



Legal Department

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January 4, 2018

Chairman Asim Z. Haque
Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

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RE: Pre-Application Notification Letter
In the matter of the application of AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Pine Ridge Switch-Heppner 138 kV Transmission Line Project.
Case No. 18-0031-EL-BTX

Dear Chairman Haque:

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (“AEP Ohio Transco”) files this pre-application notification letter in accordance with Rule 4906-3-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.). According to this provision, a prospective applicant must hold a public informational meeting within 90 days before filing an application for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need and provide this notice to the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) at least 15 days before the public informational meeting. Specifically, O.A.C. 4906-3-03 requires:

- (1) A basic description of the project that shall include information about the anticipated function, equipment size, approximate aerial extent, general location, and purpose of the project.**

The Pine Ridge Switch-Heppner 138 kV Transmission Line Project (the “Project”) is part of the overall Ross-Jackson Area Improvements Project, where AEP Ohio Transco plans to improve the reliability of the electric transmission grid in Ross and Jackson Counties by updating aging infrastructure to improve its condition and address performance issues.

A portion of the existing Berlin-Ross 69 kV line will be rebuilt to a 138 kV transmission line that connects Pine Ridge Switch to the proposed Heppner Station in Jackson County.

The Project will be approximately 4 miles long. The line will run through Liberty and Coal Townships in Jackson County. AEP Ohio Transco anticipates building the new transmission line using several structure types, including steel H-frame and monopoles.

AEP Ohio Transco estimates that the Project will cost approximately \$9 million.

AEP Ohio Transco expects to file the application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Pine Ridge Switch-Heppner 138 kV Transmission Line Project with the OPSB in spring 2018.

The new transmission line will have the following major equipment:

- Steel monopoles or H-frame structures
- Conductor
- Shield wire
- Associated hardware

(2) The date, time, and location of the public informational meeting to be held pursuant to paragraph (B) of this rule.

AEP Ohio Transco plans to hold a Public Information Meeting on January 25, 2018, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Northview Elementary School, 11507 Chillicothe Pike, Jackson, Ohio 45640. If there is any change to the meeting date, time or place, the OPSB Staff will be notified.

(3) A list of any anticipated waivers of the board's rules that the applicant will be requesting for the project.

At this time, AEP Ohio Transco does not anticipate filing any waivers.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christen M. Blend

Christen M. Blend (0086881), Counsel of Record
Hector Garcia (0084517)

Counsel for AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

cc: John Jones, Counsel for OPSB Staff
Jon Pawley, OPSB Staff

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Summary: Notification (Pre-Application Notification Letter) electronically filed by Ms. Christen M. Blend on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Power Company, Inc.