

**BEFORE  
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

In the Matter of the Application of The :  
Ohio State University for a Certificate of : Case No. 19-1641-EL-BGN  
Environmental Compatibility and Public :  
Need for the Combined Heat and Power :  
Facility Project in Franklin County, Ohio. :

**PREFILED TESTIMONY  
OF  
Andrew Conway  
ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
POWER SITING DEPARTMENT**

**Staff Exhibit** \_\_\_\_\_

**July 9, 2020**

1 1. Q. Please state your name and your business address.

2 A. My name is Andrew Conway. My business address is 180 E. Broad Street,  
3 Columbus, Ohio 43215.

4

5 2. Q. By whom are you employed?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission).

7

8 3. Q. Please describe your job title and duties.

9

10 I am employed as an Engineering Specialist in the Facility Review and  
11 Compliance Division of the Power Siting Department. In this position, I  
12 review technical issues associated with energy efficiency applications  
13 (including for combined heat and power projects), renewable energy  
14 applications, assigned areas or case lead in Applications for a Certificate of  
15 Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to construct major utility  
16 facilities and economically significant wind farms, and other duties.

17

18 4. Q. Would you briefly state your educational background and work history?

19 A. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering and minor in  
20 Chemistry from the University of Toledo. I am also a registered professional  
21 engineer in the State of Ohio.

22

1 To maintain registration as a professional engineer I have taken continuing  
2 education courses relevant to the practice of engineering that include  
3 technical, ethical or managerial material. I have taken courses specific to  
4 natural gas fired power plants, wind farms, geotechnical exploration,  
5 renewable energy installation, air permitting, and safety.

6  
7 From 2001 to 2009, I was employed by the Ohio Environmental Protection  
8 Agency as an environmental specialist. From 2009 to present, I have been  
9 employed in my current position at the Commission.

10  
11 I have provided analysis on multiple projects, including wind farms, solar  
12 farms, and natural gas combined cycle power plants submitted to the Ohio  
13 Power Siting Board (OPSB). I have also inspected and visited numerous  
14 power plants in various stages of design, construction, and operation.

15  
16 5. Q. Have you previously testified before the OPSB?

17 A. Yes. I previously testified in cases before the OPSB.

18  
19 6. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

20 A. I am sponsoring portions of the Staff Report of Investigation (Staff Report).  
21 Specifically, I was the primary analyst for portions of the Staff Report  
22 pertaining to the Project Description (on pages 6-9), Wind Velocity (on page

20), Public Safety (on page 30), Fire Protection System (on page 30), the Air, Water, Solid Waste, and Aviation section (on pages 25-29), and the Water Conservation Practice section (on page 33). I am also sponsoring Conditions to the Staff Report, specifically Conditions 5 and 6.

7. Q. Why are those particular Staff Report sections (Project Description, Wind Velocity, Public Safety, Fire Protection System, Air, Water, Solid Waste, and Aviation, and the Water Conservation Practice) important?

A. These topics are generally outlined in R.C. 4906.10 and Ohio Adm.Code 4906-4 as relevant factors to the proper siting and location review for major utility facilities.

Also, R.C. 4906.10(A)(5) obligates the OPSB to consult with the Ohio Department of Transportation Office of Aviation (ODOT-OA).

8. Q. Did Staff consult the ODOT-OA regarding the Ohio State University Combined Heat and Power (CHP) facility project (Application)?

A. Yes. Initially, I consulted by sending an email on 12/13/27/2019 to the ODOT-OA. That email had a link to the Application docket, Aviation related excerpts from the Application, a Google Earth file of the proposed facility, and anticipated staff report filing timeframe. During the course of the

1 investigation and since that initial email, Staff then continued to consult with  
2 ODOT-OA through email and phone.

3  
4 Staff and ODOT-OA found that none of the proposed structures exceed 199  
5 feet above ground level and the project does not meet notification criteria and  
6 does not require filing a Form 7460-1 with the FAA.

7  
8 9. Q. How did you analyze, evaluate, and investigate the proposed Application?

9 A. In order to learn about the project and its potential impacts, I attended the  
10 pre-application meeting on December 19, 2018. Also, I attended a workshop  
11 about the project from ENGIE North America on February 18, 2020. I also  
12 performed a site inspection on February 20, 2020; and interacted with the  
13 Applicant on at least March 9, 2020; May 20, 2020; and May 28, 2020.

14  
15 Generally, I reviewed the Application submitted on November 6, 2019 and  
16 subsequent supplements. I specifically read and focused on those sections  
17 pertaining to the project summary, schedule, and description, wind velocity,  
18 public safety, fire protection system, the air, water, solid waste, and aviation  
19 section, and water conservation practices.

20  
21 Specifically, Staff sent multiple data requests to the Applicant. I reviewed  
22 the Applicant's replies to those data requests.

1  
2 Also, I reviewed and analyzed geographic information system data submitted  
3 by the Applicant that was transformed into a Google Earth map of the  
4 proposed CHP facility.

5  
6 I contacted Columbia Gas of Ohio and received their input.

7  
8 Largely, through this information I was able to glean the nature of the  
9 probable environmental impacts, determine if the Applicant minimized those  
10 adverse environmental impacts from the CHP facility, and whether the  
11 Applicant would likely comply with Ohio's air pollution, water pollution,  
12 solid waste, and aviation regulations. My analysis and recommendations to  
13 inform the OPSB are contained in the Staff Report and this testimony.

14  
15 10. Q. Condition 5 states that "The Applicant shall coordinate with local building  
16 code enforcement officials with regard to the construction of any new  
17 structures, or modification of any existing structures, not directly related to  
18 the operation of the generation facility." Why is this condition necessary?

19 A. The university has extensive building design standards contained in Exhibit  
20 C of the Application. The Applicant indicated that the CHP building design  
21 will comply with those design standards and conform to the campus  
22 surroundings. This condition is typically recommended to assure the OPSB

1 that those structures not directly related to the operation of the generation  
2 facility can receive review by local building code enforcement officials.  
3 Also, that those portions of the facility, if and where subject to lawful local  
4 supervision or control, would not be exempt from any lawful local rules or  
5 regulations.  
6

7 11. Q. Condition 6 states that “At least 30 days prior to the preconstruction  
8 conference, the Applicant shall submit to Staff, for review and acceptance,  
9 one set of detailed engineering drawings of the final project design and  
10 mapping in the form of PDF, which the Applicant shall also file on the docket  
11 of this case, and geographically referenced data (such as shapefiles or KMZ  
12 files) based on final engineering drawings to confirm that the final design is  
13 in conformance with the certificate. Mapping shall include the limits of  
14 disturbance, permanent and temporary infrastructure locations, areas of  
15 vegetation removal and vegetative restoration as applicable, and specifically  
16 denote any adjustments made from the siting detailed in the application. All  
17 final geotechnical study results shall be included in this submission.” Why is  
18 this condition necessary?

19 A. This is a typically recommended condition to assure the OPSB that the  
20 detailed engineering drawings adhere to common engineering practices to  
21 protect the public health, safety, and welfare.  
22

1 This condition also requires that the Applicant submit geographically  
2 referenced data based on final engineering drawings so Staff can assure the  
3 OPSB that the final design is in conformance with the certificate and that key  
4 features are noted.

5  
6 12. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

7 A. Yes, it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testimony  
8 as new information subsequently becomes available or in response to  
9 positions taken by other parties.



## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the Prefiled Testimony of Andrew Conway has been served upon the below-named counsel via electronic mail, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020.

*/s/ Thomas G. Lindgren*

**Thomas G. Lindgren**

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Summary: Testimony Prefiled Testimony of Andrew Conway electronically filed by Mrs. Kimberly M Naeder on behalf of OPSB