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Power Siting Board

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Board Members

August 28, 2013

Scott Nally
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

William S. Dancey, Ph.D.
Department of Anthropology
The Ohio State University
4034 Smith Laboratory
174 W. 18th Avenue
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David Goodman
Ohio Development Services Agency

Theodore E. Wymyslo, M.D.
Ohio Department of Health

Jim Zehringer
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Re: Biers Run – Hopetown – Delano 138 kV Transmission Line Project
Case No. 13-0429-EL-BTX

David Daniels
Ohio Department of Agriculture

Dr. William Dancey,

Jeffery J. Lechak, P.E.
Public Member

Thank you for contacting the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) regarding American Electric Power Transmission Company's (AEP Transco) proposed Biers Run – Hopetown – Delano 138 kV Transmission Line Project. Your correspondence in regards to the project has been docketed in case number 13-0429-EL-BTX.

Peter Stautberg
Ohio House of Representatives

Sandra Williams
Ohio House of Representatives

Bill Seltz
Ohio Senate

To date, the OPSB has not received an application from AEP Transco concerning this project. Once an application is filed, specific routing plans for the line will be available on the OPSB website at www.opsb.ohio.gov.

Michael Skindell
Ohio Senate

When reviewing an electric transmission application, OPSB staff investigates each route to determine many criteria. When determining impacts to cultural and historical resources, the OPSB staff consults with the Ohio State Historical Preservation Office to identify and minimize any such potential impacts.

Executive Director
Kim Wissman

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact the OPSB at (866) 270-6772. Again, thank you for your continued interest in this case.

Very truly yours,

Kim Wissman, Executive Director
Ohio Power Siting Board

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August 23, 2013

Ohio Power Siting Board
Attn: Steve Irwin
1800 East Broad
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

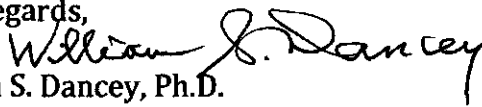
Dear Mr. Irwin,

It has come to my attention that AEP's proposed Biers Run – Hopetown – Delano Transmission Line Project, the "Blue Route," will cross over the Anderson Works—an ancient Hopewell earthwork complex in Ross County. I am a retired archaeologist who taught at Ohio State University for 35 years, most of them devoted to archaeology in the Scioto River drainage. I am also past President of the Ohio Archaeological Council and former member of the Ohio Historic Preservation Advisory Board. Currently I am on the *Board of the Heartland Earthwork Conservancy*. My research and that of my students has centered on the prehistoric Indian societies that constructed public monuments such as the Anderson Works. Earthen constructions like this are the fragile reminders of Ohio's forbearers, the people before us who sculpted the landscape with their burial mounds and geometric enclosures and who tamed the forests and prairies to create food producing economies.

The Biers Run project threatens to further damage an earthwork that has already been crossed by a rail line and had a housing development built on its northern side. I understand that alternative routes are available and urge the Board to give them serious consideration. The Ohio Code does not have a preservation law but it does have a provision that enjoins agencies and businesses to do the right thing by historic properties. In the present case I hope the value of keeping this gem of history alive will outweigh any benefits to sticking with the current route.

I would be happy to discuss the significance of the Anderson Works with you and the Board if you would like to know more about it and why archaeologists are concerned.

With Regards,


William S. Dancey, Ph.D.
Associate Professor Emeritus