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**Staff Investigation Report and Recommendation**

**Case No.:** 09-1938-EL-BLN  
**Project:** Vine-City of Columbus West 138 kV Relocation  
**Applicant:** Columbus Southern Power Company (American Electric Power)

**Report Date:** February 4, 2010

**Automatic Approval Date:** February 12, 2010 (Letter of Notification process)

**Waiver Requests:** None

**Inspection Date(s):** January 20 and 21, 2010

**Staff Assigned:** J. Pawley

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

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

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**Summary of Staff Recommended Conditions:**

1. The Applicant will coordinate all traffic related issues with the City of Columbus and/or ODOT, as needed, and that traffic will be adequately maintained along public roadways and adjacent land uses during construction.
2. The Applicant will include appropriate environmental controls, particularly in the vicinity of the Goodale-Vine connector, where land has been graded for the roadway creating fairly steep banks in the vicinity of the project.
3. That prior to construction, the Applicant shall obtain all applicable permits and authorizations as required by Federal and State entities for any activities where such permit or authorization is required.

**Projected Docket Closure Date (if approved by the Board):** August 31, 2012

**Investigation Report**

**Project Description:** This project consists of relocating 0.35 miles of the Vine-City of Columbus West 138 kV transmission line. Six (6) wood pole structures are to be removed; including one wood structure which is presently located in the center of a two way street. Three (3) wood pole tangent structures, one (1) wood pole dead-end structure, one (1) steel pole running angle structure and two (2) steel pole dead-end structures are to be installed for the relocation. One of the three affected property owners, Nationwide Investments LLC, has requested the relocation to accommodate future development. The other two affected property owners have granted easements for the project (for pole placement and centerline alignment) and, additionally, the Applicant states that it has been granted a right-of-way occupancy permit from the city of Columbus. The Applicant reiterated to Staff that all permits and approvals will be in place prior to the commencement of construction, including permission from ODOT to remove and replace guy wires located on state (ODOT) property.

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Technician SM Date Processed FEB 04 2010

**Site Description:** This project is located in the City of Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio. The immediate vicinity is commercial in nature and is also near an active CSX railroad and highway (I-670). Access to the site is from Neil Avenue, Vine Street and Convention Center Drive.

**Discussion/Comments/Concerns:** The project is in an area that is developing adjacent to the Nationwide Arena facility. The site is directly adjacent to the Applicant's Vine Street substation, existing parking lots and roadways. The new line alignment will be located closer to and parallel to property lines and roadways rather than bisecting parcels. There is one structure that will be relocated adjacent to an outdoor bar patio area, behind a restaurant/bar facility. The Applicant has indicated that the property owner of this facility has provided an easement for the structure to be placed at this location, which is directly adjacent to road right-of-way. Relocating this line will allow the applicant to remove an existing pole structure that is located in the center of Convention Center Drive, surrounded by a traffic island and guardrails. Per the application, the project is not located within any agricultural land, nor is it located within the confines of any wetlands, floodplains, forests or preserves. Additionally, there are no endangered, threatened or rare species within the project area. The construction of this project should pose only minimal negative social and environmental impacts.