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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AEP OHIO, BUCKEYE POWER AND WASHINGTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE REACH AGREEMENT

GAHANNA, Ohio, July 18, 2014 – AEP Ohio, a unit of American Electric Power (NYSE: AEP), Buckeye Power and Washington Electric Cooperative have reached an agreement to improve electric service reliability in the Marietta and surrounding area.

The Marietta Area Transmission Improvement Project will be an approximate \$110 million investment by AEP Ohio Transmission Company in southeastern Ohio. The project includes replacing and upgrading aging electrical equipment in Marietta and parts of Washington, Monroe and Noble counties. Construction on the project is expected to begin this fall and continue through 2022.

“This investment demonstrates the long-term commitment of AEP Ohio in southeastern Ohio,” said Pablo Vegas, AEP Ohio President and Chief Operating Officer. “Upgrading our transmission system is essential to ensure that we will continue to provide reliable power to households, businesses and industries in our area – not just tomorrow but far into the future.”

Since acquiring the former Monongahela Power service territory in Marietta, AEP Ohio has made steady improvements to the Distribution system, including extensive tree trimming, rebuilding and relocating sections of overhead line, replacing transformers and inspecting poles.

A new 138-kilovolt (kV) source will bring an additional power supply to the area to improve reliability. The existing 23-kV transmission grid will be rebuilt and upgraded to 69-kV. This project also involves adding new 69-kV transmission lines and improvements to several distribution substations serving AEP and Washington Electric Cooperative consumers.

AEP Ohio worked with Washington Electric and Buckeye Power, the generation-and-transmission cooperative serving Ohio's electric cooperatives, in finding a solution to reliability issues in this three-county area.

"This has been an area that has service reliability issues and we are pleased to be moving forward with a solution to address those problems," said Ken Schilling, general manager and Chief Executive Officer of Washington Electric Cooperative.

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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 more than 5 million customers in 11 states. AEP ranks among the nation's largest generators of electricity, owning nearly 38,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP also owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a 40,000-mile network that includes more 765 kilovolt extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission systems combined. AEP's transmission system directly or indirectly serves about 10 percent of the electricity demand in the Eastern Interconnection, the interconnected transmission system that covers 38 eastern and central U.S. states and eastern Canada, and approximately 11 percent of the electricity demand in ERCOT, the transmission system that covers much of Texas. 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 and north Texas). AEP's headquarters are in Columbus, Ohio. News releases and other information about AEP can be found at AEP.com.



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