

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Letter of Notification Application)
of Dominion Energy Ohio for the Chippewa) **Case No. 18-0113-GA-BLN**
Compressor Station Replacement Project)

Members of the Board:

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| 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 (Board) rules. The accelerated certificate application in this case is subject to an automatic approval process as required by Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 4906.03 and Ohio Administrative Code 4906-6.

Staff recommends the application for automatic approval on March 2, 2018, unless suspended by the Board, an administrative law judge, or the chairperson or executive director of the board for good cause shown. If suspended, the Board must render a decision on the application within 90 days from the date of suspension.

Please present any concerns you or your designee may have with this case to my office at least four business days prior to March 2, 2018, which is the recommended automatic approval date.

Sincerely,



Raymond W. Strom
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Rates and Analysis Department
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
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OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case No.: 18-0113-GA-BLN
Project Name: Chippewa Compressor Station Replacement Project
Project Location: Wayne County
Applicant: Dominion Energy Ohio
Application Filing Date: February 1, 2018
Filing Type: Letter of Notification
Inspection Date: February 22, 2018
Report Date: February 23, 2018
Recommended Automatic Approval Date: March 2, 2018
Applicant's Waiver Requests: none
Staff Assigned: A. Holderbaum, E. Morrison

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

Application: ☐ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☒ Approval with Conditions
Waiver: ☐ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☒ Not Applicable

Project Description

Dominion Energy Ohio (Applicant) proposes to expand and upgrade the existing Chippewa Compressor Station. The project includes the addition of two 3,750 horsepower compressor units and appurtenances, the relocation of four pipelines, and the addition of eight new pipelines. The four relocated pipelines would remain the same size as originally constructed. The eight new pipelines would include two 8-inch pipelines, three 12-inch pipelines, one 16-inch pipeline, and two 24-inch pipelines. The new pipelines would range from 900 to 1,300 feet in length and have a maximum allowable operating pressure range of 720 to 1,600 pounds per square inch gauge (PSIG).

The Applicant proposes to begin construction in March 2018 and place the line in service by October 2019. The Applicant estimates the total cost of the project at \$10 million.

Site Description

The proposed project is located at the Applicant's existing Chippewa Compressor Station at the southeast corner of Black Diamond Road and Galehouse Road in Chippewa Township. The surrounding land use is a mix of agricultural fields, maintained lawns, open field, forest, scrub-shrub, and wetlands. The proposed project would be located entirely within existing property owned by the Applicant.

Basis of Need

The Applicant plans to replace deteriorated gas compressor units which have been in operation for more than 60 years. These units are utilized to store and distribute natural gas to and from the Applicant's storage fields in the region. New piping would be required to transport natural gas to and from the proposed facilities. The existing pipelines servicing the current facilities would be abandoned.

Nature of Impacts

Socioeconomic Impacts

The replacement pipeline would not intersect any roads. The Applicant stated that it will submit construction plans to the Wayne County Engineer's Office for the appropriate road crossings and temporary driveway construction-related permits and will coordinate temporary road closures, if required, with the county.

The Applicant sent notification about the project to area public officials and affected property owners. Existing public roadways, private roadways, and the existing right-of-way would provide the required equipment access during construction. Laydown areas would be determined by the contractor awarded the project, and the Applicant stated that it will file in this docket their locations as late-filed information. The Applicant stated that it will ensure that all property owners and tenants have access to their residences and/or property during construction.

Cultural Resources

The Applicant completed a cultural resources literature review for the area of potential effects for the project. One Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) site is located to the east of the station. The Applicant states no ground disturbance would occur on the eastern portion of the project area and therefore the Applicant does not anticipate any impacts to historic or archaeological resources. Staff recommends the Applicant clearly mark the previously recorded OAI site in order to avoid impacts to the site and if ground disturbance does occur on the eastern portion of the project area, Staff recommends the Applicant coordinate with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office in order to minimize impacts to the site. Furthermore, Staff recommends the Applicant follow their Unanticipated Findings Protocol the Applicant submitted in the case docket on February 22, 2018 if potential cultural resources are unearthed during construction.

Surface Waters

The project area contains one intermittent stream, ten Category 1 wetlands and four Category 2 wetlands. All of these resources will be avoided during construction. Construction equipment will not cross over any of these resources. No pipelines or structures will be placed within these resources. No impacts to streams or wetlands are anticipated.

Portions of the project fall within a Federal Emergency Management Agency 100-year floodplain. Staff recommends the Applicant coordinate with the local floodplain administrator.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The state and federal listed species and/or their suitable habitat that may be found in the project area include the state and federal endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the federal threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). Applicant states tree clearing would be necessary during construction of the proposed pipeline. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

(USFWS) and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) recommend that removal of any trees greater than three inches in diameter only occur from October 1 through March 31. The Applicant has committed to conducting all tree clearing during the seasonal clearing window from October 1 through March 31.

The project is within the range of the federal threatened and state endangered eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*) and the federal species of concern bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Due to the location of the project, the habitat at the project site and within the vicinity of the project area, and the type of work proposed, no impacts to these species are anticipated.

The Applicant is currently coordinating with the ODNR for any additional state-listed species and/or suitable habitat that may be found in the project area. The Applicant stated that it will provide Staff with any comments from the ODNR review of the project and continue coordination with the ODNR and Staff based on the ODNR comments.

Conclusion

Staff's review of the application included consideration of the requirements listed in R.C. 4906.10. Based on Staff's review, the application meets the necessary criteria for granting a certificate. Staff recommends automatic approval of this application on March 2, 2018, provided that the following conditions are satisfied:

Conditions:

- (1) Prior to the commencement of construction activities in areas that require permits or authorizations by federal or state laws and regulations, the Applicant shall obtain and comply with such permits or authorizations. The Applicant shall provide copies of permits and authorizations, including all supporting documentation, to Staff within seven days of issuance or receipt by the Applicant.
- (2) Prior to construction, the Applicant shall submit to Staff, for review and confirmation that it complies with this condition, a project construction plan that provides the specific locations of its laydown areas and is responsive to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) concerns about state listed species and ecological areas of significance. If the specific laydown locations chosen appear to have additional adverse impacts, the Applicant shall either propose different specific locations without such impacts, or refile its application.
- (3) The Applicant shall provide a copy of any floodplain permit required for construction of this project, or a copy of correspondence with the floodplain administrator showing that no permit is required, to Staff within seven days of issuance or receipt by the Applicant.
- (4) Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant shall obtain a coordination letter from the ODNR in regards to impacts to state and federal listed species and/or their suitable habitat and shall coordinate with the ODNR and Staff regarding compliance with the letter.

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Case No(s). 18-0113-GA-BLN

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