

Legal Department

American Electric Power 1 Riverside Plaza Columbus, OH 43215-2373 AEP.com

Ms. Betty McCauley Director, Administration Department Secretary to the Commission Docketing Division The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Ohio Power Siting Board 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Yazen Alami

Regulatory Services (614) 716-2920 (P) (614) 716-2950 (F) yalami@aep.com October 29, 2013

## RE: Letter of Notification Case No. 13-2009-EL-BLN: Melmore – Tiffin Center 138kV Line Improvement Project

Dear Ms. McCauley:

In accordance with Rules 4906-5-02 and 4906-11-01, Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC"), AEP Ohio Transmission Company ("AEP Transco") submits this Letter of Notification. Construction of the project is scheduled to begin in March of 2014 and to run through the end of October 2014.

As required by Rule 4906-11-01(D)(4), AEP Transco has submitted a copy of this Letter of Notification to the chief executive officer of each municipal corporation and county and the head of each public agency charged with protecting the environment or of planning land use in the area in which the proposed project will be located. Attached to the Letter of Notification are copies of cover letters that have been submitted to the Eden Township Trustees, Seneca Township Trustees, Clinton Township Board of Trustees and the Seneca County Board of Commissioners.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Yazen Alami Yazen Alami

Attachments

# LETTER OF NOTIFICATION FOR THE

# MELMORE – TIFFIN CENTER 138KV LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

## PUCO Case No. 13-2009-EL-BLN

Submitted pursuant to OAC 4906-11-01

AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Ohio Transco)

October 2013

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## LETTER OF NOTIFICATION

## Melmore – Tiffin Center 138kV Line Improvement Project

American Electric Power Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Ohio Transco) is providing the following information in accordance with the procedures delineated in Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-11-01: Letter of Notification Requirements of the Rules and Regulations of the Ohio Power Siting Board.

#### 4906-11-01 (B): General Information

#### <u>4906-11-01 (B)(1)</u>

The proposed Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Line Improvement Project (OPSB Case Number 13-2009-EL-BLN) consists of rebuilding the Tiffin Center Extension 138kV transmission line from the proposed Melmore Station (OPSB Case Number 13-2009-EL-BLN) in Eden Township to the existing Tiffin Center Station in Clinton Township in Seneca County, Ohio. AEP Ohio Transco will be rebuilding from single circuit H-Frame structures to double circuit single steel poles. The Melmore-Tiffin Center line is part of AEP's Fremont Area Improvement Plan – a transmission reinforcement effort designed to help AEP maintain adequate transmission reliability in northwestern Ohio. This improvement project addresses low-voltage concerns identified by PJM. The project extends approximately 7.15 miles.

The project is located in Sections 3, 10 & 15 of Eden Township (T1N, R15E) and Sections 10, 15, 22, 27 & 34 of Clinton Township (T2N, R15E) in Seneca County, Ohio. A temporary construction staging and laydown yard will be established for this project at 745 South County Route 13, Clinton Township, Seneca County. Maps 1 & 2 depict the Project Area.

The project is defined by Item (4)(a) of the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4906-01, Appendix A "Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines," which requires a Letter of Notification. This project consists of replacing electric power transmission line structures where less than two miles of new right-of-way is required.

#### 4906-11-01 (B) (2)

The purpose of the Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Line Improvement Project is to install a second circuit by rebuilding from single circuit H-Frame structures to double circuit single steel poles from the proposed Melmore Station to the existing Tiffin Center Station. This project is part of the Fremont Area Improvement project which addresses a critical need for AEP Ohio Transco to reinforce its transmission system in parts of the Fremont-Fostoria area of Seneca County to accommodate growth in this region and to upgrade the company's transmission system in northwestern Ohio. The addition of this circuit will also help address reliability concerns that were identified by PJM in their 2009 Regional Transmission Expansion Plan (RTEP). This project is a PJM mandated project related to voltage violations in the area for year 2015 and beyond. This project is a critical component of a much larger project, the Fremont Area Improvement Project, which will make the area more robust from a power delivery perspective.

#### 4906-11-01 (B)(3)

The general location of the Project is shown in Maps 1 & 2.

## 4906-11-01 (B)(4)

No alternative locations were considered. The Tiffin Center Extension is an existing AEP Ohio Power transmission facility.

## 4906-11-01 (B)(5)

Construction of the project is scheduled to begin March of 2014 with installation of construction access and soil erosion control measures including the laydown yard and staging area. Construction is scheduled to run through the end of October 2014.

#### 4906-11-01 (B)(6)

Map 1 has been prepared to show the project location in relation to other transmission lines in the area. To view the project from Columbus, take US 23 north to Upper Sandusky to Ohio 53. Take Ohio 53 north to Ohio 67 east to Melmore. In Melmore take Ohio 100 north to Center Road, then Center Road west to South Township Road 17 north to the Melmore Station site. The line runs north parallel to the east of S. Township Road,

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crossing Ohio 100, East Township Road 86, East County Road 16 and US 224 (Benjamin Franklin Highway). Continuing north the road name changes to County Road 15 (Morrison Road) crossing County Road 36, County Road 50, Ohio 18 (N. Greenfield Road), Township Road 122 (Center Road). Turn east (right) at Ohio 101 (Portland Road) to view the north end of the line at the Tiffin Center Station.

#### 4906-11-01 (B)(7)

The existing line consists of existing easements that were obtained by American Electric Power prior to construction of the original transmission line. AEP Ohio Transco may obtain supplemental easements for the rebuild of this line where necessary. AEP Ohio Transco has notified property owners of the transmission line project.

#### 4906-11-01 (C): Technical Features of the Project

#### <u>4906-11-01 (C)(1)</u>

The existing wood H-Frame structures will be replaced (structure-for-structure) with new galvanized steel poles. The proposed centerline will be offset approximately 10 feet west of the existing centerline, and generally aligned with the westerly most legs of the existing H-frames. The new transmission line will be designed and constructed for 138 kV operations and in accordance with the current National Electric Safety Code.

The transmission line work will include installing (6) self-supporting single pole dead-end structures and (49) self-supporting single pole davit arm structures. New conductors, insulators and hardware will be installed on the new structures. Additional details are included in section 4906-11-01(B)(2) above. The Project has the following characteristics:

Voltage:	138 kV		
Structure type:	Double circuit steel pole on concrete pier foundation (Figure 1)		
Shield wire:	(1) 96 Fiber OPGW, (1) 7#8 Alumoweld		
Conductor: (6) 954 kcmil ACSR "Hawk" twisted pair (vibration resistant)			

## 4906-11-01 (C)(2)

Electric and Magnetic Fields During Operation

(a) *Calculated Electric and Magnetic Field Levels* Three loading conditions were examined: (1) normal maximum loading, (2) emergency line loading, and (3) winter normal conductor rating. Normal maximum loading represents the peak flow expected with all system facilities in service; daily/hourly flows fluctuate below this level. Emergency loading is the maximum current flow during unusual (contingency) conditions, which exist only for short periods of time. Winter normal (WN) conductor rating represents the maximum current flow that a line, including its terminal equipment, can carry during winter conditions. It is not anticipated that this line would operate at its WN rating in the foreseeable future.

## **Calculated Electric and Magnetic Fields**

Condition	Ckt.1/Ckt.2 Load (A)*	Ground Clear. (Feet)	Electric Field (kV/m)**	Magnetic Field (mG)**
<ul><li>(1) Normal Max. Loading</li><li>(2) Emergency Line Loading</li><li>(3) WN Conductor Rating</li></ul>	73/120 291/333 1360/736	39.0 39.0 35.0	0.15/0.53/0.15	0.98/5.86/2.81 3.78/15.57/6.11 36.38/83.25/13.6

\*Current flows in Circuit 1 and Circuit 2 are in the same direction. \*\*EMF levels (left ROW edge/maximum/right ROW edge) calculated one meter above ground at the point of minimum ground clearance, assuming balanced phase currents and nominal voltages. ROW width is 100 feet.

(b) Discussion of the Company's Design Alternatives Regarding EMF Levels

## Line Loading and Rating

Circuit	Normal Maximum Loading	Emergency Loading	Winter Normal Conductor Rating
Circuit #1	73	291	1360
Circuit #2	120	333	736

The electric and magnetic field levels for the proposed project were calculated for the conductor configuration as depicted by "Figure 1" (See Appendix).

## 4906-11-01 (C)(3)

The 2013 capital cost estimates for the proposed project have been tabulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Electric Plant Transmission Accounts:

FERC Accounts	Estimated Capital Costs
355 Poles and Fixtures	\$4,893,687
356 Overhead Conductors and Devices	\$1,256,154
Total Cost	\$6,149,841

## 4906-11-01 (D): Socioeconomic Data

## 4906-11-01 (D)(1)

This Project is located is located in Eden and Clinton Townships of Seneca County on existing AEP easements. The installation of tubular steel poles will result in a smaller footprint than the existing H-frame structures Commonwealth Associates, Inc., an independent environmental consultant, has prepared a detailed land use description and population density. Commonwealth's report is provided in the Appendix.

## 4906-11-01 (D)(2)

Commonwealth performed a study to determine if any Agricultural District Land parcels were located within the study corridor. Parcels registered in the State were obtained from the Office of the Seneca County Auditor, Julie A. Adkins within the 2,000 foot wide corridor study area in the two Townships. There are 18 parcels within the study area belonging to 8 different owners which are registered with the State of Ohio Agricultural District Land program. The construction, operation and maintenance of this transmission line are not expected to affect the viability of agricultural land. This project, when complete, will not require changes in agricultural practices from what they are currently. Impacts to agricultural district land are anticipated to be limited to temporary during construction only.

## 4906-11-01 (D)(3)

A Phase I Archaeological Investigation was conducted for this project. Weller & Associates, Inc. completed a Phase I archaeological investigation in Eden and Clinton Townships, Seneca County, Ohio. A copy of this report will be provided to the Ohio Power Siting Board under separate cover.

## 4906-11-01 (D)(4)

Copies of this Letter of Notification have been sent to the Seneca County Commissioners, the Township Trustees for Eden and Clinton townships, and the Tiffin-Seneca Public Library. Copies of the cover letters to these officials and the local library are attached in the Appendix.

AEP Ohio will advise local officials of features and the status of the proposed transmission line project as necessary.

## 4906-11-01 (D)(5)

There is no known current or pending litigation involving this Project.

## 4906-11-01 (D)(6)

A Notice of Intent will be filed with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for authorization of construction stormwater discharges under General Permit OHC000003. There are no other known local, state, or federal requirements that must be met prior to commencement of the proposed Project.

## 4906-11-01 (E): Environmental Data

During the field survey, a total of 3 wetlands were identified within the survey corridor. The wetlands identified total 0.75 acres. The wetlands were of all palustrine emergent wetland habitat types. Within the survey corridor, 8 streams, totaling 1,605 feet, were assessed: 2 ephemeral, 1 intermittent, and 5 perennial. Wetlands and streams will be avoided where possible. Where avoidance is not possible, wetlands will be matted with timber matting which will prevent impacts to the wetland. No permanent impact is anticipated and no permits are anticipated to be needed from the Ohio EPA or the US Army Corp of Engineers. Commonwealth has prepared a Wetland Delineation and Stream Assessment Report, which is located in the Appendix.

### 4906-11-01 (E)(1)

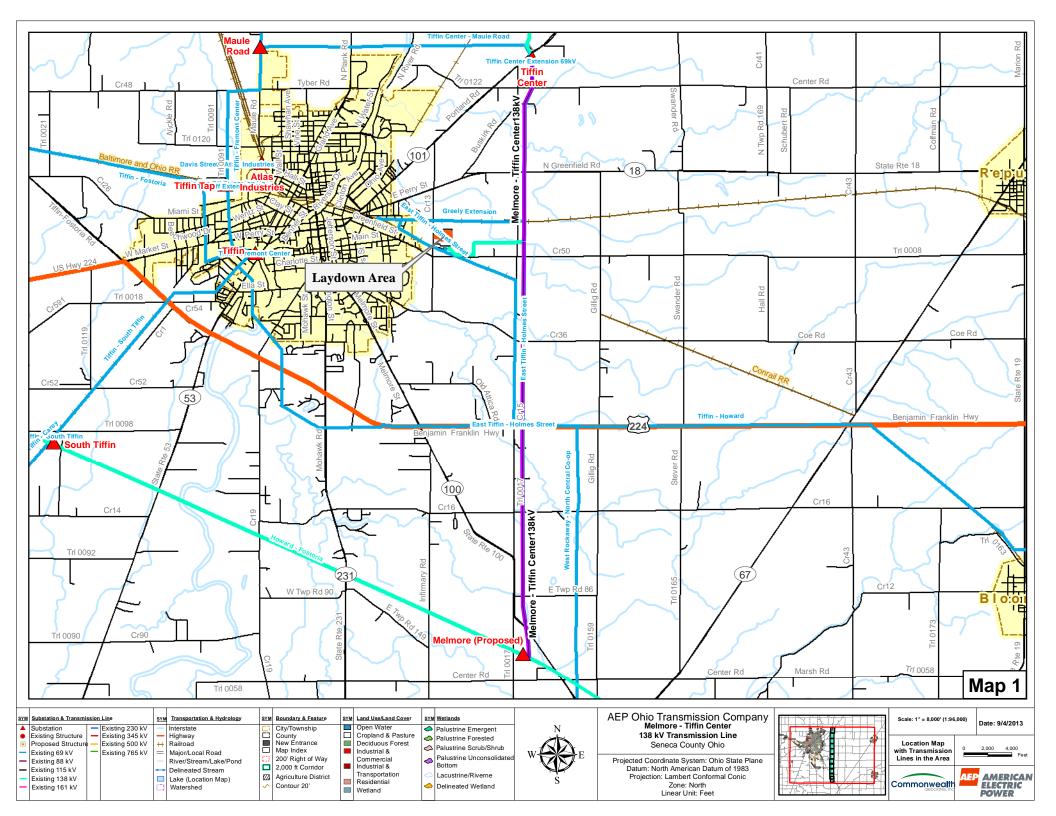
AEP Ohio Transco retained Commonwealth to conduct a threatened and endangered species review within the area crossed by the project centerline, and field survey within the 100 foot right of way for the entire length of the project. The field survey was conducted by Commonwealth in September and October 2013. Based on the nature of the project, review of available current literature, review of federal and state records of species of concern, contact with the USFWS and the ODNR, and the field survey conducted in October 2013, it is not expected that federal or state species of concern will be impacted by the project as currently planned. Commonwealth has prepared a detailed threatened and endangered species survey report, which is located in the Appendix.

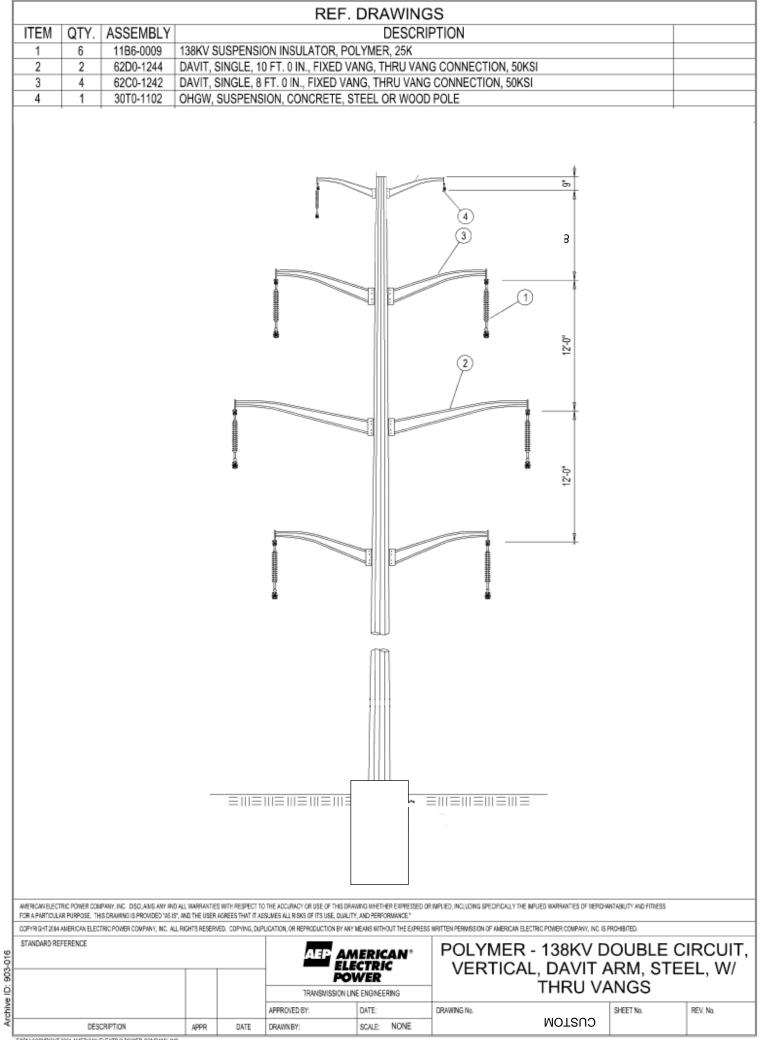
## 4906-11-01 (E)(2)

There are no areas of ecological concern located within the project area of the proposed project. No national forests or parks, designated or proposed wilderness areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, wildlife areas, wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, or wildlife sanctuaries were identified within 1,000 feet of the proposed Project. The proposed new circuit will cross 100-year flood zone areas. No changes in flood elevations are anticipated as a result of the Project.

## 4906-11-01 (E)(3)

There are no known unusual conditions or circumstances associated with this Project that will result in significant environmental, social, health or safety impacts. Construction and operation of the proposed Project will meet all applicable safety standards established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and will be in accordance with the requirements specified in the latest revision of the National Electrical Safety Code as adopted by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which will include the Access Plan, will be provided to the OPSB under separate cover, after submission of this Letter of Notification.





FORM COPYRIGHT 2001 AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY, INC

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October 28, 2013

Mr. Vern Shellhouse Eden Township Trustee 5565 S SR 100 Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Trustee Shellhouse:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

The proposed Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement project, OPSB Case Number 13-2009-EL-BLN, consists of rebuilding the Tiffin Center Extension 138kV transmission line from the proposed Melmore Station in Eden Township to the existing Tiffin Center Station in Clinton Township in Seneca County, Ohio. AEP Ohio Transco will be rebuilding from single circuit H-Frame structures to double circuit single steel poles. The Melmore-Tiffin Center line is part of AEP's Fremont Area Improvement Plan – a transmission reinforcement effort designed to help AEP maintain adequate transmission reliability in northwestern Ohio. This improvement project addresses low-voltage concerns identified by PJM. The project extends approximately 7.15 miles.

The project is located in Sections 3, 10 & 15 of Eden Township (T1N, R15E) and Sections 10, 15, 22, 27 & 34 of Clinton Township (T2N, R15E) in Seneca County, Ohio.

In compliance with Rule 4906-11-02 of the OPSB Rules and Regulations, we have prepared and filed the attached Letter of Notification. This Notice contains details on the line location, project description and construction schedule, and is submitted for your information.

Sincera

Todd Sides Project Management



October 28, 2013

Mr. Thomas Wise Eden Township Trustee 963 E TR 58 Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Trustee Wise:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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fodd Sides Project Management



October 28, 2013

Mr. Dennis Baugher Mr. Jim Distel Mr. Dennis Kingseed Clinton Township Board of Trustees P.O. Box 336 837 N SR 101 Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Township Trustees:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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Sincerely

Todd Sides Project Management



October 28, 2013

Mr. Tim Hagen, Director Tiffin-Seneca Public Library 77 Jefferson Street Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Hagen:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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Sincerely

<sup>†</sup>odd Sides Project Management



October 28, 2013

Mr. Fred Zoeller Ms. Holly Stacy Mr. Jeffrey D. Wagner Seneca County Board of Commissioners 111 Madison Street Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Board of Commissioners:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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Sincerely

Todd Sides Project Management



October 27, 2013

Mr. Thomas Weimerskirch Eden Township Trustee 1690 E TR 58 Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Trustee Weimerskirch:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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Sincerely,

Todd Sides Project Management



October 28, 2013

Mr. Gregory Smith Seneca Township Trustee 4907 S. TR 113 New Riegel, Ohio 44853

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Trustee Smith:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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Sincerely,

Todd Sides Project Management



October 28, 2013

Mr. James Faber Seneca Township Trustee 5951 S CR 47 Tiffin, Ohio 44883

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Trustee Faber:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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Sincerely,

Todd Sides Project Management



October 28, 2013

Mr. Kenneth Palmer Seneca Township Trustee 2213 W. TR 26 McCutchenville, Ohio 44844

RE: Letter of Notification Melmore-Tiffin Center 138kV Transmission Line Improvement Project

Dear Trustee Palmer:

In accordance with Rules 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), AEP Ohio Transmission Company (AEP Transco) is required to submit a Letter of Notification to the State of Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) whenever certain changes are made to our transmission facilities.

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Todd Sides Project Management

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

10/29/2013 11:26:24 AM

in

Case No(s). 13-2009-EL-BLN

Summary: Letter of Notification Part 1 of 3- Melmore-Tiffin Center 138k V Line Improvement Project electronically filed by Mr. Yazen Alami on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Company