

# Construction Notice For the Gahanna- Morse 138kV Pole Replacement Project



An **AEP** Company

BOUNDLESS ENERGY<sup>SM</sup>

Case No. 19-1476-EL-BNR

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

Submitted by:  
Ohio Power Company, Inc.

July 31, 2019

## CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

### **Ohio Power Company, Inc.'s Gahanna-Morse 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 Gahanna-Morse 138kV Pole Replacement Project ("Project"), located in Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio. The purpose of this Project is to install one steel monopole and foundation in place of a wood three-pole guyed structure. This replacement of equipment is to bring the structure up to current safety standards. This Project concerns structure 37 of the Gahanna-Morse 138kV Transmission Line. The Project will be constructed on existing AEP Ohio right-of-way ("ROW"). 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. 19-1476-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.**

There is no operational, modeling, or topology change as a result of this Project; therefore, the Project will not be submitted to PJM. This Project is also not reported within the Long-Term Forecast Report because it is not creating a new transmission line. The Project's primary purpose is to bring the existing structure up to current safety standards, as the current poles are damaged near the shield wire. The new pole is to be placed 15ft east of existing centerline in order to avoid damaging an underground concrete culvert.

### **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.**

Appendix A shows the location of the Project in relation to existing assets.

### **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.**

Because the structure will be placed within existing AEP Ohio ROW, there will be no additional impacts to any areas outside the existing ROW corridor. The resulting alignment represents the most suitable and least-impactful pole location alternative. 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.**

Because the Project will be located fully on existing AEP Ohio ROW, it will not affect any other property owners or tenants. The Company 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 2019, and the anticipated in-service date will be approximately August of 2019.

### **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 I-670 E towards the airport. Take exit 9 for Johnstown Road. Turn left onto Johnstown Road (0.8 mi). Turn left onto Stelzer Road (2.0 mi). Turn right onto McCutcheon Rd (1.1 mi). Turn left onto N Stygler Rd (1.7mi). Turn right onto Morse Road (0.2 mi). Turn left onto Cherry Bottom Road (0.2). 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 on existing AEP Ohio 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.**

<b>Voltage</b>	138 kV
<b>Conductors</b>	336,000 KCM 18/1 (Merlin)
<b>Static Wire</b>	3 # 5 Copperweld
<b>Insulators</b>	Polymer
<b>ROW Width</b>	80 feet
<b>Structure type</b>	1 single circuit steel custom dead end

### **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.**

The Company plans to coordinate this information directly to the OPSB.

**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.**

The Company plans to coordinate this information directly to the OPSB.

**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 \$150,000 (Class 3 estimate).

**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 within AEP Ohio ROW in Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio. The Franklin County Auditor lists the land use of this area as "403-Aparments 40+ Family". No tree clearing is anticipated to be required for the Project. No environmental or cultural resources are expected to be impacted as a result of this Project. There are no parks, churches, cemeteries, wildlife management areas, or nature preserve lands within 1,000 feet of the centerline 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 on existing AEP Ohio ROW, with surrounding residential facilities, and on property that the Franklin County Auditor's website lists as commercial use. There are no impacts to agricultural district lands.

### **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 cultural resources were identified within or in proximity to 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 will be the replacement of one structure. This activity is below the reporting levels for an OEPA 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 Listed Species by Ohio Counties October 2015 (available at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/ohio/>) was reviewed to determine the threatened and endangered species currently known to occur in Franklin County.

This USFWS publication lists Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat (T), running buffalo clover (E), Scioto madtom (E), clubshell (E), northern riffleshell (E), rayed bean (E), snuffbox (E), rabbitsfoot (T), eastern hellbender (SC), bald eagle (SC) (de-listed but still protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act), were on this list of species for Franklin 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  $\geq 3$  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, the Project is not likely to adversely affect those species.

There are no streams related with this project. Therefore, there will be no impacts associated with the Scioto Madtom, Clubshell, Northern Riffleshell, Rayed Bean, Snuffbox, Rabbitsfoot, and the Eastern Hellbender.

Running Buffalo Clover's habitat is located in areas where there is a prolonged pattern of moderate periodic disturbance. The project area as seen in Figure 2 depicts undisturbed soils. Therefore, due to the absence of proper habitat and the small nature of the project impacts to Running Buffalo Clover are unlikely.

No Bald Eagles nests were identified in the vicinity of the project. Therefore, impacts to the Bald Eagle are unlikely.

#### **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 location of the structure does not pose new impacts to the floodway, as the pole is to be replaced. Wetland impacts are not anticipated. However, even if the pole locations could be considered a wetland, the impact would be below the 0.1 acre threshold for reporting to the Army Corps of Engineers and would be covered under a Nationwide 12 permit.

#### **B(10)(g) Unusual Conditions**

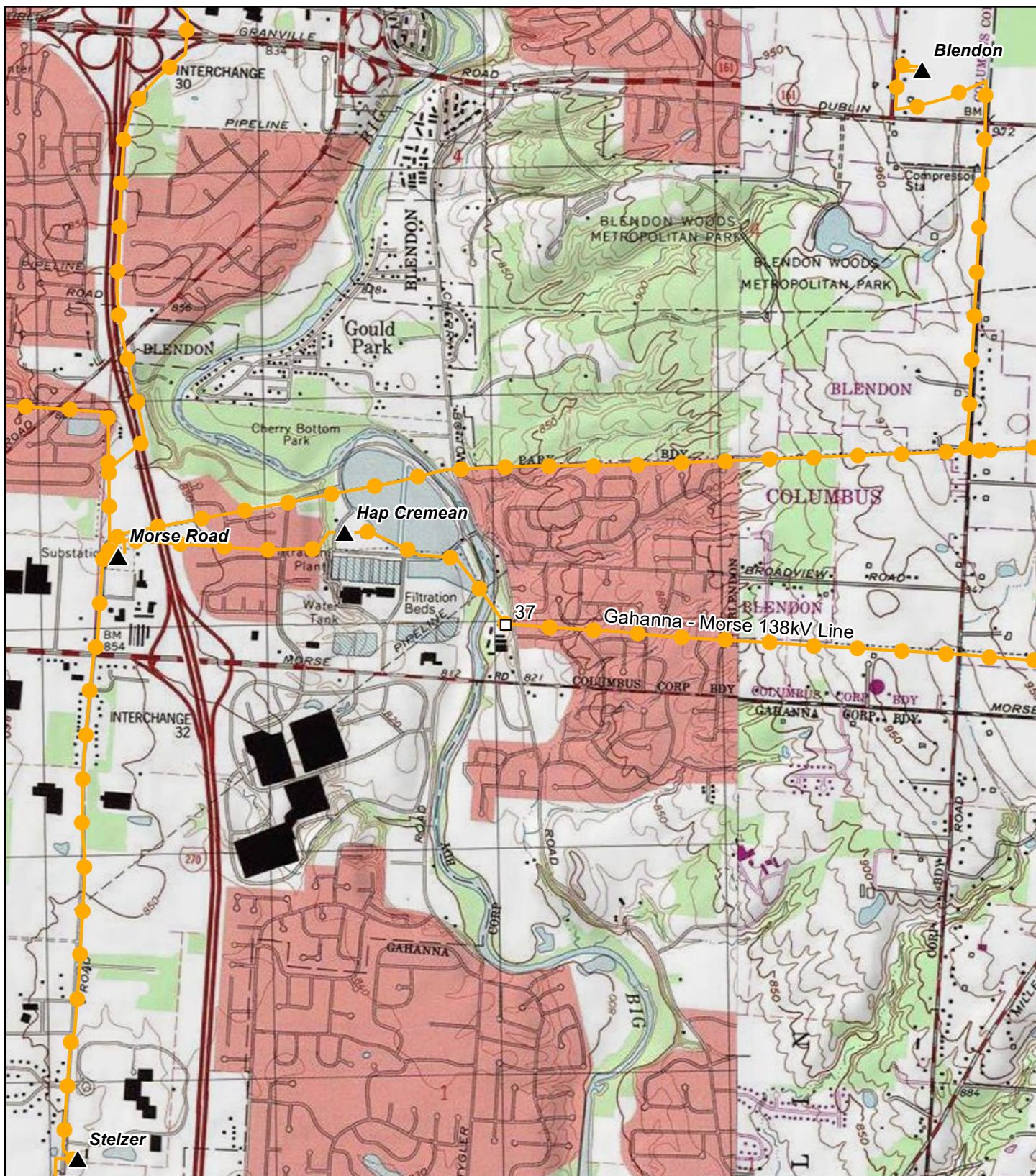
**Provide any known additional information that will describe any unusual conditions resulting in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.**

To the best of AEP Ohio's knowledge, no unusual conditions exist that would result in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.

## **Appendix A**

### **Figures 1-4**





### Legend

- ▲ Substation
- Proposed Structure Location
- Existing 138 kV Transmission Line

Data Sources: AEP,  
Topographic Background

Coordinate System and Datum:  
NAD\_1983\_StatePlane\_  
Ohio\_South\_FIPS\_3402\_Feet

Date:  
July 26, 2019

### Locator Map



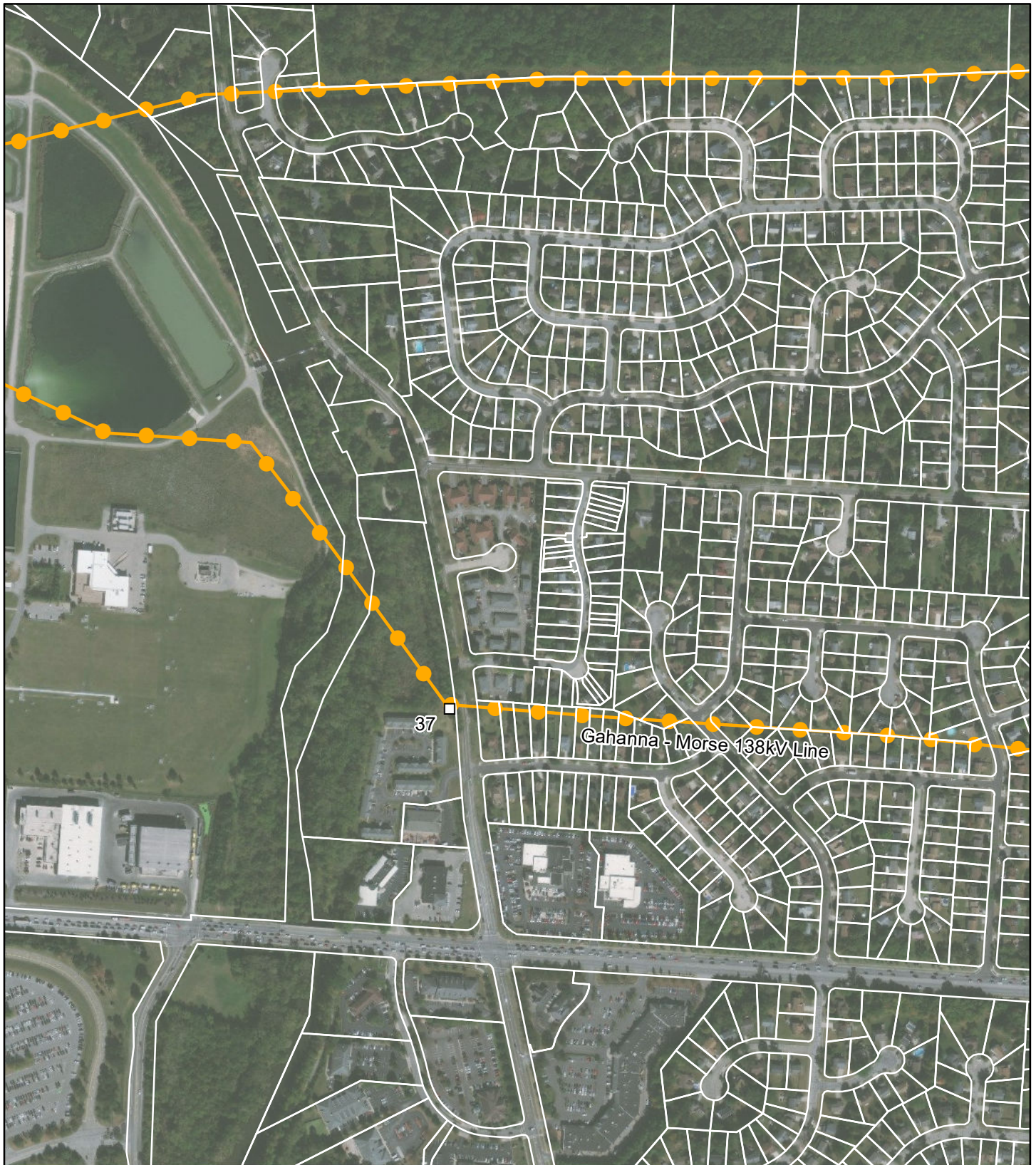
### Figure 1 Project Location Map







Gahanna - Morse 138kV  
Transmission Line Project

0 750 1,500 3,000  
Feet





## Legend

-  Substation
-  Proposed Structure Location
-  Existing 138 kV Transmission Line
-  Parcel Boundary

Data Sources: AEP,  
World Imagery

Coordinate System and Datum:  
NAD\_1983\_StatePlane\_  
Ohio\_South\_FIPS\_3402\_Feet



Date:  
July 26, 2019

## Locator Map



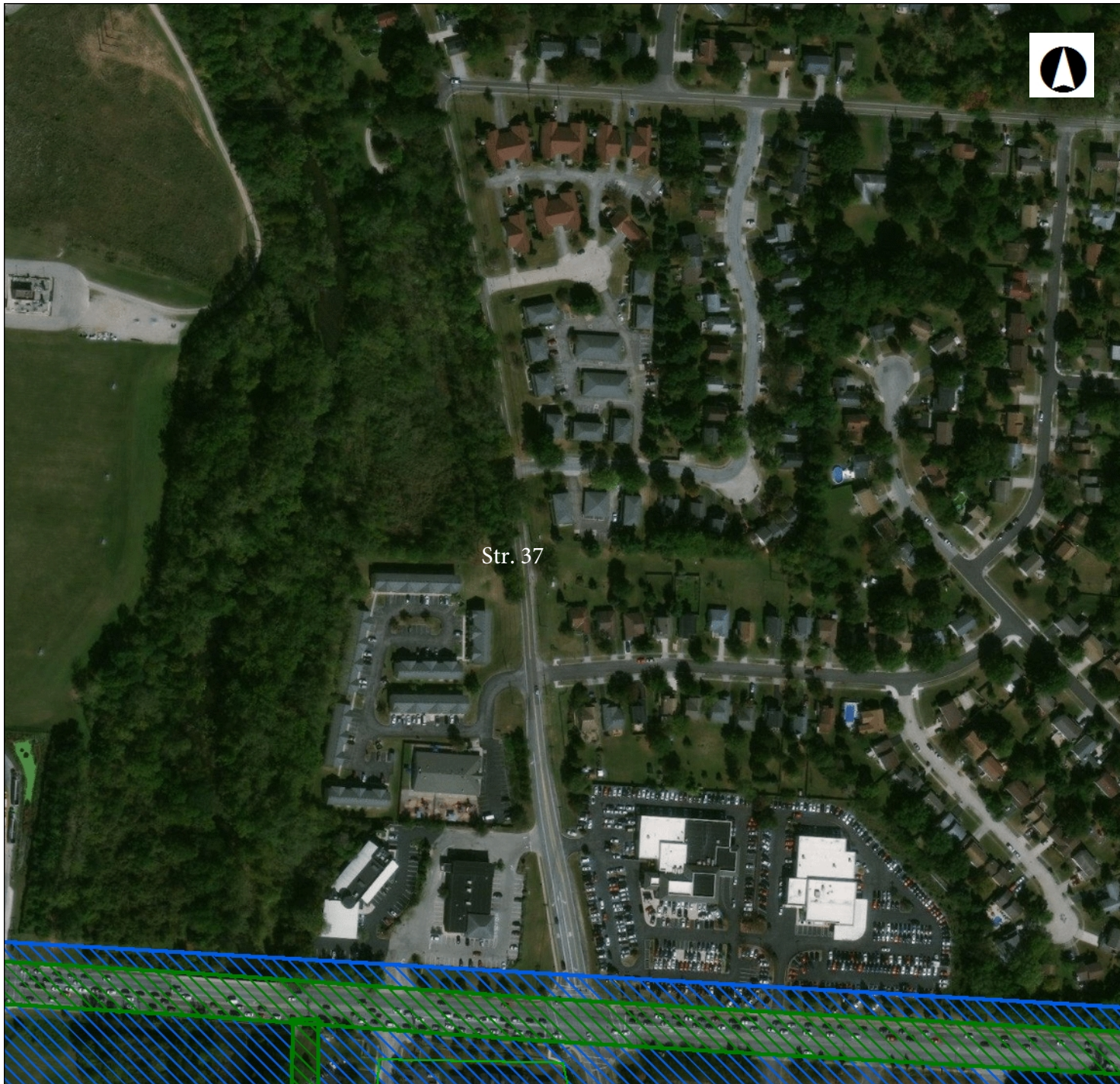
## Figure 2 Aerial Project Map



Gahanna - Morse 138kV  
Transmission Line Project

0 175 350 700  
Feet





State Historic  
Preservation Office

### Legend

#### NR Listings

- Listed
- ⊙ National Historic Landmark
- ✕ Delisted

- ◆ NR Determinations of Eligibi
- ▲ Archaeological Sites
- Historic Structures
- Historic Bridges
- Historic Tax Credit Projects

#### OGS Cemeteries

- † Confident
- † Not Confident

- Dams
- UTM Zone Split
- ▧ NR Boundaries
- OAI Site Boundaries
- ▨ Phase1
- ▩ Phase2

0 0.05 0.11 Miles



1: 4,339

### Copyright/Disclaimer

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.

Datum: [Datum]

Projection: WGS\_1984\_Web\_Mercator\_Auxiliary\_Sphere





