

**Legal Department** 

American Electric Power 1 Riverside Plaza Columbus, OH 43215-2373 AEP.com

July 12, 2021

Ms. Tanowa Troupe, Secretary Ohio Power Siting Board 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Christen M. Blend Senior Counsel – Regulatory Services (614) 716-1915 (P) cmblend@aep.com

RE: Case No. 21-111-EL-BLN
Bellefonte Extension 138 kV Line Rebuild Project
Additional Information regarding Archaeological and Cultural Resources

Dear Ms. Troupe:

In Section B(10)(c) of its May 27, 2021 Application in this proceeding, AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (the "Company") indicated that it would provide a copy of the State Historic Preservation Office's ("SHPO") correspondence regarding the Phase I History/Architectural survey report for the Bellefonte Extension 138 kV Line Rebuild Project upon receipt from SHPO. SHPO's correspondence is enclosed.

If you have questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christen M. Blend

Christen M. Blend (0086881)

Counsel for AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.



In reply, refer to 2021-LAW-51026

June 28, 2021

Brent Shreckengost GAI Consultants, Inc. 500 Lee Street, Suite 700 Charleston, WV 25301 b.shreckengost@gaiconsultants.com

RE: Bellefonte Extension 138kV Line Rebuild Project, Perry Township, Lawrence County, Ohio – Phase I Archaeological Addendum 1

Dear Mr. Shreckengost:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received on June 11, 2021 regarding the proposed Bellefonte Extension 138kV Line Rebuild Project, Perry Township, Lawrence County, Ohio – Phase I Archaeological Addendum 1. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made pursuant to Section 149.53 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Power Siting Board rules for siting this project (OAC 4906-5). The comments of the Ohio SHPO are also submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

The following comments pertain to the Addendum 1 Technical Report, Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation, Bellefonte Extension 138 kV Line Rebuild Project, Lawrence County, Ohio by Barbara A. Munford (GAI Consultants, Inc. 2021).

A literature review, visual inspection and shovel test unit excavation was completed as part of the investigations. The proposed access road alignment to the west of Crabtree Cemetery (OGSID 6502, OHI#LAW0139112) has been realigned to provide a larger buffer around the cemetery. The new access road alignment was investigated for archaeological resources. No previously identified archaeological sites are located within the new alignment and no new archaeological sites were identified during survey. Fencing around Crabtree Cemetery is also planned and the cemetery boundaries will be avoided during construction activities. Our office appreciates AEP's willingness to redesign a portion of their project to avoid any potential impacts to Crabtree Cemetery and GAI Consultants, Inc.'s additional investigations to ensure the boundaries of Crabtree Cemetery are known and properly documented. Our office agrees Crabtree Cemetery will be avoided by the proposed project and no additional archaeological survey is needed.

The History/Architecture Survey was also submitted to our office for review on June 11, 2021. Coordination for that report will be submitted under a separate letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (614) 298-2022, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:khorrocks@ohiohistory.org">khorrocks@ohiohistory.org</a>. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Krista Horrocks, Project Reviews Manager

Resource Protection and Review

RPR Serial No: 1088934



July 9, 2021 In reply, please refer to: 2021-LAW-51026

Dana Cress GAI Consultants, Inc. 385 East Waterfront Drive Homestead, Pennsylvania 15120

RE: Bellefonte Extension 138kV Line Rebuild Project

Perry Township, Lawrence County, Ohio

Dear Ms. Cress:

This letter is in response to correspondence received on June 11, 2021. The comments of Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are submitted in accordance with provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the associated regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.

The Project involves the construction of an approximately 6.1-kilometer (km) (3.8-mile [mi])-long transmission line within existing and new rights-of-way. The Project will include the installation of 17 new overhead transmission line structures, workspace to remove an additional three extant structures, as well as the development of approximately 4.8 km (3 mi) of access roads.

The following comments pertain to the *Architectural and Historical Resources Investigation for the Bellefonte Extension 138kV Line Rebuild Project in Lawrence County, Ohio* by GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI, 2021). A literature review and field survey were completed as part of the investigations. The survey of the Project APE identified a total of 122 resources; two of which are previously recorded (LAW0021508 and LAW0021608) and 120 are newly recorded. GAI recommends one resource (LAW0021608) is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. Our office agrees with GAI's recommendation of eligibility.

Based on the information provided, the project will not impact the significance or integrity of the LAW0021608 resource in a way that would alter its National Register eligibility. Therefore, we concur with your finding that there will be no adverse effect on historic properties as a result of the Rebuild Project. No further coordination regarding architectural and historical resources is required unless the project changes.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jwilliams@ohiohistory.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Joy Williams, Project Reviews Manager

Resource Protection and Review

<sup>&</sup>quot;Please be advised that this is a Section 106 decision. This review decision may not extend to other SHPO programs."

RPR Serial No: 1088944

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on** 

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Case No(s). 21-0111-EL-BLN

Summary: Notice Correspondence electronically filed by Ms. Christen M. Blend on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.