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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AEP OHIO SCHEDULES OPEN HOUSE TO DISCUSS NEW ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE IN MONROE COUNTY

GAHANNA, Ohio, April 6, 2016 – AEP Ohio, a unit of American Electric Power (NYSE: AEP), AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc., Buckeye Power and Washington Electric Cooperative are taking the next steps to improve electric service in Marietta and the surrounding area. The plan includes construction of a new 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Monroe County.

To learn more about this project, the public is invited to attend a project open house from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. April 19 at the Bethel Township Community Center, State Route 260, Marr, Ohio 45734. Visitors may come and go at any time during the workshop. Monroe County residents can offer input, ask questions of project team members and learn more about the new transmission line.

“This project will allow for an additional power source for the southeastern Ohio transmission grid,” said Shawn Malone, project manager for AEP Ohio. “It will improve the electric service reliability for our existing customers and provide a transmission grid capable of handling future growth.”

The Lamping-Rouse line will be approximately five miles long, depending on the route selected. The line will likely run through Washington Township in Monroe County.

“The improvements to the transmission system planned by AEP will provide more reliable service, reduce power interruptions, and speed the restoration of power in the event of outages, to the members of Washington Electric Cooperative,” said Jack Bragg, general manager and chief executive officer of Washington Electric Cooperative. “Washington Electric

fully supports the replacement of this aging infrastructure by AEP, and looks forward to the improved reliability afforded by this investment to our membership”

AEP Ohio plans to invest approximately \$7 million in the Lamping-Rouse transmission line. Construction is targeted to begin in spring 2018 and be complete by spring 2019.

Additional information about the project, including maps, is available online at AEPOhio.com/Lamping-Rouse.

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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 to nearly 5.4 million customers through 223,000 miles of distribution lines 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 ranks among the nation’s largest generators of electricity, owning approximately 32,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. 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. News releases and other information about AEP can be found at AEP.com.



Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc., is a member-owned electric distribution cooperative serving more than 10,000 members in parts of Washington, Guernsey, Monroe, Noble, Morgan and Athens counties. www.weci.org

Buckeye Power, Inc., is a member-owned generation-and-transmission cooperative providing wholesale power to the 25 distribution cooperatives serving nearly 400,000 members in 77 of Ohio’s 88 counties. www.buckeyepower.com

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