Construction Notice for the Hyatt – Genoa Pole Replacement Project

PUCO Case No. 20-1183-EL-BNR

Submitted to:
The Ohio Power Siting Board
Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-6-05

Submitted by:
Ohio Power Company

July 17, 2020
CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

Ohio Power Company's Hyatt-Genoa 138kV Pole Replacement Project

4906-6-05

Ohio Power Company (the “Company”) provides the following information to the Ohio Power Siting Board (“OPSB”) pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-6-05.

4906-6-05(B) General Information

B(1) Project Description

The name of the project and applicant's reference number, names and reference number(s) of resulting circuits, a brief description of the project, and why the project meets the requirements for a Construction Notice.

The Company proposes the Hyatt-Genoa 138kV Pole Replacement Project (“Project”), located in Lewis Center, Delaware County, Ohio. The purpose of this Project is to replace Structures 71 and 72 of the Hyatt-Genoa 138kV transmission line due to concerns with the condition of the davit arms on Structure 71. As result of replacing Structure 71, it is necessary to replace Structure 72 in order to maintain current NESC clearances requirements.

Structure 71 is currently a wood monopole with davit arms and will be replaced with a direct embedded steel structure. Structure 72 is a 2-pole running angle guyed wood structure and will be replaced with a 2-pole steel custom dead-end structure. The Project will be constructed within existing AEP Ohio right-of-way (“ROW”). No additional ROW acquisition is required for this Project.

Appendix A shows the location of the Project.

The Project meets the requirements for a Construction Notice (“CN”) because it is within the types of projects defined by (1)(a) of Appendix A to O.A.C. 4906-1-01, Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines:

1. Adding new circuits on existing structures designed for multiple circuit use, replacing conductors on existing structures with larger or bundled conductors, adding structures to an existing transmission line, or replacing structures with a different type of structure, for a distance of:

   (a) Two miles or less

The Project has been assigned PUCO Case No. 20-1183-EL-BNR.

B(2) Statement of Need

If the proposed project is an electric power transmission line or gas or natural gas transmission line, a statement explaining the need for the proposed facility.

This Project is necessary to proactively replace Structures 71 and 72 of the Hyatt-Genoa 138kV transmission line due to concerns with the condition of the davit arms on Structure 71. The davit arms on Structure 71 are similar to those installed at or near the same time that have had several instances of
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fatigue failure in the recent past. Structure 71 is of high concern given that the wire spans over a railroad and a local bike path. To mitigate the safety and reliability concerns posed by Structure 71’s davit arms, the Company is proposing this Project to proactively replace the Structure. Additionally, Structure 72 will require replacement to maintain current NESC clearance requirements due to the replacement of Structure 71.

This Project was not submitted to PJM, and is not part of the Company’s Long-Term Forecast Report because the Project will not result in topology change.

B(3) Project Location
The applicant shall provide the location of the project in relation to existing or proposed lines and substations shown on an area system map of sufficient scale and size to show existing and proposed transmission facilities in the Project area.

The location of the Project in relation to existing facilities is shown on Figure 1, in Appendix A. Figure 2, in Appendix A, identifies the Project components on an aerial photograph.

B(4) Alternatives Considered
The applicant shall describe the alternatives considered and reasons why the proposed location or route is best suited for the proposed facility. The discussion shall include, but not be limited to, impacts associated with socioeconomic, ecological, construction, or engineering aspects of the project.

Due to structure placement within existing Company ROW, there will be no additional impact to areas outside the existing ROW corridor. The resulting alignment represents the most suitable and least-impactful structure location alternative and therefore, no alternatives were considered. Socioeconomic, land use, and ecological information is presented in Section B(10).

B(5) Public Information Program
The applicant shall describe its public information program to inform affected property owners and tenants of the nature of the project and the proposed timeframe for project construction and restoration activities.

The Project will be located within existing AEP Ohio ROW, with no additional property owners or tenants affected. AEP Ohio maintains a website (http://aeptransmission.com/ohio/) on which an electronic copy of this CN is available. A paper copy of the CN will be served to the public library in each political subdivision affected by this Project.

B(6) Construction Schedule
The applicant shall provide an anticipated construction schedule and proposed in-service date of the project.

Construction of the Project is planned to begin in the third quarter of 2020, and the anticipated in-service date will be approximately December of 2020.
**B(7) Area Map**
The applicant shall provide a map of at least 1:24,000 scale clearly depicting the facility with clearly marked streets, roads, and highways, and an aerial image.

Appendix A, Figure 1 provides a topographical map of existing and proposed facilities at 1:24,000, and Figure 2 provides an aerial image showing roads and highways, clearly marked with Project components.

From Columbus, take OH-315 North for approximately 11 miles, and use the right 2 lanes to take exit 12A for I-270 E toward US-23/I-71, then follow for 1.1 miles. Use the left line to keep right at the fork and follow signs for High St (0.2 mile). Use the left 3 lanes to turn left onto the US-23 N ramp. Continue on US-23 N (6 miles). Turn right onto Lewis Center Rd (1 mile). Turn left onto Franklin St (0.05 mile). Turn right onto 2nd St (0.08 mile). The Project area will be on the left.

**B(8) Property Agreements**
The applicant shall provide a list of properties for which the applicant has obtained easements, options, and/or land use agreements necessary to construct and operate the facility and a list of the additional properties for which such agreements have not been obtained.

The Project is located entirely within existing Company ROW. No other property easements, options, or land use agreements are necessary to construct the Project or operate the transmission line.

**B(9) Technical Features**
The applicant shall describe the following information regarding the technical features of the project:

**B(9)(a) Operating characteristics, estimated number and types of structures required, and right-of-way and/or land requirements.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Specification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voltage</td>
<td>138 kV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conductors</td>
<td>636,000 CM ACSR 26/7 (Grosbeak)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Static Wire</td>
<td>3/8 in 7 strand EHS Steel and 96 count OPGW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulators</td>
<td>Polymer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROW Width</td>
<td>100 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure type</td>
<td>One (1) 2-pole double circuit steel pole custom dead end structure with concrete pier foundations and one (1) double circuit steel direct embedded braced post structure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B(9)(b) Electric and Magnetic Fields

For electric power transmission lines that are within one hundred feet of an occupied residence or institution, the production of electric and magnetic fields during the operation of the proposed electric power transmission line.

No occupied residences or institutions are located within 100 feet of the Project.

B(9)(b)(ii) Design Alternatives

A discussion of the applicant's consideration of design alternatives with respect to electric and magnetic fields and their strength levels, including alternate conductor configuration and phasing, tower height, corridor location, and right-of-way width.

No occupied residences or institutions are located within 100 feet of the Project.

B(9)(c) Project Cost

The estimated capital cost of the project.

The capital cost estimate for the proposed Project, which is comprised of applicable tangible and capital costs, is approximately $245,000.

B(10) Social and Economic Impacts

The applicant shall describe the social and ecological impacts of the project:

B(10)(a) Land Use Characteristics

Provide a brief, general description of land use within the vicinity of the proposed project, including a list of municipalities, townships, and counties affected.

The Project is located in Lewis Center, Delaware County, Ohio. The Delaware County Auditor lists the land use of this area as “400 Commercial-vacant land” for Structures 71 and 72. There are no parks, cemeteries, wildlife management areas, or nature preserve lands within 1,000 feet of the Project centerline, however one church (North Unitarian Universalist) is located within 300 feet of the Project.

B(10)(b) Agricultural Land Information

Provide the acreage and a general description of all agricultural land, and separately all agricultural district land, existing at least sixty days prior to submission of the application within the potential disturbance area of the project.

The Project area is within existing AEP Ohio ROW and on property that the Delaware County Auditor’s website lists as vacant and county owned. The Project is not located within registered agricultural district lands and does not contain any active agricultural row crop land.
B(10)(c) Archaeological and Cultural Resources

Provide a description of the applicant’s investigation concerning the presence or absence of significant archaeological or cultural resources that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

Figure 3 depicts an online review of the State Historic Preservation Office Online GIS website. No known cultural resources were identified within one mile of the study area.

B(10)(d) Local, State, and Federal Agency Correspondence

Provide a list of the local, state, and federal governmental agencies known to have requirements that must be met in connection with the construction of the project, and a list of documents that have been or are being filed with those agencies in connection with siting and constructing the project.

The Project involves the replacement of two structures. This activity is below the reporting levels for an OEP Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. No other local, state, or federal permits are applicable.

B(10)(e) Threatened, Endangered, and Rare Species

Provide a description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of federal and state designated species (including endangered species, threatened species, rare species, species proposed for listing, species under review for listing, and species of special interest) that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (“USFWS”) Federally Endangered, Threatened, Candidate Species, and Species of Concern in Ohio by County April 2018 (available at https://www.fws.gov/midwest/ohio/) was reviewed to determine the threatened and endangered species currently known to occur in Delaware County.

This USFWS publication lists Indiana bat (E), northern long-eared bat (T), rayed bean (E), snuffbox (E), rabbitsfoot (T), running buffalo clover (E), and bald eagle (SC) (de-listed but still protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act), were on this list of species for Delaware County.

The Project is within the range of the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat. Due to this potential, the USFWS/ODNR recommends seasonal tree cutting for trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height between October 1 and March 31 to avoid adverse impacts to this species. No tree clearing activities are anticipated to be required for the construction of this Project. Therefore, no impacts to those species are anticipated.

No stream impacts are proposed during construction, therefore no impacts to the Rayed Bean, Snuffbox, or Rabbitsfoot are anticipated as part of this Project.

Running Buffalo Clover’s habitat is located in areas where there is a prolonged pattern of moderate periodic disturbance. The Project, as shown in Figure 2, contains both highly disturbed and relatively undisturbed vegetative cover. Frequent mowing occurs directly adjacent to the existing bike path, however the remainder of the Project area has been relatively undisturbed and would be considered as old field habitat. Due to the lack of available habitat and the limited footprint of the Project area, impacts to Running Buffalo Clover are not anticipated.
No Bald Eagles nests were identified in the vicinity of the Project. Therefore, no impacts to the Bald Eagle are anticipated.

B(10)(f) Areas of Ecological Concern

Provide a description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of areas of ecological concern (including national and state forests and parks, floodplains, wetlands, designated or proposed wilderness areas, national and state wild and scenic rivers, wildlife areas, wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, and wildlife sanctuaries) that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

Figure 4 shows a risk map indicating NWI wetland and FEMA Floodplains/Floodway data. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (“NRCS”) Web Soil Survey indicates the presence of hydric soils within portions of the Project area, however they are unlikely to be encountered due to previous fill associated with the railroad and bike path. Wetland and stream impacts are not anticipated during construction of the Project. Considering the limited scope of the Project, even if wetlands were present, potential impacts would be below the reporting threshold to the United States Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”) and activities would be covered under Nationwide Permit 3 - Maintenance.

B(10)(g) Unusual Conditions

Provide any known additional information that will describe any unusual conditions resulting in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.

To the best of the Company’s knowledge, no unusual conditions exist that would result in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.
Appendix A

Fig 1- Project Area

Fig 2- Project Area

Figure 3- Cultural Resources Constraints

Figure 4- Environmental Constraints
FIGURE 2
AERIAL MAP

Hyatt - Genoa 138kV
Transmission Line Pole Replacement Project

Data Sources: Google Imagery - AEP
Coordinate System and Datum
NAD 83 State Plane Ohio North

LEGEND:

▲ Existing Station
□ Proposed Pole Location
○ Existing Structure
► Proposed Centerline
★ Existing Transmission Line
→ Railroads

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Figure 3
State Historic Preservation Office Map