

BEFORE THE POWER SITING BOARD OF THE STATE OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Letter of Notification Application)
by Blossom Solar, LLC for a 138 kV Transmission Line) **Case No. 23-0104-EL-BLN**
Project in Morrow County, Ohio)

Members of the Board:

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|---|-------------------------------|
| 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 Supplemental Staff Report of Investigation, which has been filed in accordance with Ohio Power Siting Board (Board) rules.

Staff recommends the application, as proposed for amendment, be approved.

Please present any objections you or your designee may have with this case to my office.

Sincerely,



Michael Williams
Executive Director
Ohio Power Siting Board

OPSB SUPPLEMENTAL STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 23-0104-EL-BLN
Project Name: Blossom Solar 138 kV Transmission Line Project
Project Location: Morrow County
Applicant: Blossom Solar, LLC
Application Filing Date: April 13, 2023
Filing Type: Letter of Notification (Expedited)
Inspection Date: April 19, 2023
Report Date: June 20, 2023 (As amended from report dated June 14, 2023)
Original Recommended Automatic Approval Date: June 21, 2023
Applicant’s Waiver Requests: Applicant requests a procedural waiver of the 3-day period to objecting to conditions, as provided in Ohio Administrative Code 4906-6-10 (C)
Staff Assigned: J. O’Dell, A. Holderbaum and J. Cross

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

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

Supplement to Staff Report of Investigation

The Applicant filed an expedited letter of notification for case 23-0104-EL-BLN on April 13, 2023. Staff filed its report of investigation on June 14, 2023. The application is scheduled for automatic approval on June 21, 2023.

On June 20, 2023, the Applicant filed a motion for waiver and objection/and request for clarification of staff report condition #2 (Motion). In this filing, the Applicant clarifies that if Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) needed to cross affected surface waters is not feasible, then the Applicant would obtain necessary permits to allow for alternate construction techniques. In general, Staff’s review of this request in conjunction with additional information filed by the Applicant confirms that, should the Applicant not be able to use HDD installation techniques, that alternative, non-aerial techniques such as open trench installation would be used instead. Further, as necessary, the Applicant would obtain any permits associated with those installation techniques.

Conclusion

Staff’s review of the application included consideration of the requirements listed in Ohio Revised Code Section 4906.10. Based on Staff’s review, the application, as proposed for modification by the Motion, meets the necessary criteria for granting a certificate. Further, Staff concurs with Applicant’s Motion, and recommends that (1) Applicant’s motion be deemed timely as to the

proposed modification of Condition #2 of the Staff Report issued June 14, 2023, (2) Condition #2 from the prior Staff Report be modified as indicated below, and (3) in all other respects, the prior Staff Report be adopted without further modification. Staff recommends approval of this application and 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.

Revised Condition

Condition #2 is appended with the following additional provision:

With regard to crossing any wetlands, in the event that the Applicant does not use HDD, it would obtain any necessary permits to allow for alternate construction techniques.

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

6/20/2023 4:19:57 PM

in

Case No(s). 23-0104-EL-BLN

Summary: Staff Report of Investigation Amended Staff Report of Investigation filed by James S. O'Dell electronically filed by Mr. James S. O'Dell on behalf of Staff of OPSB.