

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Letter of the Construction Notice of)
Dominion Energy Ohio for the Bullseye Station Lateral:) Case No. 19-1908-GA-BNR
Transmission Pipeline 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 4906-6.

Staff recommends the application for automatic approval on December 18, 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 December 18, 2019, which is the recommended automatic approval date.

Sincerely,



Raymond W. Strom
Chief of Siting, Efficiency and Renewables Division
Rates and Analysis Department
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-7707
ContactOPSB@puc.state.oh.us

OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 19-1908-GA-BNR
Project Name: Bullseye Station Lateral: Transmission Pipeline Project
Project Location: Union Township, Tuscarawas County
Applicant: Dominion Energy Ohio
Application Filing Date: August 9, 2019
Filing Type: Expedited Construction Notified
Inspection Date: November 20, 2019
Report Date: December 11, 2019
Recommended Automatic Approval Date: December 18, 2019
Applicant's Waiver Requests: None
Staff Assigned: E. Morrison, G. Zeto

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

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

Project Description

The Applicant, Dominion Energy Ohio, proposes to install 650 feet of 16-inch standard wall coated steel pipeline. The pipeline would have a maximum allowable operating pressure of 1,040 pounds per square inch gauge. The new pipeline would consist of standard wall piping with a rated yield strength of 52,000 psi. The new system would be cathodically protected using an anode bed system.

The Applicant would use open cut trenching installation methods to install the proposed gas main. Construction would occur entirely on property owned by the Applicant. The Applicant proposes to begin construction in December 2019 and to place the line in service by February 2020. The Applicant estimates the total cost of the project to be approximately \$350,000.

Site Description

The site consists of cleared gas pipeline right-of-way, gas transmission facilities, and woodland. Surrounding land use consists of agricultural hay field, woodland, and commercial operations.

Basis of Need

The Applicant states that the project is needed to connect existing facilities to a new point of delivery. This would improve the amount of natural gas and reliability of service the Applicant can provide to downstream customers.

Nature of Impacts

Socioeconomic Impacts

The Applicant sent notification about the project to area public officials and affected property owners.

Construction would occur entirely on property owned by the Applicant, and no significant impacts to roadways or traffic flow are anticipated.

Agricultural Land

The pipeline is not located within any agricultural land. Therefore, construction and operation of the natural gas pipeline is not expected to impact agricultural district land or agricultural production.

Cultural Resources

The Applicant completed a cultural resources literature review for the area of potential effects for the project. No cultural resources were identified within the area of the proposed project, and no impacts to historic cultural resources are expected.

Surface Waters

The pipeline would not cross any streams. No in-water work is planned, and no direct stream impacts are anticipated.

The pipeline would cross two category 1 wetlands. This would result in temporary impacts caused by open trenching. Wetland impacts would total 0.18 acres and require preconstruction notification for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide 12 Permit. The Applicant submitted their preconstruction notification on November 18, 2019.

This project would be exempt from a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit. However, the Applicant's Nationwide 12 permit would require best management practices such as silt fencing and soil stabilization to reduce erosion and sediment run-off into wetlands.

The project area does not overlap with a 100-year floodplain.

Threatened and Endangered Species

A small amount of tree clearing would be required for this project. The project area is within the range of state and federal endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the federal threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). As tree roosting species in the summer months, the habitat of these species would be impacted by the project. In order to avoid impacts to the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, Staff recommends that the Applicant adhere to seasonal tree cutting dates of October 1 through March 31 for all trees three inches or greater in diameter, unless coordination efforts with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allows a different course of action.

Due to no proposed in-water work in a perennial stream and a lack of suitable habitat, impacts to other state and federal listed species are not 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 December 18, 2019, provided that the following conditions are satisfied. Staff notes that its recommendation for approval of this application should not be construed as a recommendation for approval of cost recovery in any ratemaking proceeding.

Condition:

- (1) The Applicant shall adhere to seasonal cutting dates of October 1 through March 31 for removal of any trees greater than three inches in diameter, unless coordination with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allows a different course of action.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

12/11/2019 11:42:58 AM

in

Case No(s). 19-1908-GA-BNR

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