

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of American)
Transmission Systems, Inc. for Amendment Four to the) **17-0902-EL-BTA**
Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Line Project)

Members of the Board:

Chairman, Public Utilities Commission	Ohio House of Representatives
Director, Development Services Agency	Ohio Senate
Director, Department of Health	
Director, Department of Agriculture	
Director, Environmental Protection Agency	
Director, Department of Natural Resources	
Public Member	

To the Honorable Power Siting Board:

Please review the attached Staff Report of Investigation, which has been filed in accordance with Ohio Power Siting Board rules. The application in this case is subject to an approval process as required by Section 4906.03 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Sincerely,



Patrick Donlon
Director, Rates and Analysis
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-6692

OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Project Name: Amendment Four to the Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Line Project

Case Number: 17-0902-EL-BTA (associated with prior case numbers 12-1636-EL-BTX, 16-1593-EL-BTA, 16-1594-EL-BTA, and 16-1595-EL-BTA)

Project Location: Sandusky and Erie counties

Applicant: American Transmission Systems, Inc.

Application Filing Date: April 12, 2017

Inspection Date: April 19, 2017

Report Date: May 19, 2017

Applicant's Waiver Requests: None

Staff Assigned: J. O'Dell

Application Description

American Transmission Systems, Inc. (Applicant or ATSI) is proposing three adjustments to the Hayes-West Fremont Transmission Line Project, which is currently under construction. The adjustments in this proceeding are being proposed to accommodate property owner requests and to reduce overall project impacts.

The first adjustment is shown on Figure 7-2O of the Applicant's filing. The original route centerline would be moved approximately 40 feet to the northeast and trend in a southeastern direction for a distance of 370 feet. The second adjustment shifts the approved route approximately 264 feet south for a distance of 4,646 feet, as depicted on Figure 4-1C, Revision 1. The third adjustment is illustrated on Figure 4-1E and it involves moving the alignment approximately 105 feet to the northwest for a distance of 4,540 feet.

Application Review

Social Impacts

The Applicant has previously obtained all needed easements that encompass the proposed route alignment modifications. The proposed adjustments are not expected to significantly alter existing land uses, including agricultural land, or to substantially change the estimated capital costs for the project. These alignment sections have been studied for the presence of archaeological and historic impacts and no significant effects on cultural resources are expected.

Ecological Impacts

Impacts to streams and wetlands would not be significantly altered by the proposed amendment. A slight reduction of approximately 0.09 acres in total stream and wetland impacts is anticipated. The project's overarching ecological impacts are not expected to substantially change.

Recommended Findings

Staff's review of the amendment application included consideration of the requirements listed in Ohio Revised Code Section 4906.10. Based on Staff's review, the amendment application meets the necessary criteria for granting an amended certificate. Staff recommends that the Board approve the proposed amendment to the certificate, provided that the following condition is satisfied.

Recommended Condition:

- (1) The Applicant shall continue to adhere to all conditions of the Opinion, Order, and Certificate for the Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Line Project in case number 12-1636-EL-BTX.

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Case No(s). 17-0902-EL-BTA

Summary: Staff Report of Investigation electronically filed by Mr. Matt Butler on behalf of Staff of OPSB