August 10, 2016

Chairman Asim Z. Haque  
Ohio Power Siting Board  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  

August 10, 2016  

Re: Case No. 16-1667-EL-BNR Request for Expedited Treatment  
In the Matter of the Construction Notice for the  
North Proctorville Expansion Project  

Dear Chairman Haque,  

Attached please find a copy of the Construction Notice for the North Proctorville Expansion Project by AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. ("AEP Ohio Transco") This filing and notice is in accordance with O.A.C. 4906-6-05.  

A copy of this filing will also be submitted to the executive director or the executive director’s designee. A copy will be provided to the Board Staff via electronic message. AEP Ohio Transco will also submit a check in the amount of $2,000 to the Treasurer, State of Ohio, for Fund 5610 for the expedited review fee.  

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.  

Respectfully Submitted,  

/s/ Erin C. Miller  
Erin C. Miller  
Contract Counsel  
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.  

cc: Jon Pawley, OPSB Staff  
    Werner Margard, Counsel OPSB Staff
CONSTRUCTION NOTICE FOR
North Proctorville Expansion Project

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY

PUCO Case No. 16-1667-EL-BNR

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

Submitted by:
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

August 10, 2016
CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.’s
North Proctorville Expansion Project

4906-6-05

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. ("AEP Ohio Transco") provides this Construction Notice to the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB") in accordance with the accellerated requirements of 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.

AEP Ohio Transco proposes to construct the North Proctorville Expansion Project ("Project"), PUCO Case No. 16-1667-EL-BNR, located in Union Township, in Lawrence County, Ohio. The Project consists of transmission station improvements at the 765 kV transmission station, as well as expanding the original fence line location to encompass a turning pole structure. A 260-foot section of fence will be removed and replaced with a new 184-foot section of fence to expand the fenced area of the station. Figure 1 (Appendix A) shows the existing fence line to be removed, and the new fence line to be constructed to encompass the pole.

The Project will increase the footprint of the station by 8,450 square feet (0.19 acres), resulting in a new total area of 955,880 square feet (21.94 acres). This represents a 0.87 percent expansion of the station. No new right-of-way ("ROW") is necessary for this Project, as proposed construction is located entirely on property owned by AEP Ohio Transco. Figures 2 and 3 (Appendix A) illustrate the location of the Project.

The Project meets the requirements for a Letter of Notification ("LON") because it is within the types of projects defined by item (4)(a) of 4906-1-01 Appendix A, “Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines.” This item states:

(4) Constructing additions to existing electric power transmission stations or converting distribution stations to transmission stations where:

(a) There is a twenty percent or less expansion of the fenced area.
B(2) Statement of Need

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

Not applicable. This Project does not involve a proposed transmission line.

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 map of sufficient scale and size to show existing and proposed transmission facilities in the project area.

The general location of the proposed Project is shown in Figure 2 on a topographic map at 1:24,000 scale (Appendix A). The Project is located at 2414-2698 Indian Guyan Road (County Road 69) near the intersection of County Road 775, in Proctorville, which is in Lawrence County and Union Township, Ohio, 45669, 38°28′38″N 82°23′43″W. Aerial imagery of the site is shown in Figure 3 (Appendix A). Figure 4 (Appendix A) illustrates the location of the North Proctorville Station owned and operated by AEP Ohio Transco and the immediate surrounding property.

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.

There are no practical alternatives to the proposed Project that allow for the expansion of the North Proctorville Station to enclose the turning pole. Any other alternative would necessitate the removal of a larger quantity of existing fence, which would increase impacts and cost. The proposed Project requires the shortest section of fence to be removed and construction of the shortest section of fence to enclose the turning pole. Utilizing the existing station fence layout, the proposed Project will achieve the expansion goal with the fewest overall impacts.

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.

Due to minimal environmental impacts, the nature of the Project, and the fact that AEP Ohio Transco owns all of the property in the Project area, AEP Ohio Transco has not developed a public information program.
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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 anticipated to start on or about October 1, 2016, with the in-service date expected to be on or about December 31, 2016.

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.

Figure 2 (Appendix A) depicts the general location of the Project on a USGS Huntington Quadrangle topographic map at 1:24,000 scale. Figure 3 (Appendix A) provides aerial imagery of the North Proctorville Station (2016 Maprox). To visit the Project, from Columbus follow US-23 South and US-35 East to OH-160 South in Springfield Township, then take the OH-160 exit from US-35 East, then take OH-7 South/Ohio River Scenic Byway to Indian Guyan Road (County Road 69) in Union Township.

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 additional properties for which such agreements have not been obtained.

AEP Ohio Transco owns and operates the North Proctorville Station and immediate surrounding property (see Figure 4 in Appendix A). No easements or other land use agreements are necessary to construct the Project and/or operate the facility.

B(9) Technical Features

The applicant shall describe the following information regarding the technical features of the project:

B(9)(a) Operating Characteristics

Operating characteristics, estimated number and types of structures required, and right-of-way and/or land requirements.

The proposed station expansion includes removal of a 260-foot section of fence and construction of a new 184-foot section of fence to expand the fenced area of the station (see Figure 1 in Appendix A). No new ROW or land requirements are necessary to begin construction.
B(9)(b) Electric and Magnetic Fields

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

Not applicable. This Project does not involve a proposed transmission line.

B(9)(c) Estimated Cost

The estimated capital cost of the project.

The 2016 capital cost estimate for the proposed Project is $300,000.

B(10) Social and Economic Impacts

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

B(10)(a) Operating 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 Union Township, in Lawrence County, Ohio, at the existing AEP Ohio Transco North Proctorville Station. Land uses around the Project area (the AEP Ohio Transco station property) is zoned as Commercial/Residential (source: Lawrence County Auditor). The area for the station expansion is situated entirely within the existing, maintained upland lawn immediately adjacent to the station.

There are currently no occupied residences within 1,000 feet of the Project. There are no schools, cemeteries, parks, wildlife management areas, or nature preserve lands within 1,000 feet of the Project.

The Project will not affect the two towers located on AEP Ohio Transco-owned land, near the area of the proposed expansion.

B(10)(b) Agricultural Land

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 not located within agricultural district land or other agricultural row crop land (see Figures 2, 3, and 4 in Appendix A).
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B(10)(c) Archaeological or 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.

A desktop review of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office database indicated that no previously documented archaeological sites are located within or adjacent to the Project area. Similarly, according to the National Register of Historic Places, there are no properties listed within or adjacent to the Project Area (see Figure 5, Appendix B). A historic structure (Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historic Inventory Number LAW0036714), the vacant Brammer William House constructed in 1850, is located approximately 1,400 feet from the Project on Indian Guyan Road. The Project will not affect this building.

As the Project involves a relatively minor modification to an existing station fence line, significant impacts to archaeological and cultural resources are not anticipated. AEP Ohio Transco’s consultant recommended no further archaeological investigation.

B(10)(d) Local, State, and Federal Government Requirements

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

Construction and operation of the proposed Project will be in accordance with requirements of a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, best management practices adopted by PUCO, and will meet all applicable safety standards established by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration. The Project will not require a Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Project is not located within a mapped FEMA floodplain, and no floodplain permit will be required for this Project.

B(10)(e) Endangered, Threatened, 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 Listed Species by Ohio Counties (October 2015) was reviewed to determine the threatened and endangered species currently known to
occur in Lawrence County. This USFWS publication lists the following federally threatened or endangered species currently listed as occurring in Lawrence County:

**Clams:**
- Pink mucket (pearly mussel) (*Lampsilis abrupta*) – federally endangered.
- Fanshell (*Cyprogenia stegaria*) – federally endangered.
- Snuffbox mussel (*Epioblasma triqueta*) – federally endangered.
- Sheepnose Mussel (*Plethobasus cyphyus*) – federally endangered.

**Flowering:**
- Running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) – federally endangered.

**Insects:**
- Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*) – federally endangered.

**Mammals:**
- Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) – federally endangered.
- Northern Long-Eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) - federally threatened.

The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*; de-listed but still protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act) is also on this list of species for Lawrence County.

Several state-listed species are specified by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (“ODNR”) as occurring, or potentially occurring in Lawrence County (see Appendix C). On behalf of AEP Ohio Transco, Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) emailed the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife (“DOW”)/Ohio Natural Heritage Program (“ONHP”) seeking a review for the North Proctorville Transmission Line Improvement Project (i.e. a separate project at the existing North Proctorville Station) for potential impacts on state-listed threatened or endangered species within a one mile radius of the Project Area (Stantec, 2016). Correspondence from ODNR dated February 16, 2016 indicated that the DOW has no records of rare or endangered species in the North Proctorville Transmission Line Improvement project area, including a one mile radius, in Union Township, Lawrence County, Ohio (Appendix C).

The proposed expansion is situated entirely within the existing, maintained upland lawn immediately adjacent to the station. There are no surface water features within the Project limits. As the Project involves relatively minor modification to an existing station fence line across an area that has already been developed, significant impact to endangered, threatened, and rare species are not anticipated. AEP Ohio Transco’s consultant recommended no further ecological investigation.

**B(10)(f) Areas of Ecological Concern**

Provide a description of the applicant’s investigation concerning the presence of 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, 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 investigations, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

A review of the National Wetlands Inventory database indicated that no wetlands occur within the Project area. A 0.30-acre emerging wetland is located on the AEP Ohio Transco-owned station property, 0.28 miles from the Project area (see Figure 6 in Appendix D). The Project is not located within a mapped FEMA floodplain, and no floodplain permit will be required for this Project.

On behalf of AEP Ohio Transco, Stantec emailed the ODNR DOW/ONHP seeking a review for the North Proctorville Transmission Line Improvement Project (i.e. a separate project at the existing North Proctorville Station) for potential impacts on any unique ecological sites, geological features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, nature preserves, parks or forest, national wildlife refuges, or other protected natural areas within a one mile radius of the Project Area (Stantec, 2016). Correspondence from ODNR dated February 16, 2016 indicated that the DOW are unaware of any unique ecological sites, geologic features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, nature preserves, parks or forests, national wildlife refuges, parks or forests or other protected natural areas in the North Proctorville Transmission Line Improvement project area, including a one mile radius, in Union Township, Lawrence County, Ohio (Appendix C).

The proposed expansion is situated entirely within the existing, maintained upland lawn immediately adjacent to the station. As the Project involves relatively minor modification to an existing station fence line across an area that has already been developed, significant impact to unique ecological sites are not anticipated. AEP Ohio Transco’s consultant recommended no further ecological investigation.

**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 AEP Ohio Transco’s knowledge, no unusual conditions exist that would result in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.
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APPENDIX A

Project Area Mapping
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Figure 1 – North Proctorville Station Expansion Layout
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Figure 2 – General Project Location (USGS, Huntington Quadrangle, 1:24,000)
Figure 3 – Aerial Imagery of the Site
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Figure 4 – Parcel Map
APPENDIX B

Mapping of Archaeological and Cultural Resource Sites
Figure 5 – Ohio Historic Preservation - Office Mapping of Archaeological and Cultural Resource Sites
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APPENDIX C  

Federally Endangered and Threatened Species & ODNR Coordination
ODNR State-Listed Species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>Bald eagle</td>
<td><em>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</em></td>
<td>lower 48 States</td>
<td>Recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>Bald eagle</td>
<td><em>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</em></td>
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<td><em>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</em></td>
<td>lower 48 States</td>
<td>Recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clams</td>
<td>Pink mucket (pearly mussel)</td>
<td><em>Lampsilis abrupta</em></td>
<td>Entire</td>
<td>Endangered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clams</td>
<td>Fanshell</td>
<td><em>Cyprogenia stegaria</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clams</td>
<td>Snuffbox mussel</td>
<td><em>Epioblasma triquetra</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clams</td>
<td>Sheepnose Mussel</td>
<td><em>Plethobasus cyphus</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Flowering Plants</td>
<td>Running buffalo clover</td>
<td><em>Trifolium stoloniferum</em></td>
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<td>Monarch butterfly</td>
<td><em>Danaus plexippus plexippus</em></td>
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<td>Review</td>
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<td>Mammals</td>
<td>Indiana bat</td>
<td><em>Myotis sodalis</em></td>
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<td>Endangered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammals</td>
<td>Northern Long-Eared Bat</td>
<td><em>Myotis septentrionalis</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>Threatened</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
February 16, 2016

Jesse Binau
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
11887 Lebanon Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45241

Dear Mr. Binau,

After reviewing the Natural Heritage Database, I find the Division of Wildlife has no records of rare or endangered species in the North Proctorville Transmission Line Improvement project area, including a one mile radius, in Union Township, Lawrence County, Ohio. We are unaware of any unique ecological sites, geologic features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, nature preserves, parks or forests, national wildlife refuges, parks or forests or other protected natural areas within a one mile radius of the project area.

Our inventory program has not completely surveyed Ohio and relies on information supplied by many individuals and organizations. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area. This letter only represents a review of rare species and natural features data within the Ohio Natural Heritage Database. It does not fulfill coordination under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and does not supersede or replace the regulatory authority of any local, state or federal agency nor relieve the applicant of the obligation to comply with any local, state or federal laws or regulations.

Please contact me at 614-265-6818 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Debbie Woischke
Ohio Natural Heritage Database Program
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Figure 6 – National Wetlands Inventory Map