

**BEFORE  
THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD**

**In the Matter of AEP Ohio** :  
**Transmission Company for a** : Case No. 22-0857-EL-BTX  
**Certificate of Environmental** :  
**Compatibility and Public Need for the** :  
**Construction of the Althea-Sweetgum** :  
**138 kV Transmission Line Project.**

**PREFILED TESTIMONY  
OF  
ROBERT HOLDERBAUM  
ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
POWER SITING DEPARTMENT**

**Staff Exhibit 2**

**September 6, 2023**

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

2 A. My name is Robert Holderbaum, and my business address is 180 East  
3 Broad Street, Columbus OH 43215.

4  
5 2. Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) as a  
7 Utility Specialist II within the Power Siting Department.

8  
9 3. Q. Please summarize your educational background and work experience.

10 A. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science Pre-Law (2009)  
11 and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Policy & Planning  
12 (2012), both from Ohio University. I have been employed by the PUCO  
13 since 2012. I have worked almost exclusively on power siting activities  
14 during that time. I have provided analysis for over 175 cases before the  
15 Ohio Power Siting Board (Board). My responsibilities typically include  
16 application review and the preparation of analysis for major utility facility  
17 applications in Ohio, including accelerated filings such as Letters of  
18 Notification and Construction Notices. I have been the lead analyst for  
19 more than 100 applications for generation facilities, substations, and  
20 transmission line applications. I have also been responsible for the  
21 preparation of staff reports and coordination of Staff review and field work  
22 for major utility facilities.

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4. Q. Have you testified in prior proceedings before the Ohio Power Siting Board?

A. Yes.

5. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

A. I served as the overall Staff Project Lead for the investigation that resulted in the Staff Report of Investigation (Staff Report) that was filed July 24, 2023 in this docket. I managed the Staff investigation and preparation of the Staff Report in this case.

6. Q. What kind of case is this?

A. The Applicant proposed to construct a new 3.2 mile-long 138 kV electric transmission line in Scioto County.

7. Q. Please summarize Staff’s investigation that was conducted in this case.

A. Staff’s investigation included reviewing the application, conducting site visits to the proposed facility location, acquiring additional information from the Applicant, obtaining input from other relevant state and federal agencies, and preparing a Staff Report of Investigation that presents Staff’s analysis, conclusions, and recommendations. As a result of Staff’s investigation, Staff is recommending that the Board approve the

1 application, subject to the 21 conditions that are presented in the Staff  
2 Report as modified within the Stipulation.

3

4 8. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

5 A. Yes, it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testi-  
6 mony, as new information subsequently becomes available or in response  
7 to positions taken by other parties.

## PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing **Prefiled Testimony of Robert Holderbaum** submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board, was served via electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.

*/s/ Rhiannon Howard*

**Rhiannon Howard**

Assistant Attorney General

### **Parties of Record:**

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### **Attorney Examiners:**

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**in**

**Case No(s). 22-0857-EL-BTX**

Summary: Testimony Prefiled Testimony of Robert Holderbaum on Behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Power Siting Department electronically filed by Mrs. Kimberly M. Naeder on behalf of OPSB.