

FILE

Staff Investigation Report and Recommendation

Case No.: 09-557-EL-BLN

Project: Zimmer Substation Expansion

Applicant: Duke Energy Ohio

Report Date: 23 July 2009

Automatic Approval Date: 31 July 2009 (**Expedited** Letter of Notification process)

Waiver Request: None

Inspection Date(s): 14 July 2009

Staff Assigned: J. O'Dell

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Summary of Staff Recommendations (see report text for discussion):

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

Summary of Staff Recommended Conditions (see report text for discussion):

- None

Projected Docket Closure Date (if automatically approved): 1 April 2013

Investigation Report

Project Description: This project involves a 200 percent expansion of substation fence line. The expansion is necessary to replace an antiquated sulfur hexafluoride breaker ring bus. The new replacement ring bus will provide more reliable circuit protection.

Site Description: The existing substation and the proposed expansion are located entirely within the boundaries of the Zimmer generation plant. The expansion area is currently being used as a parking lot for contractors and for storm water retention. The site will require 5 to 18 feet of fill material to raise it 2.4 feet above the 500-year flood plain. The Applicant intends to obtain clean soil from one of their landfill expansion areas. The project is located Moscow Village, Washington Township, Clermont County.

Discussion/Comments/Concerns: The construction of this project should pose only minimal negative social and ecological impacts.

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