BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

In the Matter of the Application of)	
South Field Energy LLC for a)	
Certificate of Environmental)	
Compatibility and Public Need to)	Case No. 15-1716-EL-BGN
Construct an Electric Generation)	
Facility in Columbiana County, Ohio)	
)	
In the Matter of the Application of)	
South Field Energy LLC for a)	
Certificate of Environmental)	Case No. 15-1717-EL-BTX
Compatibility and Public Need for a)	
345kV Transmission Line in)	
Columbiana County, Ohio)	
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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JONATHAN WINSLOW

1 Q.1. Please state your name, title and business address.

- A. My name is Jonathan Winslow. I am Senior Vice President of Development for Advanced Power Services (NA) Inc. ("Advanced Power") and an officer of South Field Energy LLC, which is an affiliate of Advanced Power. My business address is 31 Milk Street, Suite 1001, Boston, MA.
- 6 Q.2. What are your duties for South Field Energy?
- A. I manage and direct the South Field Energy ("SFE") development team, which is primarily responsible for design, schedule, budget development, corporate reporting, coordination and submittal of the applications in these proceedings, required permitting, government affairs and community relations related to the South Field Energy project for a new natural gas-fired combined-cycle electric generating facility and interconnection facilities in Yellow Creek and Madison Townships, Columbiana County, Ohio.

Q.3. What is your educational and professional background?

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2 Α. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education - Environmental 3 Sciences from the University of Vermont in Burlington, Vermont in 2001. I earned a 4 Master's Degree in Business Administration from Northeastern University in 2006. 5 My professional work experience since completion of my undergraduate education has 6 been in the energy and environmental sector. From 2001 to 2004, I was employed by 7 Maxymillian Technologies, an environmental remediation firm focused on self-8 performing cleanup of U.S. EPA Superfund Projects and other large-scale environmental 9 remediation projects. In this capacity, my responsibilities included proposal writing, 10 schedule development, corporate project management and business development. From 11 2005 to 2007, I was Manager of Corporate Development for Jay Cashman Inc., where we 12 successfully launched a renewable energy company and an environmental remediation 13 and waste management company. 14 I joined Advanced Power (NA), a privately held energy development firm, as Manager of 15 Finance. I was Manager of Finance from 2007 to January 2010, when I became Director 16 of Development responsible for environmental compliance, regulatory review and 17 permitting, community and governmental relations and commercial structuring of utility 18 scale power generation facilities under development in North America. I later became 19 Vice President in 2014 and then Senior Vice President in May 2015.

Q.4. On whose behalf are you offering testimony?

A. I am testifying on behalf of the Applicant, South Field Energy LLC.

Q.5. What is the purpose of your testimony?

- A. I will summarize the major items in the applications and sponsor their admission into evidence, along with the exhibits and various proofs of publication. And, I will review the conditions suggested by the Board's Staff in the Staff Reports of Investigation filed on May 20, 2016 and respond on behalf of the Applicant.
- 6 Q.6. Would you please provide a summary and overview of the proposed project and
 7 facilities?
- A. Yes. SFE is developing and proposing to build, own and operate a state-of-the-art new natural gas-fired combined-cycle electric generating facility and interconnection facilities in Yellow Creek and Madison Townships, Columbiana County, Ohio.
 - Major project components include, a natural gas-fired combined-cycle electric generating facility, as well as a switchyard and ancillary equipment (together, the "Generating Facility"). The Generating Facility will be located on about 30-acres of an 86.5 acre property ("Generating Facility Site") on Hibbetts Mill Road in Yellow Creek Township in Columbiana County. This state-of-the-art facility will utilize two General Electric 7HA.02 gas turbine generators, each with a heat recovery steam generator, two steam turbine generators and two mechanical draft wet cooling towers. The Generating Facility will have a nominal net output of 1,105MW.
 - Electricity from the Generating Facility will be delivered to the regional transmission grid at a switchyard (the "Switchyard") which will connect the Generating Facility to the existing Highland-Sammis 345-kV transmission line owned by FirstEnergy. The

- Switchyard will be secured within a 3.5-acre portion of a 38-acre site ("Switchyard Site")
- 2 north of Osbourne Road in Madison Township, Columbiana County.
- 3 Electricity will be delivered from the Generating Facility to the Switchyard via a
- 4 transmission line ("Transmission Line") to be built within one of two rights of way
- 5 ("ROWs") a preferred ROW ("Preferred ROW") or an alternate ROW ("Alternate
- 6 ROW"). Both ROWs would be approximately 3.9 miles long, about 3.0 miles of which
- 7 are identical to minimize impacts. Either ROW will run entirely over participating
- 8 private property and would be approximately 150 feet wide.
- 9 Together, I will refer to the Switchyard and Transmission Line as the "Interconnection
- Facilities." I will refer to the Interconnection Facilities plus the Generating Facility and
- the Construction Laydown Site as the "Facilities."
- The Facilities have been carefully sited with regard to existing gas pipeline and electric
- transmission infrastructure and to minimize any adverse impacts.

Q.7. What is the general purpose of the Facilities?

- 15 A. The Generating Facility will help meet energy demand in the region, particularly
- in light of the announced retirement of existing generating plants that serve the PJM
- 17 Interconnection LLC grid, including 13.4 gigawatts (GW) retired since 2014 and an
- additional 8.0 GW scheduled for retirement by the end of 2019. The Generating Facility
- will help meet this region's energy demand by providing additional base load and
- 20 peaking capacity.

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- 1 The sole purpose of the Interconnection Facilities is to deliver electricity from the 2 Generating Facility to the PJM regional power grid.
- 3 Q.8. Are the December 7, 2015 and January 15, 2016 applications, including all 4 appendices and exhibits, true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and belief? 5 Yes.

Q.9. How did SFE decide to locate the Facilities in Columbiana County?

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A. Within Ohio, Advanced Power gave consideration to local need – markets being affected by planned retirements of existing facilities and pricing forecasts – as well as critical infrastructure, including proximity to high-voltage electrical transmission systems and a suitable gas pipeline infrastructure. Columbiana County has a robust electric and natural gas infrastructure and the added benefit of proximity to the Buckeye Water District for both water supply and water discharge purposes. Although Advanced Power uses its own internal process to identify specific potential parcels, a land acquisition and routing consultant assisted the siting process in order to minimize interference with landowner properties, co-locate features where possible, and avoid significant environmental and community impact.

The Generating Facility Site was the optimum site for development. The Generating Facility layout primarily utilizes existing open space, retains most wooded areas to provide a buffer from surrounding areas, and avoids or minimizes impacts on water bodies. Buckeye Water District's ability to supply and handle water and wastewater was also a positive, as was the ability to avoid or minimize environmental impacts. It was important, too, that the proposed Facilities received positive preliminary feedback

regarding community and political support. And, proximity to existing gas pipeline and transmission line infrastructure are also favorable factors.

Site selection for the Interconnection Facilities was focused on a number of technical, community and environmental factors, including: minimizing total length of the Transmission Line, minimizing total number of turns, minimizing number of affected parcels and landowners and reducing landowner interference by routing along property edges and minimizing proximity to residences; minimizing public road crossings, and minimizing tree clearing and wetland or stream crossing. Routing also requires consideration of landowner willingness to grant easements to accommodate the Transmission Line.

Q.10. Do you believe that the proposed Facility will have a positive impact on the local community?

A. Yes. As a developer, owner and operator, SFE is making a long-term commitment to the Columbiana County community — one that involves integrity, transparency and safety. SFE takes this commitment seriously and will strive to enhance the Columbiana County community through job creation, local materials sourcing and local revenue generation. The Facility will have a significant positive impact on the local community.

The Facility will create a significant number of new, well-paying jobs in the community. Upon completion of the Facilities, SFE estimates that it will create approximately 25-30 new full-time jobs, with new annual payroll of approximately \$4 million. In addition, SFE estimates that construction of the facility will create a peak annual average of 550

new construction jobs with total payroll during the construction period over \$117 million. 2 And the indirect and induced effects of the construction and operation of the Facilities are 3 expected to result in additional gains in Ohio of 802 jobs and over \$108 million in wages 4 during construction, as well as 228 jobs and over \$9 million in new wages in the 5 Northeast Ohio region once the Facilities are in-service.

State and local governments, too, will benefit from substantial additional local revenues.

Q.11. Have the Facilities been designed to achieve minimum impacts?

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A. Yes. Since 2012, we've been working with landowners, elected representatives and community members to discuss project development. Those discussions have been positive and people have shown support for the projects. SFE will remain actively engaged with the community throughout construction and operation as part of our company-wide commitment to core values that make safety our highest priority and guide us to act responsibly and ethically in our business practices, be sensitive to the environment, act respectfully towards our neighbors, create shareholder value and be a trusted business partner. With these commitments, we have designed the Facilities to minimize or eliminate potential impacts of construction and operation.

Temporary construction activities are expected to have typical and relatively limited impacts given their intermittent nature, time of day restrictions, and use of best management practices. Increased traffic during construction will be managed and will subside when the Facilities are operational. SFE will obtain required permits and authorizations –including, for example, permits for road crossings, a Nationwide Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and authorization from the Ohio EPA for

1 stormwater discharges under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System 2 (NPDES). Following construction, except where permanent structures will remain, 3 affected areas will be restored to conditions as good as or better than those existing prior 4 to construction. 5 South Field Energy engaged Tetra Tech to study the potential environmental and 6 ecological impacts of the Facilities. Those studies are attached to the applications and, as 7 Lynn Gresock of Tetra Tech can explain in her separate testimony, show few or no 8 expected impacts from the Facilities. 9 The Facilities have been sited to minimize adverse environmental impact. Proposed 10 reductions in wooded areas have been minimized by careful layout and design. Although 11 studies found no listed species in the footprint of the Facilities, SFE will take measures to 12 avoid impacts if there is suitable habitat for listed bat species – for example, by 13 seasonally limiting tree clearing where listed bat species could nest in the summer 14 months. The design elements of the Facilities also will help avoid or minimize any impacts to air 15 16 quality. For example, the gas turbine generators will be equipped with emissions control 17 and the heat recovery steam generators will have specialized equipment to minimize 18 emissions of NOx, CO and VOC. Air quality impacts will be significantly below United 19 States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) National Ambient Air Quality 20 Standards (NAAQs) due to the use of highly efficient natural gas turbines and 21 incorporation of dry-low NOx combustors, oxidation catalysts, and selective catalytic 22 reduction.

Sound levels from the Facility will be below 45 dBA for all non-participating residences with noise levels mitigated by incorporating noise-attenuating features in the Facility design – including both state of art equipment, architectural features and natural buffers. The Transmission Line will incorporate design elements that reduce electric and magnetic fields in comparison to other installations and to levels well-below industry standard levels. Visual impacts will be significantly mitigated by the nature of the terrain and distance from public roads, and careful efforts to preserve forested areas on the Facilities sites. Other operational impacts will be minimal. The Facility will utilize a wet-cooled noncontact evaporative cooling process. Buckeye Water District will have an adequate and reliable supply of water in excess of the needs of the Facility. Buckeye will also handle discharge of Facility wastewater in accordance with applicable NPDES discharge and other requirements. What little solid waste is generated will be removed by licensed haulers and disposed of at approved facilities. In addition to all of these efforts, SFE will implement a complaint resolution procedure to ensure any complaints regarding construction and operation of the Facilities are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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1	Q.12.	Will the Applicant be sponsoring witnesses to support the application in addition to
2		your testimony?
3		A. In addition to my testimony, SFE will present testimony by Lynn Gresock, Vice
4		President of Energy Programs for Tetra Tech, Inc. relative to Tetra Tech's studies
5		undertaken in support of the application.
6	Q.13.	Did South Field Energy publish notices of the public information meeting and hold
7		a public information meeting prior to filing the applications?
8		A. Yes. On October 5, 2015, SFE filed with the Board Pre-Application Notification
9		Letters regarding the planned Facilities. Notice of the public informational meeting was
10		published on October 8, 2015 in <u>The Review</u> , a newspaper of general circulation in
11		Columbiana County, Ohio. The public information meeting was held on October 20,
12		2015 at Wellsville High School in Wellsville, Ohio.
13	Q.14.	When was the application filed and when was the application accepted as complete?
14		A. SFE filed the Generating Facility application (15-1716-EL-BGN) with the Board
15		on December 7, 2015. On February 5, 2016, the Board accepted the applications as
16		complete. Copies of the application for the Generating Facility, contained in a two-
17		volume set, have been marked as Company Exhibit 1.
18		SFE filed the Interconnection Facilities application (15-1717-EL-BTX) on January 15,
19		2016. On March 7, 2016, the Board accepted the application as complete. Copies of the
20		application for the Interconnection Facilities have been marked as Company Exhibit 2.

0.15.	Did SFE se	nd copies	of the ac	cepted and	complete a	pplication to	public	officials?
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- A. Yes. On March 11, 2016, SFE sent via Federal Express Two-Day Service a copy
 of the accepted and complete Generation Facility application to the Columbiana County
 Commissioners (Messrs. Halleck, Hoppel and Weigle), to the Yellow Creek Township
 Trustees (Messrs. Allison, Biacco and McKenzie), to the Columbiana County
 Development Director (Mr. Herold), to the Columbiana County Public Library in
 Columbiana, Ohio (Ms. Cobbs, Director), and to the Wellsville Carnegie Public Library
- Also on March 11, 2016, a copy of the accepted, complete application for the
 Interconnection Facilities was sent via Federal Express Two-Day Service to those same
 government officials and also to the Madison Township Trustees (Messrs. Smith, Walker
 and Williams).
- A certificate of service was filed in these cases on March 14, 2016.

(Ms. Murphy, Director).

Q.16. Did the Applicant file and serve a copy of the letter sent to property owners and tenants within the Facility Site or contiguous to the Facility Site?

A. Yes. On April 6, 2016, SFE mailed via U.S. First Class Mail a letter providing Notice of Proposed Major Utility Facilities to property owners and tenants and to government officials. That Notice included the scheduled date of the local public hearing (June 6, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.) and of the adjudicatory hearing (June 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Ohio Power Siting Board). The Notice was published on April 8, 2016 and May 23, 2016. Both notices were published in <u>The Review</u>, a newspaper of general circulation in Columbiana County, Ohio.

1		Copies of the notices have been marked as Company Exhibit 3.
2	Q.17.	Have you reviewed the Staff Reports of Investigation issued in this case on May 20,
3		2016?
4		A. Yes.
5	Q.18.	Does the Applicant have any proposed revisions to any of the conditions
6		recommended by the Staff in that Staff Reports of Investigation?
7		A. Yes.
8	Q.19.	What are the proposed revisions?
9		A. Relative to the Generating Facility, SFE proposes the following revisions or
10		clarifications.
11		Condition 12 – Signed Interconnection Service Agreement
12		SFE recommends that condition No. 12 be modified similar to how the condition was
13		modified in the Carroll County Energy proceeding. The condition should be modified to
14		read as follows:
15		(12) With the exception of removal of trees that exhibit suitable Indiana
16		bat habitat or Northern long-eared bat habitat, Tthe Applicant shall not
17		commence any construction of the facility until it has a signed
18		Interconnection Service Agreement or Interim Interconnection Service
19 20		Agreement with PJM Interconnection, signed or filed unsigned with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, which includes construction,
21		operation, and maintenance of system upgrades necessary to reliably and
21 22 23 24 25		safely integrate the proposed generating facility into the regional
23		transmission system. The Applicant shall docket in the case record a letter
24		stating that the Agreement has been signed or a copy of the signed
25		Interconnection Service Agreement to Staff

The above modification will allow SFE to conduct tree clearing within the seasonal tree clearing periods and avoid any delay that could result if the PJM requirements are not met until after a seasonal tree clearing period.

Condition 14 – Field Tile Drainage Systems and Soils

SFE recommends that Staff recommended condition No. 14 be modified slightly. That condition addresses repair of damage, if any, to soils and agricultural field tile drainage systems. SFE has already prospectively addressed any such damage by agreements with participating landowners. Therefore, SFE proposes that Staff recommended condition No. 14 be revised as follows:

(14) The Applicant shall avoid, where possible, or minimize to the maximum extent practicable, any damage to field tile drainage systems and soils resulting from construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the facility in agricultural areas. <u>Unless otherwise provided in an agreement between Applicant and an affected landowner.</u>—Tethe applicant: shall promptly repair damaged field tile systems to at least original conditions at the Applicant's expense.; <u>Jif applicable, the Applicant</u> shall segregate and restore excavated topsoil in accordance with Applicant's lease agreement with the landowner. <u>The Applicant and</u> shall plow or otherwise decompact severely compacted soils, if necessary, to restore them to original conditions, unless otherwise agreed to by the landowner.

Gas Pipeline Safety Recommendation at Page 20 of the Staff Report

SFE also seeks clarification that Staff's recommendation at page 20 of the Staff Report regarding Gas Pipeline Safety *not* apply to the facility because my understanding is that pipeline safety will only apply to the natural gas pipeline and its related interconnection equipment. That pipeline and equipment will be the subject of a separate application.

Relative to the Interconnection Facilities, SFE proposes the following revisions or clarifications:

Condition 1 – Use of Alternate Route

SFE recommends that condition No. 1 be revised to allow SFE to elect to construct the Transmission Line on the Alternate Route. Condition No. 1 as recommended by Staff proposes that the Preferred ROW be used. Based on discussions with landowners, SFE identified one ROW as Preferred and the other as Alternate. The ROWs are similar in length, have been thoroughly studied, and have comparable impacts. Both ROWs are viable options for the Transmission Line.

Given recent interactions with and non-financial demands of one of the four landowners within the Preferred ROW, SFE is now concerned about the viability of the Preferred ROW to support the timing of project financing and construction. Rather than take on that risk for a project of this significance, SFE proposes that the Alternate ROW be available for construction of the Transmission Line, especially as all land rights have been obtained from the sole landowner of the parcels for that route. SFE will provide the Board with notice of the route that will be utilized (Alternate or Preferred) no later than 120-days prior to the commencement of construction of the Transmission Line. A significant fact that supports SFE's proposal is that the portions of the Alternate Route and Preferred Route that are not shared are 0.93 mile and 0.96 mile respectively. The short distances involved make this a fact specific situation that is unique to the SFE project and support allowing SFE the flexibility to make a later decision as to which route to construct. Therefore, SFE proposes that recommended condition No. 1 be modified as follows:

(1) The Applicant shall file a notice with the Board no later than 120-days prior to the commencement of construction of the facility as to whether the Applicant will be constructing the Preferred Route or the

Alternate Route. Once the route has been selected, The facility shall be installed at the Applicant's Preferred Route as presented in the application and as modified and/or clarified by supplemental filings and recommendations in the this Staff Report of Investigation.

Condition 13 – Field Tile Drainage Systems and Soils

SFE recommends that Staff recommended condition No. 13 be modified slightly. That condition addresses repair of damage, if any, to soils and agricultural field tile drainage systems. SFE has already prospectively addressed any such damage by agreements with participating landowners. Therefore, SFE proposes that Staff recommended condition No. 13 be revised as follows:

(14) The Applicant shall avoid, where possible, or minimize to the maximum extent practicable, any damage to field tile drainage systems and soils resulting from construction, operation, and/or maintenance of the facility in agricultural areas. <u>Unless otherwise provided in an agreement between Applicant and an affected landowner, Tthe applicant: shall promptly repair damaged field tile systems to at least original conditions at the Applicant's expense; <u>Hif</u> applicable, the Applicant shall segregate and restore excavated topsoil in accordance with Applicant's lease agreement with the landowner. <u>The Applicant and</u> shall plow or otherwise decompact severely compacted soils, if necessary, to restore them to original conditions, unless otherwise agreed to by the landowner.</u>

Q.20. Regarding SFE's request for flexibility on the selection of the non-shared portion of the Transmission Line, is there much difference between the two options?

A. No. The non-shared portions of the Alternate Route and Preferred route are very similar and present minimal impacts. Staff also reviewed both routes in its Staff Report for the Interconnection Facilities. Staff stated in the Staff Report that "[t]he Preferred and Alternate routes are both viable and overall impacts for both routes are similar." Staff also noted that the Alternate Route will be on more agricultural district land than the Preferred Route but that neither route is expected to have significant impact on farming

operations. The key point is that both routes are viable for this project. Faced with concerns over the non-financial demands of and interactions with a landowner on the Preferred Route, SFE desires the flexibility to utilize either route subject to giving the Board notice of which non-shared portion of the Transmission Line will be used.

Q.21. Have the Alternate Route landowners been notified about SFE's change to the Alternate Route?

A. Yes. On June 2, 2016, SFE mailed a letter via overnight mail to the sole landowner of the property on the Alternate Route as well as adjacent landowners informing them that SFE was considering constructing the Alternate Route instead of the Preferred Route. The letter also contained information on the public hearing to ensure that the landowners were well aware of the public hearing. Copies of those letters have been marked as Company Exhibit 4. It was important to SFE to notify the landowners that SFE was considering constructing on the Alternate Route so that the landowners could participate in the public hearing or ask questions. As of today, neither the Alternate Route landowner nor those adjacent to the route has expressed any concern regarding construction of the transmission line on the Alternate Route.

Q.22. Are there any other matters you would like to bring to the Board's attention?

A. Yes. I would like to explain the route that contractors will use to travel between the Generating Facility Site and the temporary construction laydown site (the "Temporary Laydown Site"). The Temporary Laydown Site will be used for material and equipment storage, construction trailers, and parking. Contractors will travel from a secondary ingress and egress point at the southern end of the Generating Facility Site to the ingress and egress point of the Temporary Laydown Site along approximately 100

- feet of Hibbetts Mill Road. On Hibbetts Mill Road, which is an existing township road,

 contractors will travel under existing 138 kV electric transmission lines owned and

 operated by American Transmission System Inc. SFE and its engineering, procurement

 and construction contractor will ensure that all necessary electric transmission line

 clearances are maintained.
- 6 Q.23. What do you recommend that the Ohio Power Siting Board do in this case?
- A. I recommend that the Ohio Power Siting Board grant the applications based upon the recommended conditions contained in the May 20, 2016 Staff Reports of Investigation as modified by the revisions in my testimony.
- 10 Q.24. Does this conclude your direct testimony?
- 11 **A.** Yes, it does. However, I reserve the right to offer testimony in support of any stipulation reached in this case.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The Ohio Power Siting Board's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on the parties referenced on the service list of the docket and who have electronically subscribed to this case. In addition, I certify that a copy of the foregoing document was served via electronic mail on the following persons this 13th day of June, 2016.

s/ William A. Sieck
William A. Sieck

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Summary: Testimony of Jonathan Winslow for Applicant South Field Energy LLC electronically filed by Mr. William A Sieck on behalf of South Field Energy LLC