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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AEP OHIO ANNOUNCES ELECTRICAL IMPROVEMENTS IN FINDLAY AREA AND AN OPEN HOUSE EVENT

GAHANNA, Ohio – July 14, 2016 – AEP Ohio, an operating unit of American Electric Power, is announcing an approximately \$30 million investment to improve the electric transmission system in Wood and Hancock counties.

The Findlay Area Improvements are essential to ensure that reliable electric service continues to be available to customers. Plans include proactively rebuilding three lines that comprise approximately 30-miles of 34.5-kilovolt (kV) transmission line. Existing wood poles will be replaced with sturdier steel poles and new higher voltage 69-kV line. Improvements proactively replace older infrastructure, which will help decrease outages and time needed to restore service when outages do occur. Increasing the voltage ensures the electric grid can support the growing demand for electricity in the area.

To gather information from the public and affected landowners, AEP Ohio will host a public open house **from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 28, at Van Buren High School, 217 S. Main St. in Van Buren, Ohio.** Project representatives will be available to answer questions and obtain valuable local community input. There will not be a formal meeting or agenda. Community members can come and go at any time during the open house hours.

Additional information about the project, including a project timeline, fact sheet and map can be found at www.AEPOhio.com/Findlay.

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AEP Ohio provides electricity to nearly 1.5 million customers of major AEP subsidiary Ohio Power Company in Ohio. AEP Ohio is based in Gahanna, Ohio, and is a unit of American Electric Power. News and information about AEP Ohio can be found at AEPOhio.com.

American Electric Power is one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity and custom energy solutions to nearly 5.4 million customers in 11 states. AEP owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a more than 40,000-mile network that includes more 765-kilovolt extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission systems combined. AEP also operates 224,000 miles of distribution lines. AEP ranks among the nation's largest generators of electricity, owning approximately 31,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP also supplies 3,200 megawatts of renewable energy to customers. AEP's utility units operate as AEP Ohio, AEP Texas, Appalachian Power (in Virginia and West Virginia), AEP Appalachian Power (in Tennessee), Indiana Michigan Power, Kentucky Power, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, and Southwestern Electric Power Company (in Arkansas, Louisiana and east Texas). AEP's headquarters are in Columbus, Ohio.



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