



Public Interest Center | P.O. Box 1049 | Columbus, OH | 43216-1049

FOR RELEASE: June 1, 2011
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**Ohio EPA Meeting to Focus on Wetland and Stream Impacts
From Substation and Transmission Line Project**

Potential wetland and stream impacts from the proposed construction of an electric substation in Geauga County and a transmission line in Geauga and Lake counties will be the focus of a June 13, 2011, Ohio EPA public meeting. The information session and public hearing will begin at 7 p.m. at the Montville Community Center, 9755 Madison Road, Montville.

The meeting will be an opportunity for citizens to ask questions and submit comments concerning an application submitted by the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (CEI) and American Transmission Systems Inc. (ATS) for an expansion project originally approved by the Ohio Power Siting Board in November 2008.

CEI and ATS are proposing to construct the Stacy substation along Mayfield Road/US 322 in Huntsburg Township, Geauga County, and nearly 15 miles of transmission line along and east of Madison Road/SR 528 in Huntsburg, Montville and Thompson townships in Geauga County and Madison Township in Lake County. If constructed as proposed, the substation would impact up to 0.03 acre of wetlands and the transmission line would impact up to 6.7 acres of forested wetlands (they would convert to scrub shrub wetlands) and cross streams in three places. The companies would be required to preserve wetland resources to mitigate any approved impacts. Ohio EPA also will consider other alternatives resulting in lesser or no impacts to water quality.

Anyone wanting to discharge dredged or fill material to waters of the State must first obtain a water quality certification from Ohio EPA and a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Ohio EPA's review is to ensure the project will comply with Ohio's water quality standards.

The proposed project may result in a change from the current water quality conditions in the Grand River watershed, but cannot violate Ohio's water quality standards that protect human health and the environment. Ohio EPA will consider the technical, economic, social and environmental aspects of the project before deciding to issue or deny a water quality certification.

Comments on the application may be presented at the hearing or submitted in writing to: Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, attn: Permits Processing Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049. The public comment period ends June 20, 2011.

The application (Ohio EPA ID #093580) and related materials are available for review by calling (614) 644-2001.

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