

**LETTER OF NOTIFICATION FOR THE
OHIO CENTRAL SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT**

PUCO Case Number 13-0013-EL-BLN

Submitted pursuant to OAC 4906-11-01

**AEP Ohio Transmission Company
("AEP Transo")**

January 3, 2013

LETTER OF NOTIFICATION

This Letter of Notification has been prepared by AEP Ohio Transmission Company ("AEP Transco") in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) **Section 4906-11-01** requirements. The following sections correspond to the administrative code sections for the requirements of a Letter of Notification to the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB).

PROJECT OVERVIEW

AEP Transco proposes to construct a 4.2 acre expansion of the Ohio Central Substation located in Jefferson Township of Muskingum County, Ohio. The purpose of the project is to install eight new 345 kV circuit breakers, a new system control house, aluminum bus, control cable, communication equipment and associated support structures.

4906-11-01 (B) GENERAL INFORMATION

(B)(1) Project Name and Description:

This proposed project is referred to by AEP Transco as the Ohio Central Substation Expansion Project, PUCO Case Number 13-0013-EL-BLN. AEP Transco plans to expand the Ohio Central Substation which would occupy an additional 4.2 acres of land beyond the existing substation boundary. A portion of the 4.2 acres consists of a planned storm water retention basin. The Ohio Central Substation is located south of the town of Dresden in Muskingum County, on the north side of County Road 116 approximately 0.4 miles west of the Muskingum River as shown on Figure 1, the Project Vicinity Map. Figure 2, the Project Overview Map, illustrates the specific location and footprint of the planned substation expansion.

This project qualifies as a Letter of Notification filing because it meets the requirements outlined in the OAC 4906-1-01, Appendix A (8)(b). Appendix A (8)(b) applies to "constructing additions to existing electric power transmission substations where there is a greater than twenty percent expansion of the fenced area." This substation expansion consists of a 71 percent increase compared to the existing substation.

(B)(2) Need for the Project

This specific project does not require the addition of new transmission lines; therefore information required for this subsection is not applicable.

(B)(3) Project Location Relative to Existing or Proposed Lines/Forecast Report

The location of this project is illustrated on Figures 1 and 2. Figure 1 shows the general project vicinity illustrated on a USGS topographic quadrangle map. Figure 2 illustrates the planned substation expansion footprint and additional details depicted on an aerial imagery map. The Ohio Central Substation is currently connected to two 345 kV transmission lines, eight 138 kV transmission lines, and one 69 kV transmission line. This proposed project was not included its latest Long-Term Forecast Report.

(B)(4) Alternatives Considered

There were no other alternative locations considered for the substation expansion. AEP Transco's expansion plans will utilize property that is directly adjacent to the existing substation and is on property owned by AEP Transco. The open field land was originally graded when the Ohio Central station was constructed in 1967. This area has been used for parking and as an athletic field for the last few years. The area south of the substation is the only practicable location for this expansion due to the layout of the 345 kV and 138 kV station yards.

(B)(5) Anticipated Construction Schedule

Construction is planned to begin March 1, 2013. The station expansion involving the grading and fencing is expected to be completed by May 1, 2013. The breakers and control building are expected to be completely installed and on-line by December 1, 2013.

(B)(6) Area Maps and Directions to Project Area

A vicinity map illustrating the project area is included as Figure 1 at a scale of 1:24,000. Figure 2 depicts the specific location and details of the project site. The following driving directions are based on travel from downtown Columbus to the existing Ohio Central Substation:

1. Take Interstate 70 east for approximately 52 miles to Exit 153, OH-60 N/OH-146 W/State St., in Zanesville.
2. Turn left onto Jackson St.
3. In approximately 400 feet, turn left onto State St.
4. In 0.3 miles, turn right onto Adair Ave.
5. In 0.3 miles, turn left onto OH 60 N/Maple Ave./State Route 60 N.
6. In 3.1 miles, turn right onto Northpointe Dr.
7. Drive 7.3 miles and turn left onto McGlade School Road
8. Ohio Central Substation is located on the left side of the road, 9755 McGlade School Road, Dresden, OH 43821.

(B)(7) Property Easements

The area of the proposed expansion is on property owned by AEP Transco and does not require any easements or acquisition of land.

4906-11-01 (C) TECHNICAL FEATURES

(C)(1) Operating Characteristics, Structures/Land Requirements

Technical features of the substation expansion are presented in the engineering diagrams in Appendix A. The substation expansion will occupy an additional 4.2 acres of land including an area designated for a planned storm water retention basin.

(C)(2) Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

(C)(2)(a) Calculated EMF Levels:

This specific project does not require the addition of new transmission lines; therefore information required for this subsection is not applicable.

(C)(2)(b) Discussion of Design Alternatives:

This specific project does not require the addition of new transmission lines; therefore information required for this subsection is not applicable.

(C)(3) Estimated Cost

The capital costs for the proposed project have been estimated based on the Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC) electric transmission accounts as follows.

FERC Account	Estimated Cost (Capital)
Acct 352 - Structures & Improvements	\$ 1,022,000
Acct 355 – Station Equipment	\$ 4,128,000
Total	\$ 5,150,000

4906-11-01 (D) SOCIOECONOMIC DATA

(D)(1) Land Use and Population Density

The project is located in Jefferson Township, south of the village of Dresden, Muskingum County, Ohio. The immediate surrounding area is primarily agricultural, with sparse residential and industrial uses. The project area (Muskingum County, Ohio) has a population density of 127 people per square mile based upon 2010 census data.

There are two residences located within 0.25 miles of the project boundary. Additionally, AEP's Dresden Generating Station, a natural gas-fired power plant, is located approximately 0.5 miles southwest of the substation.

(D)(2) Agricultural District Land

The proposed substation expansion is not within any Agricultural District lands as defined by Chapter 929 of the Ohio Revised Code. The substation expansion area is owned by AEP Transco.

(D)(3) Archaeological and Cultural Resources

GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI), on behalf of AEP Transco, has submitted initial consultation information to the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. Based on the initial scoping field review, the project area has been previously disturbed due to site grading when the station was originally constructed in 1967. GAI also conducted a preliminary desktop review of the general project area, which included review of the OHPO's On-line Mapping System to determine the presence of previously identified cultural resources. In order to accommodate construction activities for the proposed substation expansion, GAI reviewed a one-mile area centered on the proposed project site, which revealed 23 previously identified archaeological sites and four historic structures. Prior evaluation determined one of these structures (SERNO 987175/Dresden Energy Facility) to be NRHP eligible; however, there will be no impact to the structure as a result of the proposed Project. The Dresden Energy Facility is located approximately 0.4 mi from the Project area. The aforementioned information was included in the consultation request submitted to the OHPO including the completed Section 106 Project Summary Form. The OHPO will evaluate the information and findings and determine the need for any field investigation or further studies. Upon receiving correspondence documenting the OHPO's determination, information will be filed in the OPSB docket and any necessary actions communicated to the OPSB Staff.

(D)(4) Notification of Officials and Public Information Program

Copies of this Letter of Notification have been sent to the offices of the Muskingum County Commissioners, Township Trustees, and the Mayor of Dresden, Ohio. Copies of the letters to these officials are provided in Appendix B. No adjoining property owner's land will be affected by construction or operations. This Letter of Notification will be posted on AEP Ohio's website. AEP Transco will docket the web address information under separate cover.

(D)(5) Current and Pending Litigation

There is no current or pending litigation involving the proposed substation expansion.

(D)(6) Other Local, State, and Federal Agency Permits and Requirements

A Notice of Intent will be filed with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for authorization of construction stormwater discharge under General Permit OHC000003. No other permits or authorizations are required for the project.

4906-11-01 (E) ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

The 4.2-acre project area consists of an open field/lawn previously used as a soccer field or other athletic purposes. An onsite environmental assessment of the project area and immediate surrounding area was performed by GAI Consultants on December 10, 2012, and the findings are summarized below. GAI reviewed the USGS topographic quadrangle map, National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) data concerning protected species in the general project vicinity, and aerial imagery prior to the onsite assessment to guide field observations and determine the extent of the area to be reviewed.

(E)(1) Federal and State Designated Species

The ODNR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) were consulted regarding the potential for the occurrence of rare, threatened, and endangered species within the study area. In a letter response dated December 10, 2012, ODNR reported no records of federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species, or their habitats existing within the project site. Within one mile of the site, ODNR noted that the existence of two state-endangered species, two state-threatened species, and one state-candidate species of mussels potentially inhabiting the Muskingum River. Construction activities or operations are not likely to impact these species. A response from the USFWS was received on December 18, 2012. The USFWS states that the project activities are not likely to impact any federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species, or their habitats, and the USFWS has no objection to the proposed project.

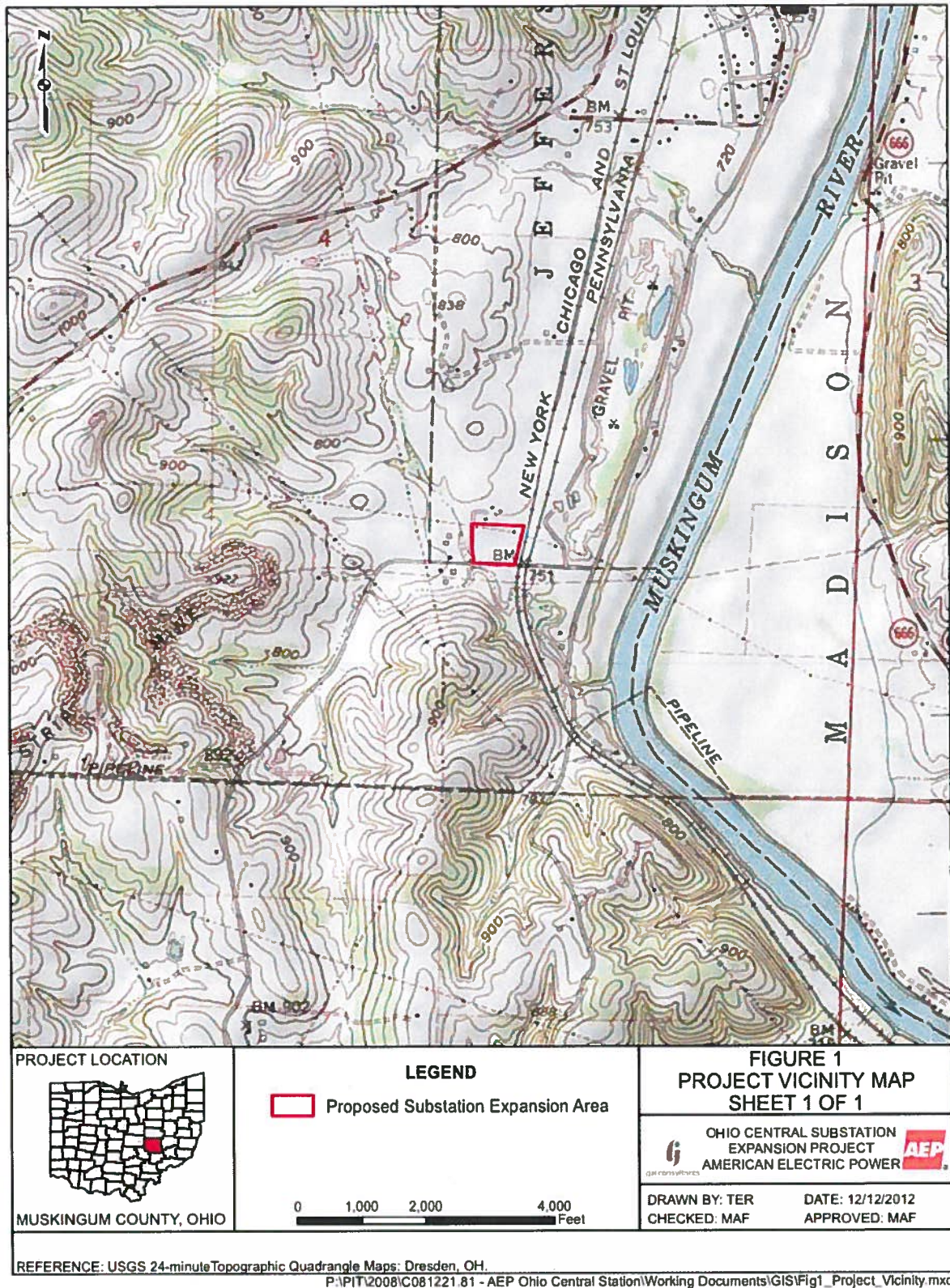
(E)(2) Areas of Ecological Concern

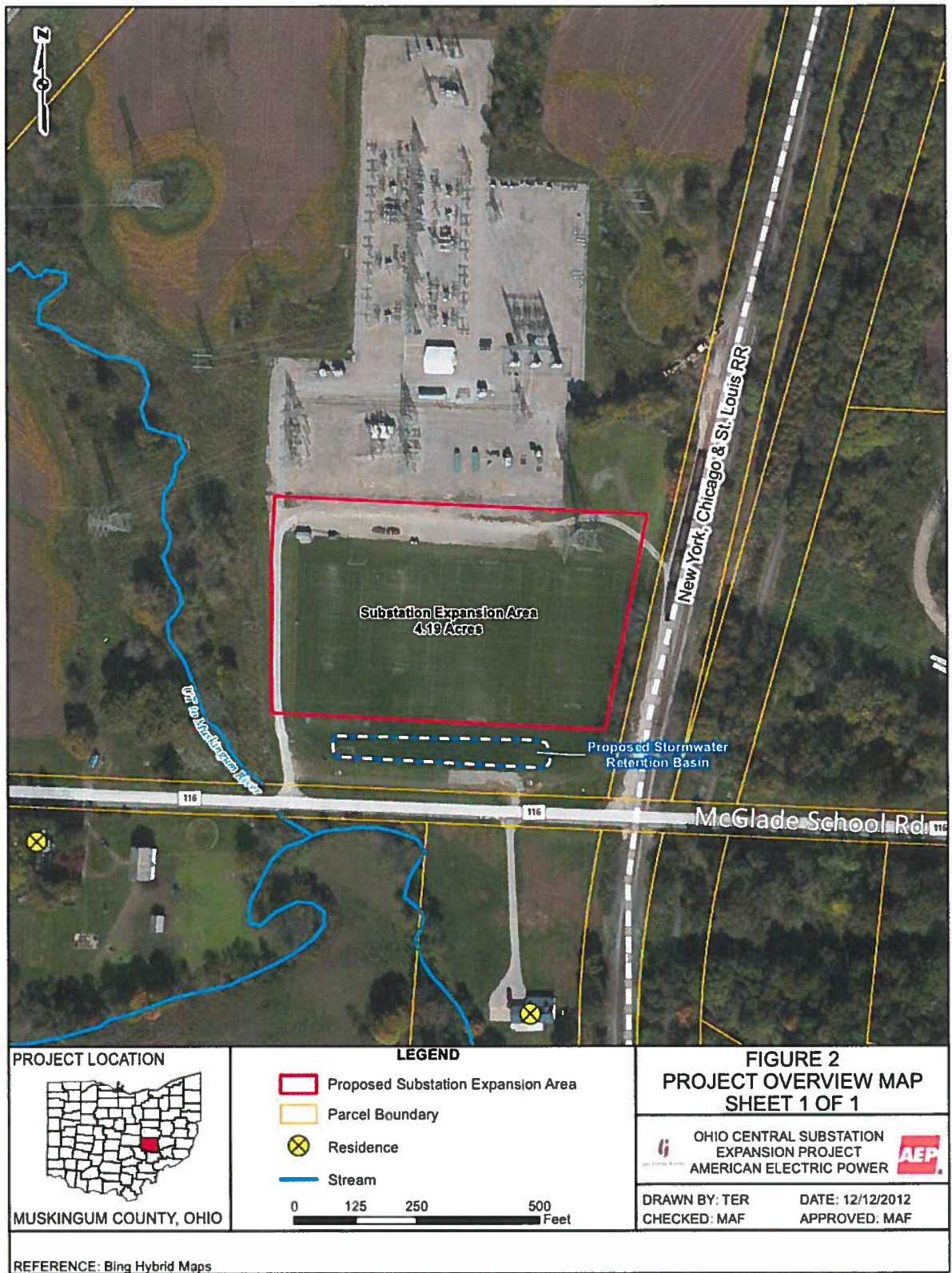
The onsite environmental assessment area included the proposed project construction area, the area to the east and northeast between the existing substation and the railroad. The proposed disturbance limit ends at the substation access road to the west, adjacent to a conservation easement discussed below. No wetlands, streams, or other areas of ecological concern are located within the planned area of disturbance based on the onsite field assessment and review of NWI and USGS maps. There are no national or state forests, parks, floodplains, wetlands, designated or proposed wilderness areas, national or state wild and scenic rivers, wildlife areas, wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, or wildlife sanctuaries within areas affected by the project. The nearest wetland, based on NWI data, is located 0.25 miles northeast of the project area near a former gravel pit. In conclusion, no areas of ecological concern or significance are expected to be impacted as a result of the proposed project.

A conservation easement exists to the west of the proposed project area which is under AEP's ownership and responsibility. One stream, an unnamed tributary to Muskingum River, flows from north to south through the conservation easement. The majority of storm water runoff from the project site currently flows into this unnamed stream at the southeast corner of the conservation easement. After construction of the substation expansion, storm water will be routed to a proposed storm water retention basin within the project area, which will then discharge to the southwest into the same unnamed stream. There is no anticipated impact from construction activities or operations to this conservation easement area or the unnamed stream.

(E)(3) Unusual Conditions Resulting in Significant Environmental, Social, Health, or Safety Impacts

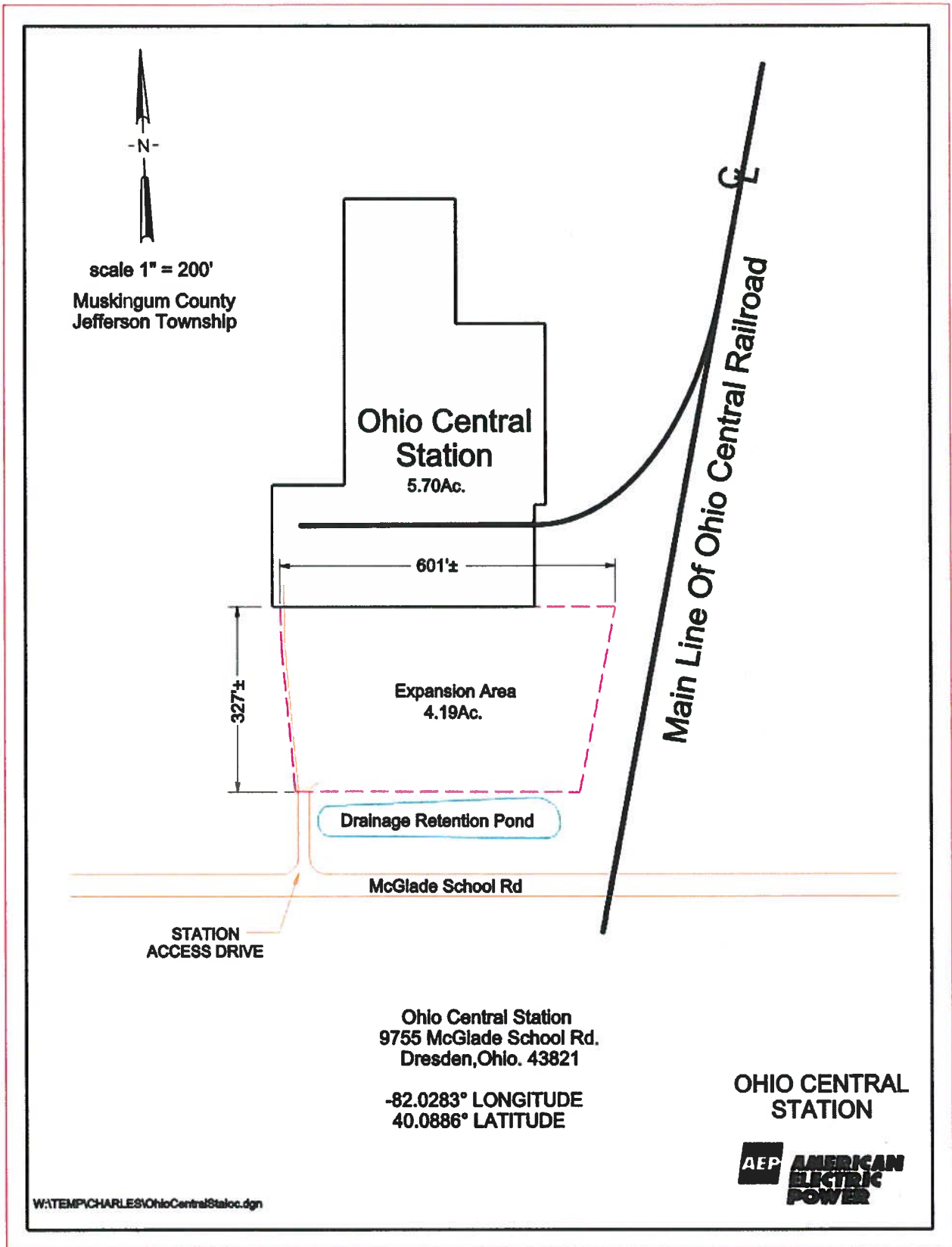
There are no known unusual conditions or circumstances associated with this project that will result in significant environmental, social, health or safety impacts.





APPENDIX A

ENGINEERING SPECIFICATIONS



APPENDIX B

LETTER TO OFFICIALS

American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230



January 2, 2013

Mayor David Mathew
Village of Dresden
904 Chestnut St
Dresden, OH 43821

**Letter of Notification
Ohio Central Substation Expansion Project**

Dear Mayor Mathew:

Please find enclosed a copy of a Letter of Notification that AEP Ohio Transmission Company ("AEP Transco") has submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding a planned expansion of the Ohio Central Substation. The Letter of Notification submittal is required in accordance with Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The Ohio Central Substation is located in Jefferson Township south of the village of Dresden.

In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4906-1-01 Appendix A, we are required to prepare this Letter of Notification for the Ohio Power Siting Board and in compliance with OAC 4906-11-01(D)(4), we are hereby providing you with a copy.

Cordially,
American Electric Power

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Heppner", with a stylized flourish at the end.

John R Heppner
Transmission Line Engineering

Enclosure

American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230



January 2, 2013

Muskingum County Board of Commissioners
Jerry Lavy
Jim Porter
Steve Strauss
401 Main Street
Zanesville, OH 43701

**Letter of Notification
Ohio Central Substation Expansion Project**

Dear Board of Commissioners:

Please find enclosed a copy of a Letter of Notification that AEP Ohio Transmission Company ("AEP Transco") has submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding a planned expansion of the Ohio Central Substation. The Letter of Notification submittal is required in accordance with Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The Ohio Central Substation is located in Jefferson Township south of the village of Dresden.

In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4906-1-01 Appendix A, we are required to prepare this Letter of Notification for the Ohio Power Siting Board and in compliance with OAC 4906-11-01(D)(4), we are hereby providing you with a copy.

Cordially,
American Electric Power

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Heppner", written over a horizontal line.

John R Heppner
Transmission Line Engineering

Enclosure

American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230



January 2, 2013

Dale Ferrell, Jefferson Township Trustee
1352 Chestnut St.
Dresden, OH 43821

**Letter of Notification
Ohio Central Substation Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Ferrell:

Please find enclosed a copy of a Letter of Notification that AEP Ohio Transmission Company ("AEP Transco") has submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding a planned expansion of the Ohio Central Substation. The Letter of Notification submittal is required in accordance with Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The Ohio Central Substation is located in Jefferson Township south of the village of Dresden.

In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4906-1-01 Appendix A, we are required to prepare this Letter of Notification for the Ohio Power Siting Board and in compliance with OAC 4906-11-01(D)(4), we are hereby providing you with a copy.

Cordially,
American Electric Power

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John R Heppner
Transmission Line Engineering

Enclosure

American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230



January 2, 2013

Tom Miller, Jefferson Township Trustee
1335 Chestnut St.
Dresden, OH 43821

**Letter of Notification
Ohio Central Substation Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Miller:

Please find enclosed a copy of a Letter of Notification that AEP Ohio Transmission Company ("AEP Transco") has submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding a planned expansion of the Ohio Central Substation. The Letter of Notification submittal is required in accordance with Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The Ohio Central Substation is located in Jefferson Township south of the village of Dresden.

In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4906-1-01 Appendix A, we are required to prepare this Letter of Notification for the Ohio Power Siting Board and in compliance with OAC 4906-11-01(D)(4), we are hereby providing you with a copy.

Cordially,
American Electric Power

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John R Heppner
Transmission Line Engineering

Enclosure

American Electric Power
700 Morrison Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230



January 2, 2013

Drake L. Prouty, Jefferson Township Trustee
10795 Mitchell Hill Dr.
Dresden, OH 43821

**Letter of Notification
Ohio Central Substation Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Prouty:

Please find enclosed a copy of a Letter of Notification that AEP Ohio Transmission Company ("AEP Transco") has submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding a planned expansion of the Ohio Central Substation. The Letter of Notification submittal is required in accordance with Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The Ohio Central Substation is located in Jefferson Township south of the village of Dresden.

In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4906-1-01 Appendix A, we are required to prepare this Letter of Notification for the Ohio Power Siting Board and in compliance with OAC 4906-11-01(D)(4), we are hereby providing you with a copy.

Cordially,
American Electric Power

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John R Heppner
Transmission Line Engineering

Enclosure

APPENDIX C

AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR

JAMES ZUHRING, DIRECTOR

Ohio Division of Wildlife
Scott Zody, Chief
2045 Morse Rd., Bldg. G
Columbus, OH 43229-6693
Phone: (614) 265-6300

December 10, 2012

Mike Frank
GAI Consultants, Inc.
1830 Airport Exchange Blvd., Suite 220
Erlanger, KY 41018

Dear Mr. Frank

Per your request, I have e-mailed you a set of ArcView shape files for the American Electric Power (AEP) Ohio Central Substation Expansion area based on the project area requested. This data may not be published or distributed beyond the scope of the project description on the data request form without prior written permission of the Natural Heritage Program.

I am attaching a shape file for the rare and endangered plants and animals, geologic features, high quality plant communities and animal assemblages. Fields included are scientific and common names, state and federal statuses, as well as managed area and date of the most recent observation. State and federal statuses are defined as: E = endangered, T = threatened, P = potentially threatened, SC = species of concern, SI = special interest, A = recently added to inventory, status not yet determined, FE = federal endangered, FT = federal threatened, FPE = federal potentially endangered, FC = federal candidate and FSC = federal species of concern.

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. Please note that although we inventory all types of plant communities, we only maintain records on the highest quality areas.

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 614-265-6452 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greg Schneider".

Greg Schneider, Administrator
Ohio Natural Heritage Program

Office of the Director • 2045 Morse Rd • Columbus, OH 43229-6693 • ohiodnr.com



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230
(614) 416-8993 / FAX (614) 416-8994

December 18, 2012

GAI Consultants
Attn: Mike A. Franks
1830 Airport Exchange Blvd., Suite 220
Erlanger, KY 41018

Tails No. 03E15000-2013-TA-0257

Reference: Ohio Central Substation Expansion, Dresden, Muskingum County Ohio

Dear Mr. Franks,

We have received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. There are no Federal wilderness areas, wildlife refuges or designated critical habitat within the vicinity of the project area. Based on the information you have provided, at this time we have no objection to the proposed project.

ENDANGERED SPECIES COMMENTS: Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate any impact on federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species, or their habitats. Should the project design change, or during the term of this action, additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat become available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, consultation with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

If you have additional questions or require further assistance with your project proposal, please contact me at the following number (614) 416-8993, x12. I would be happy to discuss the project in further detail with you and provide additional assistance if necessary. In addition, you can find more information on natural resources in Ohio, and a county list of federally threatened and endangered species in Ohio, by visiting our homepage at: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/ohio>.

Sincerely,

Mary Knapp
Mary Knapp, Ph.D.
Field Supervisor