

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

**In the Matter of the Construction Notice Application of)
American Electric Power Ohio Transmission Company)
for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and) Case No. 18-1559-EL-BNR
Public Need for the Hyatt Station 138 kV Transmission)
Line Extension 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 (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 (Ohio Adm.Code) 4906-6.

Staff recommends the application for automatic approval January 16, 2019, 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 January 16, 2019, which is the recommended automatic approval date.

Sincerely,



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OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 18-1559-EL-BNR
Project Name: Hyatt Station 138 kV Transmission Line Extension Project
Project Location: Delaware County
Applicant: American Electric Power Ohio Transmission Company
Application Filing Date: October 17, 2018
Filing Type: Construction Notice
Inspection Date: December 12, 2018
Report Date: January 9, 2019
Recommended Automatic Approval Date: January 16, 2019
Applicant's Waiver Requests: none
Staff Assigned: J. Pawley, J. Cross

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

Application: ☒ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☐ Approval with Conditions

Waiver: ☐ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☒ Not Applicable

Project Description

The purpose of this project is to install three new structures to increase the height of three 138 kilovolt (kV) circuits to maintain sufficient clearance at the Hyatt Station located in Liberty Township, Delaware County. The three circuits are the Hyatt-Sawmill #1 and #2 138 kV circuits, and the Amlin-Hyatt 138 kV circuit. The additional structures would consist of one steel single phase pole and 138 kV insulators per circuit. The new structures would be located inside the fenceline of the Hyatt Substation.

The Applicant anticipates that construction of this project would begin in the first quarter of 2019, and the facility would be placed in service by April 2019. The cost of the project is estimated at \$300,000.

Basis of Need

The Applicant states that equipment is being replaced at the existing Hyatt 138 kV station. In order to maintain sufficient clearance between the new station equipment and the Hyatt-Sawmill #1 and #2 circuits, and the Amlin-Hyatt 138 kV circuit, the lines need to be raised, requiring three new

structures. Without the taller structures, the clearance issue would violate the National Electric Safety Code.¹

This project was not included in the Applicant's most recent Long-Term Forecast Report (LTFR). The Applicant explained that it did not include the project in the most recent LTFR because there will not be an impact on the transmission system or its topology. The Applicant also states that the replacement equipment project for Hyatt station has been submitted to PJM Interconnection, LLC (PJM).

Nature of Impacts

Land Use

The transmission line extension project is located south of the existing Hyatt 138 kV substation. The three structures are located on Ohio Power Company property that is presently used for electric utility purposes. No other property easements, options, or land use agreements are necessary to construct the project, and no other property owners would be directly effected by this project.

The three pole structures would be located within the existing Hyatt Station fenceline. The project is not located within any agricultural district lands. No residential structures are located within 100 feet of the project. Additionally, there are no parks, churches, cemeteries, wildlife areas or nature preserve lands located within 1,000 feet of the project. No residential structures would need to be removed to construct this project.

Cultural Resources

The Applicant's cultural resources consultant performed a literature review and Phase I cultural resource management investigation (archaeology and history/architecture) for the project. The consultant determined that the project would not involve or impact any significant cultural resources or landmarks, and that no further cultural resource management work was considered to be necessary. The findings were submitted to the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO). The OHPO responded to the consultant in concurrence that this project would not affect historic properties.

Surface Waters

The project site does not contain any streams and no impacts to streams would occur as a result of the project. The proposed project would not be located within a 100-year floodplain.

The Applicant delineated four Palustrine Emergent Wetlands on the property (three Category 1 and one Category 2 wetland). However, these wetlands are located on the opposite site of the substation from where this proposed project is located. No wetlands disturbance is proposed for this project. Further details about how the surface water resources would be protected from indirect construction stormwater impacts using erosion and sedimentation controls would be outlined in the Applicant's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to be submitted as part of the required National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

1. IEEE, "National Electric Safety Code (NESC) C2-2017" Section 23. Clearances, 234. Clearance of wires, conductors, cables, and equipment from buildings, bridges, rail cars, swimming pools, and other installations, pgs. 126-157.

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*). The Applicant states that no tree clearing is anticipated to be required for this portion of the project. Additionally, the project would not disturb any hibernacula including caves or abandoned mines.

Due to the project's location, the type of habitat at the project site, the mobility of the species, and the fact that no in-water work is proposed, no impacts to other state and federal listed species are anticipated.

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 January 16, 2019.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

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in

Case No(s). 18-1559-EL-BNR

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