

FILE



June 26, 2018

# Commissioners of Ross County

THE GREAT SEAL COUNTY OF OHIO \* THE STATE'S FIRST CAPITAL

2 NORTH PAINT STREET, SUITE H, COURTHOUSE • CHILLICOTHE, OHIO 45601

TELEPHONE: 740-702-3085 TDD • FAX: 740-774-1602 • (877) 727-3085

web address: <http://www.rosscountycommissioners.com> • Email: [rosscomclk@rosscountyohio.gov](mailto:rosscomclk@rosscountyohio.gov)

R. Douglas Corcoran, President  
271 Granite Cliff Drive  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
Phone: 740-773-9279

Stephen A. Neal, Vice President  
72 Sharon Road  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
Phone: 740-774-2460

Dwight A. Garrett, Commissioner  
620 Seminole Road  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
Phone: 740-772-1188

Ms. Anna Sanyal, Attorney Examiner  
Legal Department  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Certified Mail: 7012 3460 0000 3954 7142

Re: AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. Springfield (Ross-Ginger Switch)  
Project; OPSB Case No. 17-637-EL-BTX.

Dear Attorney Examiner Sanyal:

Please be advised that we have been contacted recently by Joe Janes and Family located at 1023 Charleston Pike in Chillicothe, Ohio concerning AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. Springfield (Ross-Ginger Switch) Project; OPSB Case No. 17-637-EL-BTX.

They have forwarded to us a series of e-mail communication to and from AEP regarding the location of the preferred route for the new line and their dissatisfaction with its location. I have attached copies of these e-mails with this letter.

We agree that their objections are well founded. It is our understanding that the AEP preferred route would destroy a large amount of forest land and would place a large steel monopole and high voltage transmission lines much closer to the Janes home. The alternative route or another option moving the line farther away from the Janes home seems more appropriate.

We discussed this matter at our June 25<sup>th</sup> regular Board of Commissioners' meeting and voted to officially oppose the preferred route as it relates to Mr. Janes property. It would be our hope that the Power Siting Board would not approve this AEP application until AEP proposes a more appropriate location of the tower and power lines in the area of Mr. Jane's property.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio

ABSENT

R. Douglas Corcoran, President

Stephen A. Neal, Vice President

Dwight A. Garrett

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.  
Technician mmm Date Processed 07/05/18

PU000

2018 JUL -5 PM 3:30

Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. Springfield (Ross-Ginger Switch) Project; OPSB Case No. 17-637-EL-BTX  
From: "Brad Cosenza" <bradcosenza@rosscountyohio.gov>  
Date: Wed, June 20, 2018 10:46 am  
To: "Doug Corcoran" <dougcorcoran@rosscountyohio.gov>, "Dwight Garrett" <dwrightgarrett@rosscountyohio.gov>, "Steve Neal" <steveneal@rosscountycommissioners.com>  
Priority: Normal

Commissioners:

As Ms. Neal is an elected official of the City of Chillicothe, I assume you would prefer to respond to this communication yourselves.

Thanks,

Bradford M. Cosenza

County Administrator, Ross County, Ohio

2 North Paint Street, Suite H, Courthouse

Chillicothe, Ohio, 45601

740-702-3085 <javascript:void(0);>-Office

740-701-7301 <javascript:void(0);>-Cell

740-774-1602 <javascript:void(0);>-Fax

bradcosenza@rosscountyo <bcosenza@rosscountycommissioners.com>hio.gov -  
Email Address

<http://www.rosscountycommissioners.com> - Web Address

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Beth Neal <bethjanesneal.519@gmail.com>  
Date: Wed, Jun 20, 2018 at 11:18 AM  
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. Springfield (Ross-Ginger Switch) Project; OPSB Case No. 17-637-EL-BTX  
To: <info@rosscountyohio.gov>

Dear Commissioners,

I am forwarding you a thread of correspondence between my brother, Joe Janes, and AEP. They have plans to erect huge high voltage equipment on his land, close to his home. Not only will be this be destruction of the beauty, aesthetics, and use of the property, there are also health concerns.

Can you be of any assistance with this issue?

Please contact me at 740-701-4065 if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Beth Neal

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Joseph Janes <[joseph.janes@mac.com](mailto:joseph.janes@mac.com)>  
Date: Sat, Jun 16, 2018 at 9:26 PM  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. Springfield  
(Ross-Ginger Switch) Project; OPSB Case No. 17-637-EL-BTX  
To: Christen M Blend <[cmblend@aep.com](mailto:cmblend@aep.com)>  
Cc: [matthew.butler@puc.state.oh.us](mailto:matthew.butler@puc.state.oh.us), [anna.sanyal@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:anna.sanyal@puco.ohio.gov), Erin C  
Miller <[ecmiller1@aep.com](mailto:ecmiller1@aep.com)>

Christen:

I have not heard from you following my most recent communication (see below) and assume that AEP is simply going to try to ignore my objections?

Joe Janes  
(740) 649-2913

On Jun 6, 2018, at 8:55 AM, Joseph Janes <[joseph.janes@mac.com](mailto:joseph.janes@mac.com)> wrote:

Christen:

The AEP preferred route would destroy several acres of forest (needlessly) and would place steel monopole, high voltage transmission lines in close proximity to our residence. (See Map contained in the Staff Report.)

This is not necessary and is simply accomplished for the financial benefit and convenience of AEP. As landowners, we must have some right to object and to state clearly that the right of way currently enjoyed by AEP should be more than sufficient to accomplish its objective.

The Staff Report that AEP commissioned states (on pages 23-24 in the version distributed at the most recent Hearing) that the impacts of both routes are similar, but the impact of the Preferred Route is more economically viable for AEP. Then, by some leap of logic, the section concludes by stating, "Therefore, the Staff concludes that the Preferred Route represents the minimum adverse environmental impact when compared to the Alternate Route." What does that really mean? It means that it is more convenient and economical for AEP to construct a line that destroys more forest and agricultural land, permanently places high voltage tell monopole transmission lines in close proximity to my residence and that a landowner should accept that logic and acquiesce to the Preferred Route. The Staff Report seems to superficially accord some consideration to regulatory requirements regarding the amount of due diligence required, but at the same time provide a flawed rational to only support what is in the best interests of AEP to the detriment of the landlord, the environment and the health and welfare of anyone living close to the project.

The existing route (termed the "Alternate Route") - at least through our property - is the only route that is conditionally acceptable to us.

Joe Janes

On Jun 6, 2018, at 8:28 AM, Christen M Blend <[cmblend@aep.com](mailto:cmblend@aep.com)> wrote:

Mr. Janes,

I am sorry to learn that you were dissatisfied with your communication with Steven Scott yesterday. Would you find it beneficial to your understanding of our proposal if we sent a surveyor to stake the proposed new pole locations and mark the right-of-way corridor (for the Preferred Route)? Alternatively (or additionally), are there specific sections of the Preferred Route about which you are particularly concerned (such as the section nearest your residence), or are you generally opposed to the entire Preferred Route on your property? If there are other specific questions that you have that I have not anticipated above, I'd be happy to try to get answers to them for you.

Thanks,  
Christen

<image001.png> <<http://www.aep.com/>>  
\*CHRISTEN M BLEND\* | \*SENIOR COUNSEL\*  
[CMBLEND@AEP.COM](mailto:CMBLEND@AEP.COM) | D:614.716.1915  
1 RIVERSIDE PLAZA, COLUMBUS, OH 43215  
<<https://maps.google.com/?q=1+RIVERSIDE+PLAZA,+COLUMBUS,+OH+43215&entry=gmail&source=g>>

\*From:\* Joseph Janes [<mailto:joseph.janes@mac.com>] <[joseph.janes@mac.com](mailto:joseph.janes@mac.com)>  
\*Sent:\* Tuesday, June 05, 2018 4:25 PM  
\*To:\* Christen M Blend <[cmblend@aep.com](mailto:cmblend@aep.com)>  
\*Subject:\* [EXTERNAL] Re: AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. Springfield (Ross-Ginger Switch) Project; OPSB Case No. 17-637-EL-BTX

This is an EXTERNAL email. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments. If suspicious please forward to [incidents@aep.com](mailto:incidents@aep.com) for review.  
-----

Ms. Blend:

I note that Steven Scott did call me today. I am not sure what he wanted to discuss. He stated that he was authorized to discuss the right away. I pointed out that we could not discuss the right of way until such time as the project had been approved and the path that the transmission line would take (preferred or alternate) had been decided. He agreed and stated that he had been criticized for not reaching out and that if I did not want any additional communication then he would not call. I think he purposely misconstrued what I tried to explain to him. It's not that I don't want communication about this project, but it's just that we cannot conceivably negotiate a right of way until other threshold issues have been determined. I assume that he called me just to say that he had called.

See my letter of earlier today highlighting my concerns about this project..

Yours sincerely,

Joe Janes

On Jun 5, 2018, at 8:02 AM, Christen M Blend <[cmblend@aep.com](mailto:cmblend@aep.com)> wrote:

Mr. Janes,

Thank you again for attending the local public hearing regarding the

above-referenced transmission project yesterday, and for sharing your input and feedback regarding AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.'s proposed preferred route. I wanted to send you a note to let you know that Steven Scott, the right-of-way agent responsible for this project, will be reaching out to you today to discuss your questions. Should you wish to reach him directly before you hear from him, here is his contact information:

Steven J. Scott  
Transmission Right-of-Way Agent  
(614) 552-2234  
[sscott@aep.com](mailto:sscott@aep.com)

Per our conversation after the hearing, I also wanted to provide you with the contact information for the Transmission Utility Forester responsible for transmission line vegetation management in your area:

John M. Gire  
Utility Forester, Transmission Forestry  
(740) 774-7110  
[jmgire@aep.com](mailto:jmgire@aep.com)

Please also feel free to contact me directly with any further questions.

Thank you,

Christen Blend

<image001.png> <<http://www.aep.com/>>  
\*CHRISTEN M BLEND\* | \*SENIOR COUNSEL\*  
[CMBLEND@AEP.COM](mailto:CMBLEND@AEP.COM) | D:614.716.1915  
1 RIVERSIDE PLAZA, COLUMBUS, OH 43215  
<<https://maps.google.com/?q=1+RIVERSIDE+PLAZA,+COLUMBUS,+OH+43215&entry=gmail&source=g>>

This e-mail message from the Legal Department of American Electric Power® is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

This e-mail message from the Legal Department of American Electric Power® is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

--

Beth Neal  
740-701-4065 - Mobile

## Attachments

[untitled-\[2\].html](#)   text/html   30 KiB