

BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

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In the Matter of the	:
Application of the AEP	:
Ohio Transmission Company	: Case No.
for a Certificate of	: 13-522-EL-BSB
Environmental Compatibility	:
and Public Need for the	:
138 kV Melmore Substation	:
Project.	:

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PROCEEDINGS

Before Bryce McKenney, Administrative Law Judge,  
held at the Camden Falls Conference Center, 2460  
State Route 231, Tiffin, Ohio, on Tuesday, March  
18, 2014, at 6:00 P.M.

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Armstrong & Okey, Inc.  
222 East Town Street, 2nd Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 224-9481 - (800) 223-9481  
Fax - (614) 224-5724

- - -

APPEARANCES:

Mr. Yazen Alami  
AEP Service Corp.  
1 Riverside Plaza  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

On behalf of AEP Ohio  
Transmission Company, Applicant.

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1 Tuesday Evening,  
2 March 18, 2014.

3 - - -

4 ALJ MCKENNEY: Good evening. The  
5 Ohio Power Siting Board calls for hearing at  
6 this time and place Case No. 13-522-EL-BSB being  
7 In the Matter of the Application of the AEP Ohio  
8 Transmission Company for Certificate of  
9 Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for  
10 the 138 kilovolt Melmore Substation Project.

11 My name is Bryce McKenney, and I am  
12 an Administrative Law Judge assigned by the Ohio  
13 Power Siting Board to preside over this hearing.

14 At this time I am going to take an  
15 appearance from the company.

16 MR. ALAMI: Thank you, Your Honor.  
17 Here tonight on behalf of the company, myself,  
18 Yazen Alami, attorney with AEP Ohio Transmission  
19 Company. May address is 1 Riverside Plaza, 29th  
20 floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

21 Also with me here is the Project  
22 Manager, Todd Sites. Thank you.

23 ALJ MCKENNEY: Thank you.  
24 Tonight's public hearing is only one part of the  
25 overall proceeding. The adjudicatory hearing

1 will commence on April 3rd, 2014, at the offices  
2 of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. At  
3 the hearing AEP Ohio Transmission Company and  
4 the Ohio Power Siting Board staff will have an  
5 opportunity to present evidence regarding  
6 whether AEP Ohio Transmission Company's  
7 application should be approved.

8 Tonight's public hearing provides an  
9 opportunity for members of the general public to  
10 present their views on AEP's proposed project.  
11 We will not be hearing from AEP or the Staff  
12 this evening.

13 Tonight is the public's opportunity  
14 to let the Ohio Power Siting Board know what you  
15 think about the proposed project.

16 As you may have noticed there is a  
17 court reporter present and he will be  
18 transcribing the hearing. Basically that means  
19 that the court reporter will be recording in  
20 typewritten fashion the statements that are made  
21 today. All of tonight's hearing will be part  
22 of the record in the case and will be part of  
23 the Board's consideration of the application.

24 I would ask that if you give  
25 testimony this evening please speak up so the

1 court reporter can hear you clearly.

2 When you arrived there was a sign-up  
3 sheet for anyone who wishes to testify. We will  
4 take the witnesses in the order that they signed  
5 up first. After I take those witnesses I will  
6 call on anyone else who did not sign up and I  
7 will ask if you wish to give testimony.

8 Should you decide that you do not  
9 want to testify when I call your name merely  
10 pass or simply not volunteer to testify. When  
11 you do testify I will ask you to please stand up  
12 and just project loudly just to make sure that I  
13 can hear you clearly, the Power Siting Board  
14 Staff can hear you clearly, and most importantly  
15 the court reporter so he can get your comments  
16 down.

17 At the beginning of the statement I  
18 will also ask that you please state your name  
19 clearly and your address for the record. At  
20 this time I am going to begin with the  
21 witnesses.

22 The first person that I have that  
23 has signed in is Mike Feasel. Mr. Feasel, do  
24 you care to give a statement?

25 MR. FEASEL: Just a couple

1 questions, I guess.

2 ALJ MCKENNEY: That is okay. Mr.  
3 Feasel, before I have you do that I am going to  
4 ask you to raise your right hand and swear or  
5 affirm the truth.

6 (WITNESS SWORN)

7 ALJ MCKENNEY: Thank you.

8 - - -

9 MIKE FEASEL

10 called as a witness, being first duly sworn,  
11 testified as follows:

12 MR. FEASEL: I just had a couple  
13 questions here. When we received, I think it  
14 was in maybe from FedEx or the mail, we got a  
15 big three-ring binder about all this. See, we  
16 farm right next to this.

17 And in there they had alternate  
18 sites in there, and we didn't know anything  
19 about this. It said the landowner was  
20 approached. We never was approached. We had no  
21 idea that all these other sites was coming up.  
22 See, that is the whole deal. We were kind of  
23 mislead, you know.

24 But, from the paper one day, what is  
25 all this about, you know. And nobody ever told

1 us anything about that. It just come out in  
2 that book, you know. I had no idea. Kind of  
3 floored me, you know.

4 And then another thing, they had  
5 down no residence, like a house, within a  
6 thousand feet of this. Well, the old farm house  
7 is bad. We want to replace it, but I don't know  
8 if it's a good thing to do that now or not with  
9 this coming. I just kind of wait and see what  
10 is going to happen, I guess.

11 That is the couple things that I can  
12 think right off the bat here.

13 ALJ MCKENNEY: Thank you, Mr.  
14 Feasel. I would like to clarify, I am not going  
15 to answer any questions, but there are  
16 representatives of the Ohio Power Siting Board  
17 and the company here that would certainly be  
18 happy to answer any questions you have.

19 If you have any further statements  
20 you would like to give for the record?

21 MR. FEASEL: Other than, well, right  
22 now as of the 25th of February they are, I guess  
23 it's for that line, something. They have been  
24 working out there every day on the site. I  
25 don't know what -- we have never been told. I



1       guess it's for that new, you know, the  
2       replacement of the line that goes to Fremont.  
3       I take it that is what it's about.

4                 But, we have never been told  
5       otherwise. They just showed up one day and they  
6       have been there every day. But, other than  
7       that, I can't think of anything else right now.

8                 That was the two things that really,  
9       you know, the alternate site and this residence  
10      thing just kind of -- we have been kind of  
11      mislead is what it comes down to.

12                ALJ MCKENNEY: Thank you for your  
13      testimony.

14                MR. FEASEL: Okay.

15                ALJ MCKENNEY: The next name I have  
16      is Ruth Feasel.

17                MS. FEASEL: Same question I have  
18      is --

19                ALJ MCKENNEY: Ms. Feasel, I am  
20      going to ask you, I am going to have to do the  
21      same thing for you.

22                (WITNESS SWORN)

23                - - -

24                RUTH FEASEL

25      called as a witness, being first duly sworn,

1 testified as follows:

2 ALJ MCKENNEY: Thank you.

3 MS. FEASEL: The farm buildings are  
4 going to be real close to where this thing  
5 comes. And we wondered if there is any limit as  
6 far as the distance between where this fence is  
7 going to be and the building.

8 And another thing is that they --  
9 are they actually going to use these alternate  
10 sites or not? You don't know?

11 ALJ MCKENNEY: Sorry, Ms. Feasel, I  
12 am not going to answer any questions this  
13 evening. If you would like there are  
14 representatives of the Power Siting Board and  
15 the company here.

16 MS. FEASEL: Another thing I wanted  
17 to know is when you put this line in is the tile  
18 going to be replaced, or what? Because we have  
19 got tile in that one field that they are going  
20 to put this line down to.

21 ALJ MCKENNEY: Okay. Is there  
22 anything else you would like to address for the  
23 record?

24 MR. FEASEL: No, that is -- realize  
25 you guys own the land there, but we are right --

1     it's in our back yard, you understand. And we  
2     got, you know, looking at that every day. That  
3     is the whole thing. We got to -- kind of like  
4     to know what the plans are in mind a little  
5     more. The size of it too, yes. That was  
6     the other thing. We was kind of mislead on  
7     that.

8                     They said last May it would be 300  
9     by 350. Now the book is saying like 415 by 400  
10    or something. It got bigger in the process, you  
11    know. It seems like they are using up a lot of  
12    the square footage of that field. There isn't  
13    going to be much left the way it's looking.  
14    They are really trying to squeeze it all in,  
15    make it operational, I guess.

16                    But, that is, you know, that is just  
17    what we are looking at. We are right on top of  
18    it. That is what it comes down to.

19                    ALJ MCKENNEY:    Okay. Does that  
20    conclude your statement for the record then?

21                    MR. FEASEL:    Yes. As far as I know  
22    that is the main thing.

23                    ALJ MCKENNEY:    Thank you for  
24    providing testimony.

25                    MR. FEASEL:    You are welcome.

1                   ALJ MCKENNEY:   Those are the only  
2                   two names that I have signed up to testify this  
3                   evening.  Is there anyone else here that would  
4                   like to give a statement for the record?  
5                   Please.

6                   (WITNESS SWORN)

7                   - - -

8                   Dorothy BERG  
9                   called as a witness, being first duly sworn,  
10                  testified as follows:

11                  ALJ MCKENNEY:   I will ask you if  
12                  you could, if you could state your name for  
13                  the record and then when you are finished I will  
14                  ask for your name and address, if that is all  
15                  right.

16                  MS. BERG:   Dorothy Berg, and I live  
17                  about a mile and a half from where this site is.  
18                  My question is, to the AEP representative, has  
19                  there been any type of environmental impact  
20                  study done there?

21                  ALJ MCKENNEY:   Ms. Berg, the  
22                  opportunity this evening is to give testimony,  
23                  not specifically to ask questions of the company  
24                  and the Power Siting Board on the record.  There  
25                  will be questions asked of them at the

1 adjudicatory hearing, but this opportunity here  
2 this evening is to give statements on the  
3 project, thoughts on the project. Any questions  
4 can be addressed outside of the context of the  
5 formal testimony.

6 MS. BERG: So, then I will amend my  
7 statement. Instead of asking the question, I  
8 will just declare that I am concerned about an  
9 environmental impact in the area.

10 ALJ MCKENNEY: Thank you. Is there  
11 anything else?

12 MS. BERG: No.

13 ALJ MCKENNEY: All right. Is there  
14 anyone else this evening that would like to give  
15 testimony?

16 All right. Let's go off the record  
17 then.

18 (DISCUSSION OFF THE RECORD)

19 (RECESS TAKEN)

20 ALJ MCKENNEY: Let's go back on  
21 the record. Thank you everyone for coming this  
22 evening. As I indicated previously, this is not  
23 the last proceeding in this case. There will be  
24 an adjudicatory hearing held on April 3rd, 2014  
25 at the offices of the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio in Columbus.

At this time if there is no one else  
that wishes to give testimony in this case, we  
are adjourned. Thank you.

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(At 6:50 P.M. the hearing was  
concluded)

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CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing  
is a true and correct transcript of the  
proceedings taken by me in this matter on March  
18, 2014, and carefully compared with my  
original stenographic notes.

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Michael O. Spencer,  
Registered Professional  
Reporter.

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**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**4/2/2014 2:32:02 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 13-0522-EL-BSB**

Summary: Transcript in the matter of the AEP Ohio Transmission Company hearing held on 03/18/14 electronically filed by Mrs. Jennifer Duffer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc. and Spencer, Michael O. Mr.