



Legal Department

April 15, 2013

Honorable Todd A. Snitchler
Ohio Power Siting Board
Attorney Examiner
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Erin C. Miller
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Re: PUCO Case No. 12-1361-EL-BSB Biers Run Substation Project

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

Attached please find the public notice filed concerning the proposed major utility facility in the above-referenced case. The notice was published in pursuant of Rule 4906-5-08, Ohio Administrative Code.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

//s/ Erin Miller
Erin Miller

Attachments



AdOhio[™]

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Proof of Publication

I, Walter Dozier, do hereby attest that the AEP Legal Notice did appear in the following newspaper as ordered:

Chillicothe Gazette 3/31/13

Walter Dozier
Walter Dozier

4/2/13
Date

State of Ohio
County of Franklin

On this day, the 2nd day of April before me, Patricia A. Conkle, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared Walter Dozier, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name was subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he executed it.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Patricia A. Conkle
Notary Public



Patricia A. Conkle
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires 03-17-2014

ENVIRONMENT

Spring allergy season might be longer

Higher mean temperatures partly to blame

By Cathy Payne USA Today

This year's spring allergy season is nothing to sniff at: The season could be longer and stronger, allergists say.

Blooming trees have been releasing pollen into the air, triggering allergic reactions in some people. The start of tree pollen season varies across the country.

Increased mean temperatures from climate change affect tree pollen, said Richard We-

TIPS FOR PEOPLE WITH ALLERGIES

- Watch the pollen count. If pollen counts are high, you might want to avoid outdoor activities during early morning hours. (You can find pollen levels on allergy relief and weather sites such as AccuWeather.com and the National Allergy Bureau.)
- When driving, keep your car windows closed.
- When you're home, keep your bedroom windows closed.
- Clean your air-conditioning filters regularly.
- If you've been outdoors, take a shower and wash your hair to get rid of any pollen.

ber, president of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. "We are seeing trees not only pollinate earlier but also produce more pollen," he said.

Peaks and lulls

Some people who are sensitive to tree pollen

also could feel the effects of grass pollen as spring gives way to summer. They might get a break before ragweed pollen hits in the fall.

Many people with spring and summer allergies might not get relief until July, when it gets very hot, and pollen counts go down, said William Berger, an adviser

for the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America.

The higher pollen levels could worsen symptoms for some people, but effects vary among individuals, said Weber, an allergist in Denver. With an allergy, the immune system overreacts to a trigger substance, or allergen. Outdoor allergies (also known as seasonal allergic rhinitis or hay fever) occur when allergens found outdoors are inhaled into the nose and lungs.

Common allergens are tree pollen in the spring, grass pollen in the summer and weed pollen in the fall, as well as mold spores. Outdoor mold

spores peak in July in warmer states and in October in colder states.

Climate change

A study in the September issue of the *Journal of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology* showed the effect of climate change on allergies. The study linked increased pollen concentrations and lengthened allergy seasons to warmer temperatures.

The ragweed pollen season has grown as much as 13 to 27 days longer since 1995, a 2011 study from the U.S. Department of Agriculture found. It linked the later end of the season to higher temper-

atures from climate change. Weber said that with increased exposure to allergens because of longer pollen seasons, more people might become sensitized.

"Older patients are coming in with new onset of hay fever," he said. "About 16.9 million U.S. adults were diagnosed with hay fever in 2011, according to the 2011 National Health Interview Survey. About 6.7 million U.S. children were reported to have hay fever."

Berger, an allergist in Mission Viejo, Calif., said it is important to see a board-certified allergist for diagnosis and treatment.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED MAJOR UTILITY FACILITY

AEP Ohio, a unit of American Electric Power (AEP), and the AEP Ohio Transmission Company, propose to construct a new high voltage 345/138/69-kilovolt (KV) substation in Ross County.

The project is known as the Biers Run Project. As required by Ohio Revised Code Section 4906, AEP Ohio seeks a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need from the state of Ohio Power Siting Board.

DATE, TIME AND LOCATIONS OF PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing in this case shall consist of two parts:

(a) a local public hearing, pursuant to Section 4906.08(C), Revised Code, where the Power Siting Board shall accept written or oral testimony from any person. This non-adjudicatory hearing will begin at 6 p.m. June 11, 2013, at the Pioneer School of Developmental Disabilities, 11288 County Road 550, Chillicothe, Ohio 45601; and

(b) an adjudicatory hearing commencing at 10 a.m. June 25, 2013, 11th Floor, Hearing Room 11-C, at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 100 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793. The hearing on June 25, 2013, at the PUCO offices is open to the public, but participation is limited to the parties in the case as defined by OHC 4905.08.

This notice is the first notice published regarding this project's respective hearing dates. A second notice will be published approximately seven days prior to the first hearing date.

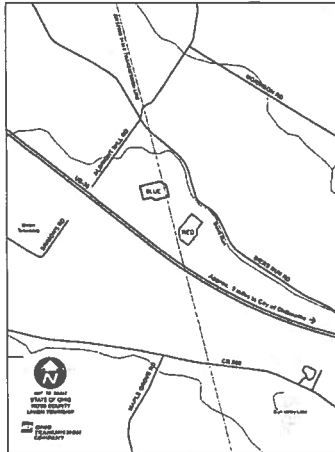
The application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need pending before the state of Ohio Power Siting Board. This application has been assigned Case Number 12-181-EL-858. This number should be included in all communications with respect to this proceeding.

Petitions to intervene in the adjudicatory hearing will be accepted by the board up to 30 days following publication of the notice required by Rule 4906-5-08(C)(1), O.A.C., or later if good cause is shown. However, the board strongly encourages interested persons who wish to intervene in the adjudicatory hearing to file their petitions as early as possible. Petitions should be addressed to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 100 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215-3793 and cite the above-listed case number.

AEP is proposing to build the new 345/138/69-KV Biers Run Substation in rural Union Township northwest of Chillicothe in Ross County. The project will include the following: make improvements at several existing substations, upgrade existing transmission lines and construct two new 138-KV transmission lines in the area. The substation will be approximately 222 million or \$27 million. AEP is investing in its transmission system in the area. The overall project will produce additional tax revenue for local schools and communities, with the station alone estimated to provide between \$1,000,000 and \$1,135,000 in property taxes to local communities.

The Biers Run Project is a major transmission reinforcement project designed to help AEP maintain an adequate level of transmission reliability in southern Ohio. The new Biers Run Substation will allow AEP to address reliability concerns about potential low voltages and thermal overloads under certain conditions. Without this substation, in a worst case scenario, uncontrolled widespread power outages affecting major portions of southern Ohio may materialize. AEP studies indicate that without this reinforcement plan, the performance of the company's transmission system will be inadequate to provide the level of service that its customers expect.

To resolve these issues, AEP has proposed and PJM – the regional transmission organization to which AEP belongs – has approved a baseline project to construct the new 345/138/69-KV Biers Run Substation, to build two new 138-KV circuits, one from Biers Run



Station to Circleville Station and other from Biers Run to Delano Station, and two new 69-KV circuits to reinforce the 138-KV and 69-KV transmission systems in the area. These new facilities will provide the much needed voltage and thermal capacity support, as well as ensure near- and long-term transmission reliability for the area. The proposed Biers Run Substation will be located between Biers Run Road and State Route 35.

A separate application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need will be submitted for the proposed 138-KV transmission lines later this year. Details about these proposed transmission lines and their routes will be available at that time.

The accompanying map depicts the two proposed sites. It should be noted that due to the reduced scale and limited detail, this map should be used only as a general guide. Copies of the actual siting application, including specific details about the location and construction are available for public inspection at the following locations:

Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library
140 South Paint Street
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
416-702-4190

Ohio Power Siting Board
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
182 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio, 43215-3793
614-466-3282

An electronic version of the siting application can be found at the Ohio Power Siting Board website at <http://opsbo.ohio.gov>. Search under current cases for case number 12-181-EL-858.

The following local city and county government officials have been served with a copy of the application as required by state of Ohio Power Siting Board regulations:

Ross County Commissioners
Mr. James M. Caldwell, President
2 North Paint Street, Suite H
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Ross County Commissioners
Mr. Robert D. Carcoran, Commissioner
7 North Paint Street, Suite H
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Ross County Commissioners
Mr. Stephen A. Neal, Commissioner
2 North Paint Street, Suite H
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Ross County Engineer's Office
Mr. Charles Orman
205 Box 459
755 Fairgrounds Road
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Union Township Trustee
Mr. Harold W. Barnett
378 Shiloh Road
Frankfort, Ohio 45628

Union Township Trustee
Mr. Donald W. Aldridge
210 Yellowbud Road
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Union Township Trustee
Mr. Robert L. Whorton
44 Ardersonville Road
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

The state power siting board has served the following state agencies with copies of the application:

- Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
- Ohio Department of Agriculture
- Ohio Department of Development
- Ohio Department of Health
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- Ohio Department of Transportation
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
- Ohio Historical Society

CRITERIA USED TO REVIEW THE APPLICATION

The following eight criteria are set forth in Section 4906.10 (A) of the Revised Code and will be used, along with additional information, by the board in reviewing the application for a certificate to construct, operate and maintain the Biers Run Substation Project:

• the basis of need for the facility. In the case of a majority utility facility described in division (B)(1) of Section 4906.01 of the Revised Code, the board shall presume the need for the facility as that need is stated in an application pursuant to division (A)(3) of Section 4905.06 of the Revised Code,

- the nature of the probable environmental impact of the proposed facility;
- the facility represents the minimum adverse environmental impact, considering

the state of available technology, the nature and economics of alternatives and other permanent considerations,

- in the case of electric transmission lines, that the facility is consistent with regional plans for expansion of the electric power grid of the electric systems serving Ohio and interconnected systems, and that the facility will leave the interests of electric system economy and reliability;

- the facility will comply with chapters 3704, 3734 and 6111 of the Revised Code and all rules and standards adopted pursuant to sections 1501.02, 1501.34 and 4561.32 of the Revised Code. In determining whether the facility will comply with all rules and standards adopted under Section 4561.34 of the Revised Code, the board shall consult with the office of aviation of the division of multi-modal planning and programs of the Department of Transportation under Section 4901.241 of the Revised Code.

- the facility will comply with all air and water pollution control and solid waste disposal laws and regulations;

- the facility will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity. The facility's impact on the viability as agricultural land of any land in an existing agricultural district established under Chapter 925 of the Revised Code that is located within the site of the proposed major utility facility, and

- the facility incorporates maximum feasible water conservation practices as determined by the board considering available technology and the nature and economics of various alternatives.

Section 4906.07, Revised Code provides that

Upon the receipt of an application, complying with Section 4905.06 of the Revised Code, the power siting board shall promptly fix a date for a public hearing thereon not less than 60 or more than 90 days after such receipt and shall conduct the proceeding as expeditiously as practicable.

On the application for an amendment of a certificate, the board shall hold a hearing in the same manner as a hearing is held for an application for a certificate if the proposed change in the facility would result in any material increase in any environmental impact of the facility or a substantial change in the location of all or a portion of such facility other than as provided in the alternatives set forth in the application.

The chairman of the power siting board shall cause each application filed with the board to be investigated and shall, not less than 15 days prior to the date any application is set for hearing, submit a written report to the board and to the applicant. A copy of such report shall be made available to any person upon request. Such report shall set forth the nature of the investigation and shall contain recommended findings with regard to division (A) of Section 4906.10 of the Revised Code and shall become part of the record and served upon all parties to the proceeding.

For more information about the project, please visit AEP Ohio's Transmission Project page at <https://www.aepohio.com/po/transmission>.

To ask a question, make a comment or express a concern about the project, please call the AEP Ohio Transmission Project Information Line toll-free at 1-877-215-5881 or at 614-883-6922.



AEP Ohio Transmission Company
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230
Attention: Shawn Malone, Project Manager

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

4/15/2013 1:44:15 PM

in

Case No(s). 12-1361-EL-BSB

Summary: Proof of Pub Biers Run Substation Project electronically filed by Erin C Miller on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.