



Legal Department

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

January 11, 2018

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

Hector Garcia
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Senior Counsel –
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Re: Proof of Publication
Case No. 18-0031-EL-BTX
Pine Ridge Switch – Heppner 138kV Transmission Line Project
aka the Coal Township

Dear Chairman Haque,

Attached please find the proof of publication of a public notice concerning the proposed major utility facility in the above-referenced case, which was published January 4, 2018, pursuant to Rule 4906-3-03(B)(1) of the Ohio Administrative Code.

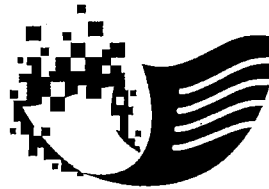
Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christen M. Blend

Christen M. Blend (0086881), Counsel of Record
Hector Garcia (0084517)
Counsel for AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

cc: Jon Pawley, OPSB Staff



Proof of Publication

I, Walter Dozier, do hereby attest that the AEP Legal Notices did appear in the following newspaper(s) as ordered:

Jackson County Times

1/4/18

Walter Dozier
Walter Dozier

1/9/18
Date

State of Ohio
County of Franklin

On this day, the 9th day of January, 2018 before me, Patricia A. Conkle, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared Walter Dozier, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name was subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he executed it.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Patricia A. Conkle
Notary Public



Patricia A. Conkle
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires 08-17-19

Start 2018 off on the right foot with winter hikes

COLUMBUS, OH – As we look ahead to 2018, this is the time of year when many people make New Year’s resolutions. When making resolutions this year, consider setting the goal to spend more time outdoors! If improving health and fitness is on your list of New Year’s resolutions, make sure to participate in the winter hikes ODNR is offering throughout the month of January to make the start of this new year great!

- **Birds of Winter at Burr Oak State Park** – Winter is a great time for bird watching and learning to identify field marks—there are fewer birds, and the trees are bare! We will search for our Ohio winter bird residents on this short hike at Burr Oak State Park on Saturday, Jan. 6, at 10 a.m. Bring binoculars and dress warmly. Meet in the lodge lobby. For more information, call 740-767-3570.
- **Water Wise at Shawnee State Park** – Acquire new skills or brush up on old ones with Shawnee’s naturalist at the lodge indoor pool at Shawnee State Park on Saturdays in January (Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 27) at 10 a.m. Paddling, nautical knots and water safety are the themes of this fun water program. Bring a bathing suit and prepare to get wet. Attend four programs and receive a free hour of kayaking. For more information, call 740-858-6652.
- **Nature Nook at Shawnee State Park** – Visit with a naturalist at Shawnee State Park and learn more about our native wildlife and fun things to do in the area. Meet upstairs in the lodge from 12-2 p.m. on Saturdays in January (Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 27). For more information, call 740-858-6652.
- **Section Hike at Shawnee State Park** – Put your feet to the test on a section of the 60-mile Shawnee Backpack trail. Wear sturdy hiking boots, pack snacks and water, and be prepared to climb. Hikers should meet in the lodge lobby of Shawnee State Park on Saturday, Jan. 6, and



- **Winter Hike at Lake Hope State Park** – Meet at the Hope Furnace on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 10 a.m. for a 3-mile hike on the Peninsula Loop trail to check out the wonders of nature in winter. Dress in layers and wear sturdy boots. For more information, call 740-596-4938.
- **Winter Hike at Dillon State Park** – Bundle up and join us as we witness the wonders of winter at Dillon State Park on Saturday, Jan. 13. This winter hike is about 2.5 miles long covering the Eagle Ridge Trail and Blackberry Ridge Trail. Deep ravines, rolling hills and beautiful lake views will be waiting. The hike is rated easy to moderate. Hikers are free to hike on their own, and naturalist-guided hikes will start at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Meet at the camp store to participant. This is a fantastic way to prepare for the Hocking Hills winter hike. There will be a fire in the camp store’s fire ring. The camp store will be open, and coffee and hot chocolate will be available. Call the park office with any questions at 740-453-4377 or contact the Dillon naturalist cabin at 740-452-0040.
- **Off the Beaten Path at Burr Oak State Park** – This winter hiking series will explore areas of the park not normally seen by hiking established trails. Wear sturdy footwear and be prepared for steep hills and uneven terrain on this 2-mile hike at Burr Oak State Park on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 2 p.m. Meet at the nature center. For more information, call 740-767-3570.
- **Winter Hike at Mohican State Park** – Winter is an excellent season to see native wildlife, birds and majestic trees while hiking. The winter hike at Mohican State Park will be held on Sunday, Jan. 14, starting at 10 a.m. The hike begins at the commissary, which is located at the park’s Class A campground, just south of Loudonville on State Route 3 in Ashland County. Hikers will be able to choose to do three general hikes – a 5K, a longer 10K and an interpretive hike led by a park naturalist. Trails run from moderate to difficult. Hikes will begin and end at the commissary. A warm fire, hot soup, cookies and drinks will be provided after the hike. This event is free and open to the public. The Mohican Trails Club welcomes

- donations to be used for trail maintenance and repair. For more information, call 419-994-4290.
- **Winter Hike at Lake Loramie State Park** – Hikers should meet at the maintenance area at Lake Loramie State Park in the campground for a winter hike on Lakeview Trail on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 1 p.m. After the hike, we will have refreshments, and the kids can make a take-home craft. For more information, call 937-295-2011.
- **Woody Plant Identification Hike at Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve** – This woody plant identification hike will feature identifying characteristics of woody vegetation found at Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 3 p.m. Winter is an ideal time to learn to identify trees and shrubs and the calcareous soils of the gorge supports a diverse community of plants. Sturdy foot wear is recommended for this moderately strenuous hike. People should meet at the nature center, which is south of the main parking lot at 2381 State Route 343, Yellow Springs, 45387. For more information on this hike, contact preserve manager at michelle.comer@dnr.state.oh.us or by phone at 937-537-6173.
- **Owl Prowl at Burr Oak State Park** – Experience the winter woodland landscape at night as we call for our favorite nocturnal hunters—the owls. A short slide presentation will precede this 1-mile walk at Burr Oak State Park on Friday, Jan. 26. Meet in the Sandpiper room in the lodge at 7 p.m. For more information, call 740-767-3570.
- **Winter Hike at Wingfoot Lake State Park** – Winter is a wonderful time to explore the great outdoors! Join the naturalist on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m. for a walk around Wingfoot Lake State Park to see what we can see in this winter wonderland. For more information, call 330-628-

- 4720.
- **Fireside Chat: Great Nature Reads at Burr Oak State Park** – The naturalist at Burr Oak State Park will share some nature-themed book recommendations for both adults and young children on Saturday, Jan. 27, from 3-4 p.m. Bring your own to share! This event will be ongoing by the lodge fireplace. For more information, call 740-767-3570.
- **Full Blue Moon Hike at Lake Hope State Park** – The second full moon of the month renders it a blue moon! Enjoy a 2-mile hike at Lake Hope State Park on Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 6 p.m. along the closed Lake Ridge Road to the group camp area for a high vantage point to watch the moon. Bring a flashlight, and dress in layers. Meet at the Hope Furnace to caravan to the starting point. For more information, call the nature center at 740-596-3030.

To learn more about family-friendly events at Ohio’s state parks and state nature preserves, go to parks.ohiodnr.gov/calendar or naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov/calendar.

Getting outdoors is an ideal way to relieve stress and boost mood levels. The Explore Ohio initiative is aimed at encouraging people to exercise outdoors and become healthier in the process. Participants can log their miles, share their photos and create friends groups on the Explore Ohio website at ExploreOh.com. Whether people are running, hiking, biking, climbing, walking or paddling, Ohioans can keep track of their progress at ExploreOh.com and share their adventures on social media using #ExploreOhio. After reaching 100 combined miles of activity on the site, each registered user will receive an email with a certificate good for 15 percent off camping at any Ohio State Park.

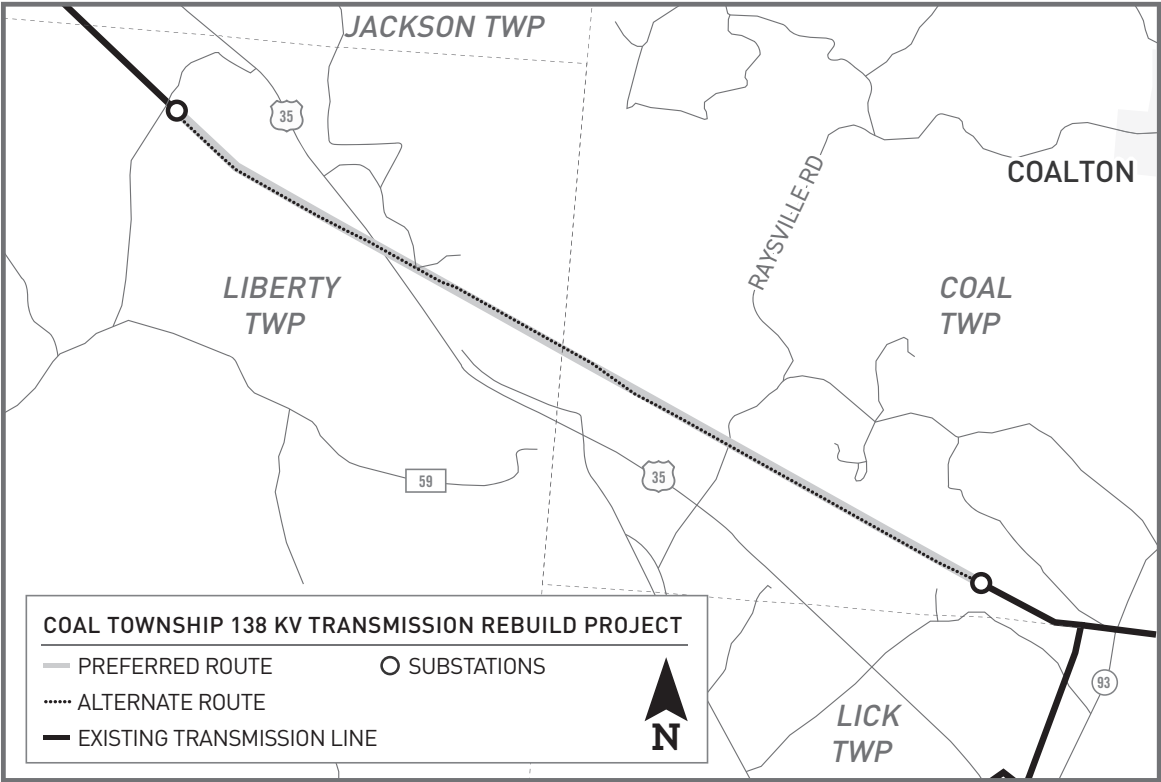
ODNR ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR website at ohiodnr.gov.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING FOR PROPOSED MAJOR UTILITY FACILITY

AEP Ohio Schedules Open House to Discuss Electric Transmission Line

AEP Ohio, a unit of American Electric Power (AEP), and the AEP Ohio Transmission Company Inc. invite residents of Jackson County to attend a public informational open house regarding plans to upgrade an electric transmission line in Liberty and Coal townships in Jackson County. The proposed Coal Township 138 kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project is part of the overall Jackson-Ross County Area Improvements Project where AEP Ohio plans to improve the reliability of the electric transmission grid by updating aging infrastructure to improve its condition and address performance issues.

To learn more about this project, the public is invited to attend a project open house on Thursday, January 25 at Northview Elementary School located at 11507 Chillicothe Pike in Jackson. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The open house will run until 7:30 p.m. The informational open house provides the public the opportunity to meet and talk with project representatives and view detailed maps. There is no formal presentation. Visitors may come and go at any time.



The Coal Township 138 kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project involves upgrading about 4 miles of transmission line. This project is located in Liberty and Coal townships in Jackson County. The project will use several structure types, including steel H-frame and monopoles that will be about 100-feet tall. AEP Ohio anticipates completion of this project at the end of 2021. Early estimates show this is an approximate \$8 million investment.

AEP Ohio Transmission Company expects to file its application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Coal Township 138 kV transmission line with the state of Ohio Power Siting Board in spring 2018. This application has been assigned Case Number 18-0031-EL-BTX. This number should be included in all communications with respect to this project.

The Ohio Power Siting Board is responsible for reviewing information related to the project – including input from the public – and determining whether the proposed project should be approved. AEP Ohio is required to propose two transmission line routes to the siting board. The siting board will make the final decision on which route is selected. The accompanying concept map depicts the proposed routes the company is likely to submit to the siting board as the preferred route and alternate route. It should be noted that due to reduced scale and limited detail, this map should be used only as a general guide.

If the application is approved, construction of the transmission line could begin as early as the fall of 2020 and be completed by the end of 2021.

Additional information about this project can be found online at AEPOhio.com/CoalTownship. The public also can ask questions or make comments about the project by calling 614-552-1929 or 877-215-9261 or sending an email inquiry to ecmiller1@aep.com. Mail inquiries may be sent to the following address:

AEP Ohio
Attention: Erin Miller
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230



This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

1/11/2018 2:20:01 PM

in

Case No(s). 18-0031-EL-BTX

Summary: Proof of Pub electronically filed by Ms. Christen M. Blend on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Power Company, Inc.