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Ohio Power Siting Board

Staff Investigation Report and Recommendation

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Case No.: 11-5471-EL-BLN

Project: Ashland to Whittier 138 kV Transmission Line

Applicant: Duke Energy Ohio

Report Date: 7 Nov 2011

Automatic Approval Date: 15 Nov 2011 (**Expedited** Letter of Notification process)

Waiver Request: None

Inspection Date(s): 28 Oct 2011

Staff Assigned: J. O'Dell

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

Application: [] Approval [] Disapproval [X] Approval with Conditions
Waiver: [] Approval [] Disapproval [X] Not Applicable

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

- Applicant shall negotiate and secure all required easements prior to commencement of construction.

Projected Docket Closure Date (if automatically approved): 30 June 2014

Investigation Report

Project Description: This project involves upgrading and converting approximately 0.95 miles of distribution line to 138 kV transmission line. The project will require 16 new wood poles and four steel structures. The project would provide service to a planned distribution substation.

Site Description: Land use in proximity to the project includes commercial, interstate, industrial and urban residential uses. The existing easements also follow around the perimeter of a large cemetery. A majority of the project is sited within existing utility easements; therefore, only small portion requires new easements. This project is located in the City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County.

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

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Technician MN Date Processed NOV 07 2011