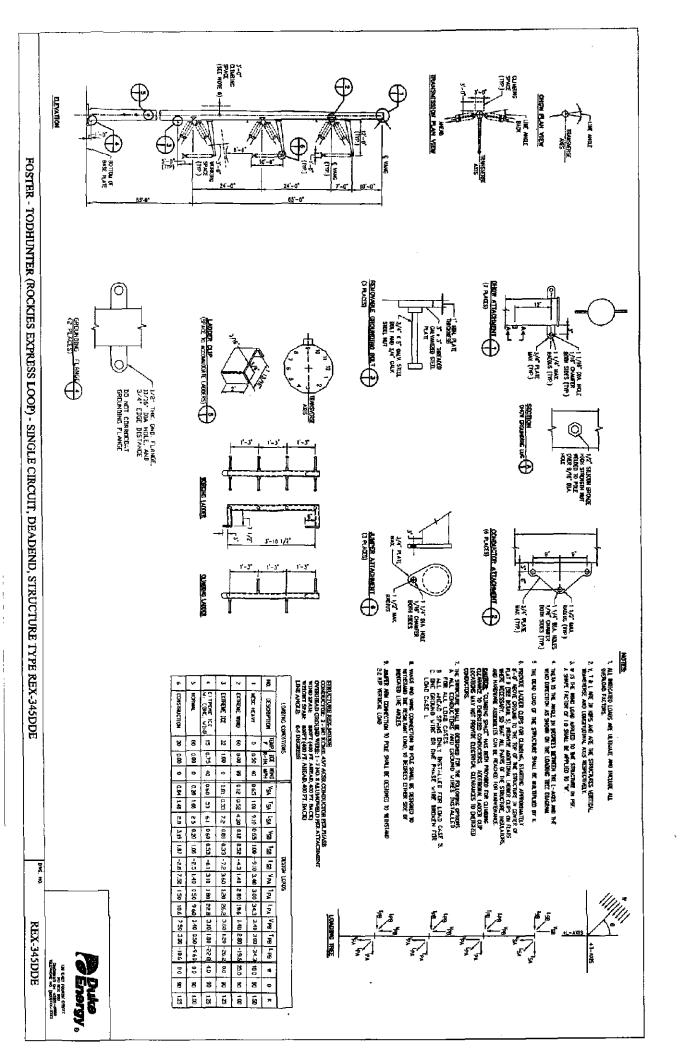
B. ALL AMEAN SPANS ONLY PASTALLED FOR, EXCEPT LOAD CASES.

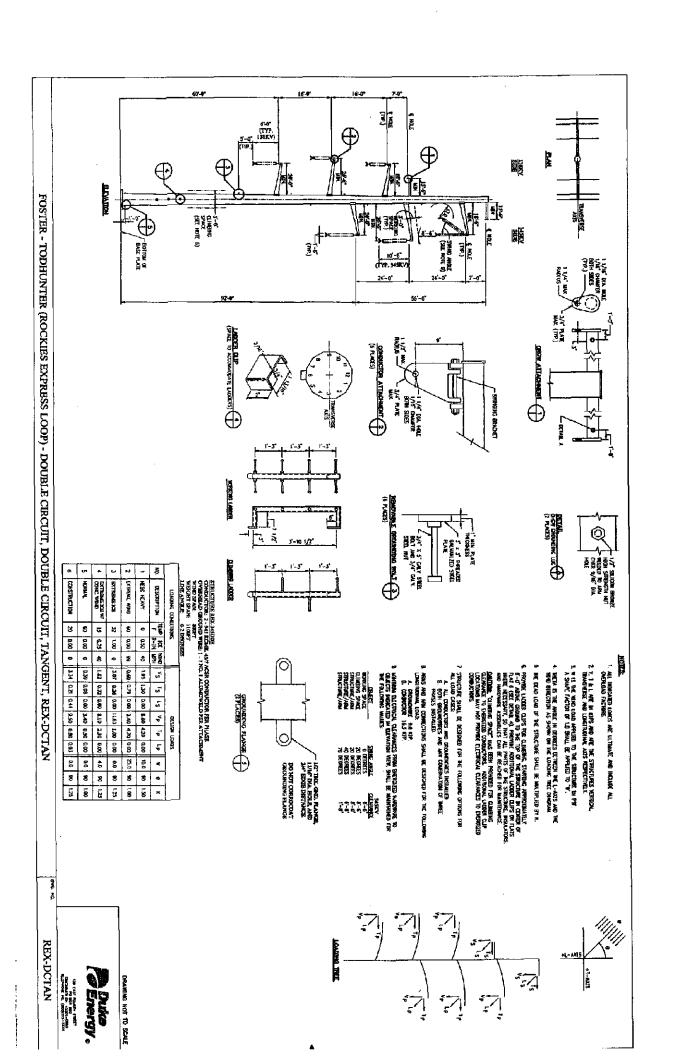
C. ONE GROUND WIRE OR ONE PHASE WIRE BROKEN FOR LOAD.

B. VANCS AND VANG CONNECTION TO POLE SHALL BE DESIGNED TO MITHSTAND THE RESULTANT LOAD, 10 DEGREESS ETHER SIDE OF NORCATED LINE ANGLES

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APPENDIX B LETTERS TO OFFICIALS



July 13, 2008

Natural Resources Management Room 409A 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Mr. C. Michael Kilburn, Commissioner Warren County Commissioner Administration Building 406 Justice Dr. Lebanon, Ohio 45036

Dear Mr. Kilburn:

RE: Line F5689 138 kV Electric Transmission Line Loop to Rockies Express Substation

Please find enclosed a copy of a Letter of Notification that Duke Energy Ohio sent to the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding a planned new 138 kV transmission line loop. This project will connect Duke Energy Ohio's existing F5689 138 kV transmission line to the Rockies Express Substation, currently under construction and required for the Rockies Express Hamilton Compressor Station. This Letter of Notification replaces the project information that was originally sent on June 12, 2008 (PUCO Case No. 08-0736-EL-BLN).

In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4906-1-01 Appendix A, we are required to prepare this Letter of Notification for the Ohio Power Siting Board and in compliance with OAC 4906-11-02(B), we are hereby providing you with a copy. Please feel free to call me at (513) 287-2379 if you have any questions about this project.

Sincerely, Duke Energy

Stephen R. Lane

Environmental Scientist

Enclosure

Cc Mr. James VanDeGrift, Turtle Creek Township Trustees

Mayor Robert Routson, City of Monroe Public Utilities Commission of Ohio



July 13, 2008

Natural Resources Management Room 409A 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Mr. James VanDeGrift, Trustee Turtle Creek Township Trustees 670 N. State Route 123 Lebanon, OH 45036

Dear Mr. VanDeGrift:

RE: Line F5689 138 kV Electric Transmission Line Loop to Rockies Express Substation

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Sincerely, Duke Energy

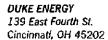
Stephen R. Lane

Environmental Scientist

Enclosure

Сс

Mr. C. Michael Kilburn, Warren County Board of Commissioners Mayor Robert Routson, City of Monroe Public Utilities Commission of Ohio





July 13, 2008

Natural Resources Management Room 409A 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Mayor Robert Routson City of Monroe 233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio 45050

Dear Mayor Routson:

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Sincerely, Duke Energy

Stephen R. Lane Environmental Scientist

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Ce Mr. C. Michael Kilburn, Warren County Board of Commissioners Mr. James VanDeGrift, Turtle Creek Township Trustees Public Utilities Commission of Ohio