AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED
A FIRSTENERGY COMPANY

LETTER OF NOTIFICATION

AYERSVILLE SUBSTATION EXPANSION AND 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PARTIAL REBUILD PROJECT

Case No.: 26-0122-EL-BLN

March 6, 2026

American Transmission Systems, Incorporated
341 White Pond Drive
Akron, OH 44320-1119

LETTER OF NOTIFICATION
AYERSVILLE SUBSTATION EXPANSION AND
138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PARTIAL REBULD PROJECT
OPSB CASE No. 26-0122-EL-BLN

The following information is being provided in accordance with Chapter 4906-6 of the Ohio Administrative Code ("Adm.Code") for the application and review of Accelerated Certificate Applications. Based upon the requirements found in Appendix A to Adm.Code 4906-1-01, this Project qualifies for submittal to the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB") as a Letter of Notification application. Pursuant to Adm.Code 4906-6-04, the Applicant requests expedited 28-day review.

4906-6-05(B): LETTER OF NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

4906-6-05(B)(1): Name and Reference Number

Name of Project: Ayersville Substation Expansion and 138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild ("Project")

Reference Number: 602; 3006

4906-6-05(B)(1): Brief Description of Project

American Transmission Systems, Incorporated, ("ATSI"), a FirstEnergy company, is proposing to expand the existing Ayersville Substation to convert the existing substation configuration into a (4) breaker 138 kV ring bus as well as the installation of a 138/69 kV transformer. To facilitate this, the substation will expand from its existing square footage of approximately 7,000 square feet to approximately 85,950 square feet.

As further explained below in Section 4906-6-05 (B)(2) (Need for the Project), an approximately 0.5-mile section of the existing Ayersville-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line will be rebuilt to support the 138 kV line and complete the new extension of the Ayersville-Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Line to Ayersville Substation. To facilitate this, a total of sixteen (16) new structures will be installed,

including four (4) steel structures on concrete foundations, eleven (11) direct embed steel structures and one (1) wood pole.

As shown on Exhibit 3, the existing Ayersville-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line will be reterminated into the reconfigured Ayersville Substation creating the Ayersville-Richland 138 kV No.1 and Ayersville-Richland 138 kV No.2 Transmission Lines. The existing Southwest Defiance-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line will be renamed to and become part of the Ayersville-Richland No.2 Transmission Line. The 0.5-mile rebuild of the Ayersville-Richland 138 kV No.1 Transmission Line and the Ayersville-Richland No.2 Transmission Line extension from Ayersville Substation to Structure No. 148 will use new 795 kcmil 26/7 Aluminum Conductor Steel Reinforced ("ACSR") conductor, replacing the existing 636 kcmil 27 Strand All Aluminum Conductor ("AAC").

The Project is in the City of Defiance and Richland Township, Defiance County, Ohio. The general location of the Project is shown in Exhibit 1, a partial copy of the United States Geologic Survey, Defiance County, OH, Quad Map. Exhibit 2 is a copy of ESRI aerial imagery of the Project area. The general layout of the Project is shown in Exhibits 3 and 3A.

4906-6-05(B)(1): Letter of Notification Requirement

The Project meets the requirements for a Letter of Notification because the Project is within the types of projects defined by Items (2)(a) and (4)(b) of the Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines, Appendix A of Adm.Code 4906-1-01.

These items state:

> *(2) 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 line or replacing structures with a different type of structure, for a distance of:*

(a) two miles or less,

and;

(4) Constructing additions to existing electric power transmission stations or converting distribution stations to transmission stations where:

(b) There is a greater than twenty percent expansion of the fenced area.

The proposed Project is within the requirements of Item (2)(a) because it involves replacing existing wood structures with steel monopoles on existing transmission line for a distance of approximately 0.5-mile and increasing conductor size, as well as within the requirements of Item (4)(b) because it involves expansion of an existing substation that is greater than 20% of the fenced area.

4906-6-05 (B)(2): Need for the Project

The Project will expand and reconfigure the substation to a 138 kV four-breaker ring bus, include the installation of one 138-69 kV transformer, and provide a line exit for the existing distribution portion of the substation. The Project will also network three radial lines in the area, the Ayersville–Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Line, the Southwest Defiance (Richland) 138 kV Transmission Line, and the Ayersville (Richland) 138 kV Transmission Line. The Project is needed to: (i) reduce the number of area-wide power disruptions to residential and commercial customers due to transmission bus outages, (ii) improve the reliability of the transmission and the local distribution network by upgrading the substation with a redundant bus and protection scheme, and (iii) minimize single-source radial load concerns.

The proposed Project is part of an overall project to improve reliability and operational flexibility for customers served in Defiance and Henry counties, as well as surrounding areas. The overall Project will convert existing 34.5 kV radial circuits to 69 kV networked facilities. The existing Holgate (Richland) 34.5 kV Line is a radial line with limited capability to transfer load during emergency restoration and routine maintenance. The loss of the Holgate (Richland) 34.5 kV Line would affect

approximately 2,600 customers and 9 Megawatts ("MW") of load. The existing Ayersville–Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Line is currently operated radially and is directly serving approximately 1,000 customers and 7 MW of load. The existing Holgate (Richland) 34.5 kV Transmission Line is planned to be converted to 69 kV and will complete the network line between Ayersville and Sand Ridge Substations. The final networked Ayersville–Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Line, when completed, will directly serve approximately 3,500 customers and 16 MW of load. Of the approximately 3,500 customers, nearly 1,700 are Toledo Edison customers. There are three Rural Electric Co-Operative substations serving the remaining approximately 1,800 customers.

In addition to the customers served from the final networked Ayersville-Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Line, Ayersville Substation directly serves approximately 3,200 customers and 12 MW of load and is currently served radially from the Ayersville-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line. If there is a bus fault or a faulted breaker or a failure to open any one of the breakers for a fault connected to the bus at the existing Richland Substation or there is a fault on the Ayersville-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line, Ayersville Substation loses its only source, which would result in an interruption of service to these customers. The substation is currently configured as a tapped distribution substation with one 138-12.47 kV distribution transformer connected to the 138 kV bus as shown in Figure 1, *infra*, p. 7.

The Southwest Defiance-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line is also a radial line sourced from the Richland Substation that serves two transmission retail customers and the Southwest Defiance distribution substation, which serves approximately 4,800 customers and 32 MW of load. A bus fault, or faulted breaker at Richland Substation or a fault on the Defiance (Richland) 138 kV Transmission Line would result in an interruption of service to these customers.

The proposed Project to build a ring bus substation configuration, as shown in Figure 2, will enable the Ayersville-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line and the Southwest Defiance-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line to be networked and support the

networking of the radial 69 kV lines in the area, improving the overall reliability and operational flexibility for customers and the transmission system in the area. The proposed ring bus arrangement ensures operational flexibility and reduces the load loss risk due to the existing configuration.

ATSI's transmission planning is based on deterministic criteria, and not probabilistic criteria. In other words, ATSI transmission planning assessments result in recommendations to reinforce the transmission system based on an adverse planning event occurring and not based on the probability of the event occurring. ATSI cannot know or predict when a failure or fault will occur. In the last five years, there have been two unscheduled outages on the Ayersville-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line as shown in Table 1. The shortest outage time was a few minutes, while the longest outage lasted almost thirteen hours. The thirteen-hour outage required the replacement of a switch. The average outage time was 389 minutes. Both of the outages were related to equipment failure. Note this is a radial line and any fault on the line will interrupt approximately 3,200 Toledo Edison customers.

Table 1. Reliability outage history for Ayersville-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line.

Outage Start	Outage Restored	Duration	Outage Type	Cause Category	Cause	Customers Impacted
05/07/2021 06:11:37	05/07/2021 19:08:00	12h 56m 23s	Unscheduled	Failed AC Substation Equipment	Insulator Failure	3,228
12/04/2024 23:25:28	12/04/2024 23:28:08	2m 40s	Unscheduled	Failed AC Circuit Equipment	Down Ground	3,228

In the last five years, there have been three unscheduled outages on the Southwest Defiance-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line as shown in Table 2. The shortest outage time was a few seconds while the longest outage lasted over 5 hours. Two of the outages were related to equipment failure, the other outage was due to human error. Note this is a radial line and any fault on the line will interrupt approximately 4,800 Toledo Edison customers.

Table 2. Reliability outage history for Southwest Defiance-Richland 138 kV Transmission Line

Outage Start	Outage Restored	Duration	Outage Type	Cause Category	Cause	Customers Impacted
09/24/2022 00:43:35	09/24/2022 06:12:00	5h 28m 25s	Unscheduled	Failed AC Substation	Lightning Arrestor Failure	4,780

				Equipment - External		
04/11/2022 14:31:50	04/11/2022 14:31:58	8s	Unscheduled	Lightning	Lightning	4,780
05/30/2024 10:39:49	05/30/2024 13:07:09	2h 27m 20s	Unscheduled	Human Error	Human Error	4,780

The proposed Project will upgrade the Ayersville Substation to meet the current minimum FirstEnergy design standard for substations and eliminate the contingency scenarios discussed. The minimum FirstEnergy requirements for transmission substations are either a "breaker-and-a-half" configuration or a "ring bus" configuration as documented in FirstEnergy's *Requirements for Transmission Connected Facilities*. Three types of breaker configurations were considered when planning the upgrade to the Ayersville Substation: the "double-breaker" configuration, the "breaker-and-a-half" configuration, and the "ring bus" configuration. All the considered alternatives meet the requirements outlined in FirstEnergy's *Requirements for Transmission Connected Facilities*."

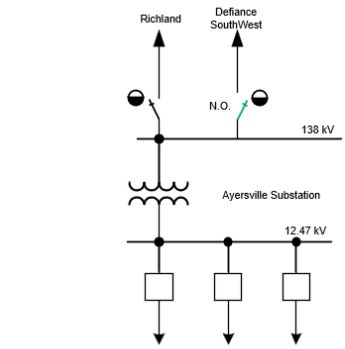
The double-breaker configuration would be the most reliable substation configuration because it provides full redundancy for every terminal (i.e., two breakers per substation element/terminal). The double-breaker configuration is also the most expensive option as it would require the greatest number of circuit breakers – eight breakers would be required for the four transmission elements (two transformers and two transmission lines). Consequently, the double-breaker configuration was not selected.

The breaker-and-a-half scheme is a modification of the double-breaker scheme. In the double-breaker scheme, a single element is fed from two breakers connected to two separate buses; therefore, doubling the breaker count, and providing a fully redundant scheme. In the breaker-and-a-half scheme, while two buses are still used, three breakers are connected in a string to the two buses. The two nodes between the three breakers provide for connection of two elements. Thus, three breakers supply two elements, or a "breaker-and-a half" per element. The middle breaker is common to both elements, and the scheme is not fully redundant as the failure of the middle breaker will cause the outage of both elements. In the breaker-and-a-half configuration, at most two elements are interrupted for a failed or faulted breaker. However, because

the number of breakers required to connect the four transmission terminals for this project is six breakers, the breaker-and-a-half scheme was not selected.

The ring bus configuration was ultimately selected as it will only require four breakers to adequately serve the two transmission lines and two transformers and provide the additional reliability and operational flexibility for this project. Upgrading the 138 kV substation to a robust ring-bus configuration will provide redundancy, improve operational flexibility and efficiency during outages, maintenance, and restoration efforts, and reduce the potential of local load loss due to the radial line configuration Note that the proposed substation project is not needed to address a NERC, PJM, or FE Planning Criteria violation. The Project is a supplemental project driven by the FE Reliability Enhancement methodology, based on the existing system configuration and its impact on the reliability of electric service to the residents and businesses of the area.

FIGURE 1



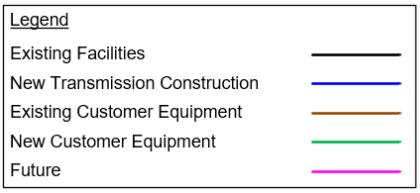
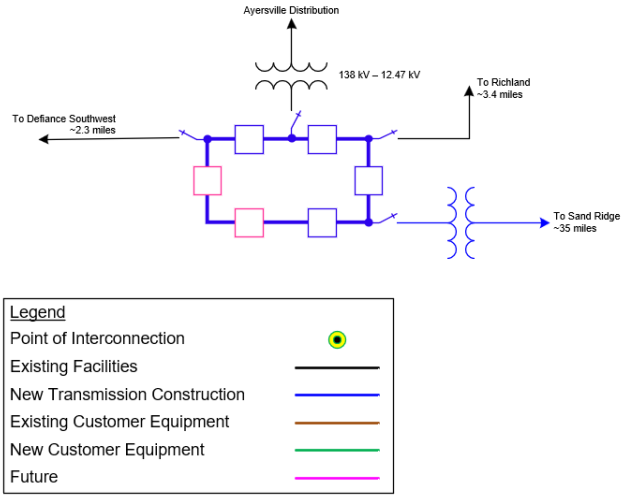


FIGURE 2



For this Project, ATSI did not consider the use of advanced transmission technologies because the majority of the work will be completed within the existing substation. Some examples of advanced technologies that ATSI considers while proposing reliability projects are the use of Dynamic Line Rating technologies and/or the use of advanced conductors. Dynamic Line Rating technologies is the use of software and hardware to determine the thermal limits of a transmission line in real time based on rating methodologies and ambient conditions within a given area which can either increase or decrease the thermal ratings of the transmission line. Advanced conductors have non-steel wire cores, unlike those typically used in conventional transmission line conductors. These advanced conductors allow for increased capacity on a given transmission line due reduced sagging of the transmission line at higher temperatures. These advanced technologies were not considered because the project scope is primarily within a substation and the transmission lines connected to the substation, as it is designed today, do not have any capacity constraints.

The Project Need was presented as a Supplemental Project at the PJM Subregional RTEP-Western Committee ("SRRTEP-Western") meeting on January 14, 2019. The Solution was presented at the subsequent PJM SRRTEP-Western meeting on March 28, 2019, and the modified solution was presented at the subsequent Subregional RTEP-Western Committee meeting on November 20, 2020. An additional modified

solution was presented at a subsequent meeting on July 19, 2024. PJM assigned the Project supplemental upgrade identification number s1953. The PJM SSRTEP-Western meeting presentation slides are included as Exhibit 4 and include additional details of the Project drivers.

4906-6-05(B)(3): Location of the Project Relative to Existing or Proposed Lines

The location of the Project relative to existing or proposed transmission lines is shown in the ATSI Transmission Network Map, included as part of the confidential portion of the FirstEnergy Corp. 2025 Long-Term Forecast Report ("LTFR"). This map was submitted to the PUCO in Case No. 25-0504-EL-FOR under Adm.Code 4901:5-5:04(C)(2)(b). The map is incorporated by reference only. This map shows ATSI's 345 kV and 138 kV transmission lines and transmission substations. This Project is included on page 63 in the 2025 LTFR. The general location and layout of the Project area are shown in Exhibits 1 and 2. The Project layout is shown in Exhibit 3.

4906-6-05(B)(4): Alternatives Considered

An alternative considered to the proposed Project was to replace the existing 138-34.5 kV and 69-34.5 kV transformers at Richland Substation and the 69-34.5 kV transformer at Weston Substation; rehab or rebuild the existing 34.5 kV lines; and maintain the radial configurations in Defiance and Henry Counties and the elevated risk of exposure. The alternative considered was not selected due to the number of customers and load at risk because it does not provide the same level of increased reliability and operational flexibility as the selected solution.

4906-6-05(B)(5): Public Information Program

ATSI's manager of External Affairs will advise local officials of features and the status of the proposed Project as necessary. ATSI will maintain a copy of this Letter of Notification, along with other Project information, on FirstEnergy's website: https://www.firstenergycorp.com/about/transmission_projects/ohio.html.

ATSI will publish notice of the Project in The Crescent News within 7 days of filing this Letter of Notification application. The notice will comply with Adm.Code 4906-6-08(A)(1)-(6).

During all phases of this Project, the public may contact ATSI through the transmission projects hotline at 1-888-311-4737 or via email at: transmissionprojects@firstenergycorp.com.

4906-6-05(B)(6): Construction Schedule

Construction on the Project is expected to begin as early as April 6, 2026, and be completed/in-service by December 18, 2026.

4906-6-05(B)(7): Area Map

Exhibit 1 depicts the general location of the Project. This Exhibit provides a partial copy of the United States Geologic Survey, Defiance County OH, Quad Map. Exhibit 2 is a copy of ESRI aerial imagery of the Project area.

4906-6-05(B)(8): Properties List

This Project is located within existing and new ROW on the Parcels listed in Exhibit 5. Additional easements have been acquired.

4906-6-05(B)(9): TECHNICAL FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

4906-6-05(B)(9)(a): Operating Characteristics

The transmission line construction will have the following characteristics:

Voltage:	138 kV
Conductors:	795 kcmil 26/7 ACSR
Static Wire:	7#8 Alumoweld
Insulators:	Porcelain/Glass
ROW Width:	60’
Structure Types:	Exhibit 6: Double Circuit Direct Embed Steel Pole Tangent Structure (Qty. 11) Exhibit 7: Double Circuit Steel Pole DE Structure on Concrete Foundation (Qty. 3)

Exhibit 8: Single Circuit Steel Pole Structure on Concrete Foundation (Qty. 1)
Exhibit 9: Single Circuit wood Pole Tangent Structure (Qty. 1)

The equipment and facilities described below are associated with the substation component of the proposed Project:

Voltage:	138 kV Max System Voltage (550 kV BIL)
Bus Conductor:	4" Aluminum Pipe (2) 1033.5 KCMIL 61str AAC
Insulators:	Porcelain
Transformers:	One (1) 138/69kV, 67/90 MVA Transformer
Breakers:	Four (4) 145kV, 3000A, 40 kA Siemens SPS2S Breakers and One (1) 72kV, 3000A, 40kA Siemens SPS2S Breaker
Switches:	Ten (10) 138kV, 2000A Gang-Operated Switches Two (2) 138kV, 1200A Gang-Operated Switches One (1) 69kV, 1200A Gang-Operated Switch
CVT's:	Nine (9) 138kV Single Phase Capacitor Voltage Transformers Three (3) 69kV Single Phase Capacitor Voltage Transformers
Arresters:	Six (6) 108kV (84kV MCOV) Arresters Three (3) 60kV (48kV MCOV) Arresters
Structures:	One (1) 42' x 22' Packaged Control Enclosure One (1) 138kV 2 Bay H-Frame dead-end structures One (1) 69kV 1-bay H-Frame dead-end structures Seven (7), 3-phase low bus support structures Seven (7), 3-phase high bus support structures One (1) 138 kV single-phase SSVT structure

4906-6-05(B)(9)(b): Electric and Magnetic Fields

There are three (3) occupied residences or institutions within 100 feet from the edge of right-of-way containing the double circuit Ayersville-Richland No. 1 138 kV/Ayersville-Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Lines and Ayersville-Richland No. 2 138 kV Transmission Line. The closest occupied residence or institution is approximately 10 feet from the edge of the right-of-way containing the proposed Project. Therefore, Electric and Magnetic Field ("EMF") calculations are provided below.

4906-6-05(B)(9)(b)(i): Calculated Electric and Magnetic Fields Strength Levels

Table 3 itemizes the line loading of the Ayersville-Richland No. 1 138 kV, Ayersville-Richland No. 2 138 kV, and Ayersville-Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Lines. The

normal line loading represents FirstEnergy's peak system load for the transmission lines. The emergency line loading represents the maximum line loading under contingency operation. The winter rating is based on the continuous maximum conductor rating ("MCR") of the circuits for the single conductors per phase and an ambient temperature of 0 °C (32 °F), wind speed of 1.3 miles per hour, and a circuit design operating temperature of 100 °C (212 °F).

Table 3: Transmission Line Loading

Line Name	Normal Loading Amps	Emergency Loading Amps	Winter Rating Amps
Ayersville-Richland No. 1 138 kV Transmission Line	92.8	113.4	1276.1
Ayersville-Richland No. 2 138 kV Transmission Line	30.1	30.2	1351.4
Ayersville-Sand Ridge 69 kV	74.2	74.2	1037.6

Tables 4 and 5 provide an approximation of the magnetic and electric fields strengths within the right-of-way containing the Ayersville-Richland No. 1 and No.2 138 kV Transmission Lines and Ayersville-Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Line for the structural configuration found in the Project. The configurations are tangent structure to tangent structure and tangent structure to angle structure. These configurations are calculated in a 60-foot-wide right-of-way. The calculations provide an approximation of the electric and magnetic fields levels based on specific assumptions utilizing the EPRI EMF Workstation 2015 program software. This program software assumes the input transmission line configuration is located on flat terrain. Also, a balanced, three-phase circuit loading is assumed for the transmission circuit. The model utilizes the normal, emergency, and winter rating of the transmission lines.

Table 4: EMF Calculations for Ayersville-Richland No. 1 138 kV and Ayersville-Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Lines:

Ayersville-Richland No. 1 138 kV and Ayersville-Sand Ridge 69 kV Transmission Lines: Tangent Structure to Tangent Structure		Electric Field (kV/m)	Magnetic Field (mG)
Normal Loading	Under Lowest Conductors	1.222	3.09
	At Right-of-Way Edges	0.474 / 0.58	1.14 / 2.185
	Under Lowest Conductors	1.222	4.14

Emergency Loading	At Right-of-Way Edges	0.474 / 0.58	1.67 / 3.11
Winter Rating	Under Lowest Conductors	1.222	41.2
	At Right-of-Way Edges	0.474 / 0.58	16.8 / 27.61

Table 5: EMF Calculations for Ayersville-Richland No. 2 138 kV Transmission Line:

Ayersville-Richland No. 2 138 kV Transmission Line: Angle Structure to Angle Structure		**Electric Field (kV/m)**	**Magnetic Field (mG)**
Normal Loading	Under Lowest Conductors	0.779	1.65
	At Right-of-Way Edges	0.278 / 0.469	1.07 / 1.31
Emergency Loading	Under Lowest Conductors	0.779	1.65
	At Right-of-Way Edges	0.278 / 0.469	1.07 / 1.32
Winter Rating	Under Lowest Conductors	0.779	74.05
	At Right-of-Way Edges	0.278 / 0.469	48.08 / 57.5

4906-6-05(B)(9)(b)(ii): Alternative Design Consideration for Electric and Magnetic Fields

The strength of EMFs can potentially be reduced by installing the transmission line conductors in a compact configuration and, for multiple circuit transmission lines, by selecting conductor phasing that reduces the field strengths. ATSI designs its facilities according to the requirements of the National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC"). The pole heights and configuration were chosen based on NESC specifications, engineering parameters, and cost. ATSI's typical practice, as proposed in this Project, is to construct compact, double circuit steel monopole tangent structures – the compact design reduces EMF field strengths in comparison to other installations.

4906-6-05(B)(9)(c): Estimated Cost

The estimated cost for the proposed Project is $25,275,000. Although not statutorily required for approval, at the request of OPSB Staff, the estimated cost is a Class 3 estimate and ATSI confirms that ATSI's costs will

be captured and allocated via FERC formula rates for the ATSI Transmission Zone, Attachment H-21 in the PJM OATT.

4906-6-05(B)(10): Social and Ecological Impacts

4906-6-05(B)(10)(a): Land Uses

The Project is in the City of Defiance and Richland Township, Defiance County, Ohio. There are various land uses along the route of the line, mainly agricultural and residential uses, with mixed uses to a lesser extent. No significant changes or impacts to the current land uses are anticipated.

4906-6-05(B)(10)(b): Agricultural Land

Agricultural land (primarily cultivated cropland) exists within the Project's Area of Potential Effect ("APE"). Parcel No. J09003000030 is designated as an Agricultural District, expiring in 2029.

4906-6-05(B)(10)(c): Archaeological or Cultural Resources

As part of the investigation for this Letter of Notification, WSP USA Inc. ("WSP") requested database information from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") on June 27, 2025, for the Project Study Area (Area of Potential Effects or "APE") with a one (1)-mile search radius. This data documents the presence of previously recorded significant historic properties, including above-ground historic resources and/or archaeological sites within the Project Study Area or within one (1) mile of the Project Study Area. This information was provided to the SHPO and on July 28, 2025, SHPO recommended a Phase 1 archaeological survey of the Project Area's of Potential Effect (APE). This response is attached as Exhibit 10.

The SHPO database includes a catalog of all historic properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP"), including districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The results of the search indicate that there is

one (1) above-ground historic resource that is listed on the NRHP (East Side Fire Station, Ref. No. 76001413) approximately 0.94 miles north-northwest of the western end of the APE. One (1) above-ground resource, the Lois K Behm Lustron House (OHI No. DEF0030711), has been evaluated by SHPO as eligible for the NRHP, but the resource is not currently listed on the NRHP.

The SHPO database also includes listings on the Ohio Historic Inventory (OHI), the Ohio Archaeological Inventory ("OAI"), previous cultural resource surveys, and the Ohio Genealogical Society ("OGS") cemetery inventory. There are two (2) above-ground historic resources that have been evaluated "not eligible" for the NRHP that are located between 0.8 and 0.98 miles northwest of the APE. One (1) OGC cemetery is also located 0.94 mi northwest of the APE.

Three (3) archaeological sites are located within one mile of the APE. Two (2) are located at a distance of 0.95 and 0.99 miles northwest of the western end of the APE, and one (1) is located 0.48 miles northeast of the eastern end of the APE. All three have been determined not eligible for the NRHP by the SHPO.

Four (4) previous archaeological surveys have been completed within one (1) mile of the APE. One (1) survey partially overlaps the linear portion of the APE along the south side of Standley Road. The northern half of the linear section of the APE, and the substation, have not been previously surveyed for cultural resources. Based on this information, SHPO requested a Phase I archaeological survey for the APE, and an architectural-historical survey of any buildings that appear to be over fifty (50) years old in the APE to assess the indirect effects of the Project.

To satisfy the SHPO's request, WSP completed the archaeological and architectural-historical surveys between September 15 and September 19, 2025. The archaeological survey documented three archaeological sites and one isolated find within the APE. The architectural-historical survey documented 90 historic / above-ground resources within a 1000-ft radius of the APE. None of the cultural resources documented by WSP during the surveys exhibit qualities consistent with eligibility for the NRHP. However,

it is important to note that the technical report of investigations has not yet been completed or submitted to the SHPO, and as such, any characterization of the potential eligibility or ineligibility of resources newly recorded during the Phase I archaeological and architectural-historical surveys represents only the views of WSP's cultural resources professionals. SHPO provided concurrence on February 2, 2026, that it is their opinion that the project, as proposed, will have no effect on historic properties. A copy of OHPO concurrence is provided as Exhibit 10A.

4906-6-05(B)(10)(d): Construction Filings with Local, State, and Federal Governmental Agencies

Construction filings with local, state, and federal agencies are expected based on the current scope of work. Submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI) application to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) would be required for coverage under the general construction stormwater permit (OHC000006), and the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to the City of Defiance Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). All permitting and/or coordination necessary to comply with local, state, and federal agencies with jurisdiction regarding this Project will be completed prior to the commencement of construction.

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(e): Endangered, Threatened, Rare and Designated Species Investigation

As part of the investigation, ATSI retained WSP to conduct necessary surveys. WSP submitted a request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources ("ODNR") Office of Real Estate to conduct an Environmental Review. As part of the Environmental Review, the ODNR Office of Real Estate conducted a search of the ODNR Division of Wildlife's Natural Heritage Database to research the presence of any endangered, threatened, or rare species within one (1) mile of the Project Study Area. The ODNR's Office of Real Estate's response on June 5, 2025, indicated that there are no records for state or federally listed plants or animals, or unique ecological features, within one mile of the Project Area. However, the Project is within the range of 11 state and/or

federally listed animal species. A copy of ODNR's Office of Real Estate's response is included as Exhibit 11.

Based on the information received from correspondence with ODNR, the Project is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. These bat species predominantly roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices, and cavities, or in the leaves. These species are dependent on the forest structure surrounding the roost tress. The DOW recommended a desktop bat hibernaculum assessment be completed for the Project, which WSP completed for ATSI and submitted to ODNR for concurrence on September 10, 2025. ODNR responded on October 2, 2025, attached as Exhibit 11A, concurring that the Project is not likely to impact hibernating bats due to the absence of caves, cliffs, or mine openings in the vicinity of the Project, the proximity of existing roadways, and because the Project does not involve blasting or impacts to bedrock. In assessing compliance with NWP General Condition 18, WSP determined that tree clearing in forested areas is not anticipated within the Project Area. If minor, isolated tree clearing may be required as a result of this Project, it will take place within the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) recommended tree clearing dates (October 1 – March 31); therefore, no impacts to bat species are anticipated as a result of the construction of this Project.

The Project is within the range of the greater redhorse (*Moxostoma valenciennesi*), a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. Since no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, the Project will not impact this or other aquatic species.

The Project is also within the range of five state and federal listed freshwater mussel species. Based on ODNR recommendations, if in-water work is proposed in any Stream meeting the criteria specified in the *Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol*, surveys

should be conducted by an ODNR-approved malacologist. Since there is no in-water work in streams capable of supporting freshwater mussel populations, there will be no impacts to these as a result of the Project.

ODNR further indicated that the Project is within the range of the copperbelly water snake (*Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta*), but due to the location and type of habitat within the Project area, impacts to this species are not likely to occur.

As part of the investigation, WSP submitted a request to USFWS on May 7, 2025, for an Ecological Review to research the presence of any endangered, threatened, rare, or designated species within the Project Study Area. A copy of the USFWS' response, dated May 16, 2025, is included as Exhibit 12. The response recommended the implementation of seasonal tree cutting (clearing of trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height between October 1 and March 31) to avoid impacts to the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, and tricolored bat.

A list of all endangered, threatened, and rare species identified by ODNR within the range of the Project is provided in Table 7 on the following page.

Table 7. Endangered and Threatened Species within range of Project Study Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Listed Status	State Listed Status	Affected Habitat
Mammals				
Indiana Bat	*Myotis sodalis*	Endangered	Endangered	Trees, forests, caves, and caverns.
Little Brown Bat	*Myotis lucifugus*	N/A	Endangered	Trees, forests, caves, and caverns.
Northern Long-eared Bat	*Myotis septentrionalis*	Endangered	Endangered	Trees, forests, caves, and caverns.
Tricolored Bat	*Perimyotis subflavus*	Proposed Endangered	Endangered	Trees, forests, caves, and caverns.
Fish				
Greater Redhorse	*Moxostoma valencinnesi*	N/A	Threatened	Unpolluted rivers and lakes with sand/cobble substrate.
Mollusks				
Clubshell	*Pleurobema clava*	Endangered	Endangered	Creeks with cobble/sand substrate.
Rayed Bean	*Villosa fabalis*	Endangered	Endangered	Small rivers and lakes in vegetated sand/gravel substrates.

Northern Riffleshell	*Epioblasma rangiana*	Endangered	Endangered	Rivers and creeks with cobble/sand substrate.
White Catspaw	*Epioblasma perobliqua*	Endangered	Endangered	Rivers and creeks with cobble/sand substrate.
Rabbitsfoot	*Theliderma cylindrica*	Threatened	Endangered	Rivers with sand/gravel substrate.
Reptiles				
Copperbelly Water Snake	*Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta*	Threatened	Endangered	Shallow wetlands.

4906-6-05(B)(10)(f): Areas of Ecological Concern

WSP conducted a wetland delineation report for the Project, as shown in Exhibit 13. The following aquatic resources were identified within the Project Area: Three (3) wetlands, totaling approximately 0.22 acres, were identified and delineated within the Project Area. This included 0.22 acres of palustrine emergent (PEM) wetland and <0.01 acres of palustrine forested (PFO) wetland. Two (2) streams totaling 89 linear feet (lf) were also delineated within the Project Study Area. These included one (1) ephemeral stream with 68 lf within the Project Area and one (1) perennial stream with 21 lf within the Project Area.

The Project Study Area consists of an existing, maintained utility ROW and substation facility within agricultural and residential land use. WSP did not observe the presence of any of the ODNR or federally listed species during the field investigation due to the highly maintained nature of the utility ROW, existing substation, and surrounding land use. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated to any of the listed species detailed in the ODNR correspondence.

The Limits of Disturbance will be completely within the Project Study Area and will include the expansion of the existing Ayersville Substation, utilizing an existing paved driveway for access. Nationwide Permit (NWP) 57 - Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities (effective March 15, 2021, valid through March 14, 2026), authorizes the construction of access roads for the construction and

maintenance of electric utility lines or telecommunication lines, including overhead lines and substations, in nontidal waters of the United States, provided the activity does not cause the loss of greater than 0.5 acre of waters of the United States.

To expand the existing substation foundation with gravel and install additional new fencing around the substation, a total of 0.01-acre of palustrine emergent wetland, Wetland MA-2, will be permanently impacted. It is assumed that Wetland MA-2 is identified as a Water of the U.S. Impacts to Wetland MA-2 will be below thresholds that would necessitate a pre-construction notification to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Construction of the 138 kV transmission line and temporary construction access is not expected to result in permanent or temporary impacts to wetlands or streams, as the access roads will be crossing over the ordinary high water mark.

A review of the USGS Protected Areas Database (www.usgs.gov/programs/gap-analysis-project/science/protected-areas) revealed no conservation easements within the Project Study Area. The National Conservation Easement Database is no longer in use due to the database no longer being actively updated and supported.

4906-6-05(B)(10)(g): Other Information

Construction and operation of the proposed Project will be in accordance with the requirements specified in the latest revision of the NESC as adopted by the PUCO and will meet all applicable safety standards established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

No other or unusual conditions are expected that will result in significant environmental, social, health or safety impacts.

4906-6-07: Documentation of Letter of Notification Transmittal and Availability for Public Review

This Letter of Notification application is being provided concurrently with its docketing with the Board to the following officials.

Defiance County *commissioners@defiancecounty.oh.gov*

Mr. David S. Kern
Defiance County Commissioner
500 Court Street, Suite A
Defiance, OH 43512

Mr. Dana Phipps
Defiance County Commissioner
500 Court Street, Suite A
Defiance, OH 43512

Mr. Mick Pocratsky
Defiance County Commissioner
500 Court Street, Suite A
Defiance, OH 43512

Mr. Warren Schlatter, P.E., P.S.
County Engineer's Office
510 Court Street, Suite 201
Defiance, OH 43512
wschlatter@defiancecounty.oh.gov

Mr. Dennis Miller, Director
Maumee Valley Planning
Organization
1300 E. Second Street, Suite 200
Defiance, OH 43512
mvpo@mvpo.org

Mr. Kevin Hancock,
District Administrator
County Soil & Water District
06879 Evansport Road, Suite C
Defiance, OH 43512
khancock@defiancecounty.oh.gov

City of Defiance

Mr. Mike McCann, Mayor
City of Defiance
631 Perry Street
Defiance, OH 43512
mayor@cityofdefiance.com

Mr. Ryan Mack,
City Administrator
City of Defiance
631 Perry Street
Defiance, OH 43512
rmack@cityofdefiance.com

Ms. Kim Sprague,
Finance Director
City of Defiance
631 Perry Street
Defiance, OH 43512
ksprague@cityofdefiance.com

Ms. Melinda Sprow, P.E.
City of Defiance Engineer
631 Perry Street
Defiance, OH 43512
msprow@cityofdefiance.com

Ms. Niki Warncke
City of Defiance Planning
Commission
631 Perry Street
Defiance, OH 43512
nwarncke@cityofdefiance.com

Richland Township *RichlandTownship@hotmail.com*

Joel Martin, Chair
Richland Township Trustee
1915 East Second Street
Defiance, OH 43512

Julie Retcher, Trustee
Richland Township
1915 East Second Street
Defiance, OH 43512

Julie Rittenhouse, Trustee
Richland Township
1915 East Second Street
Defiance, OH 43512

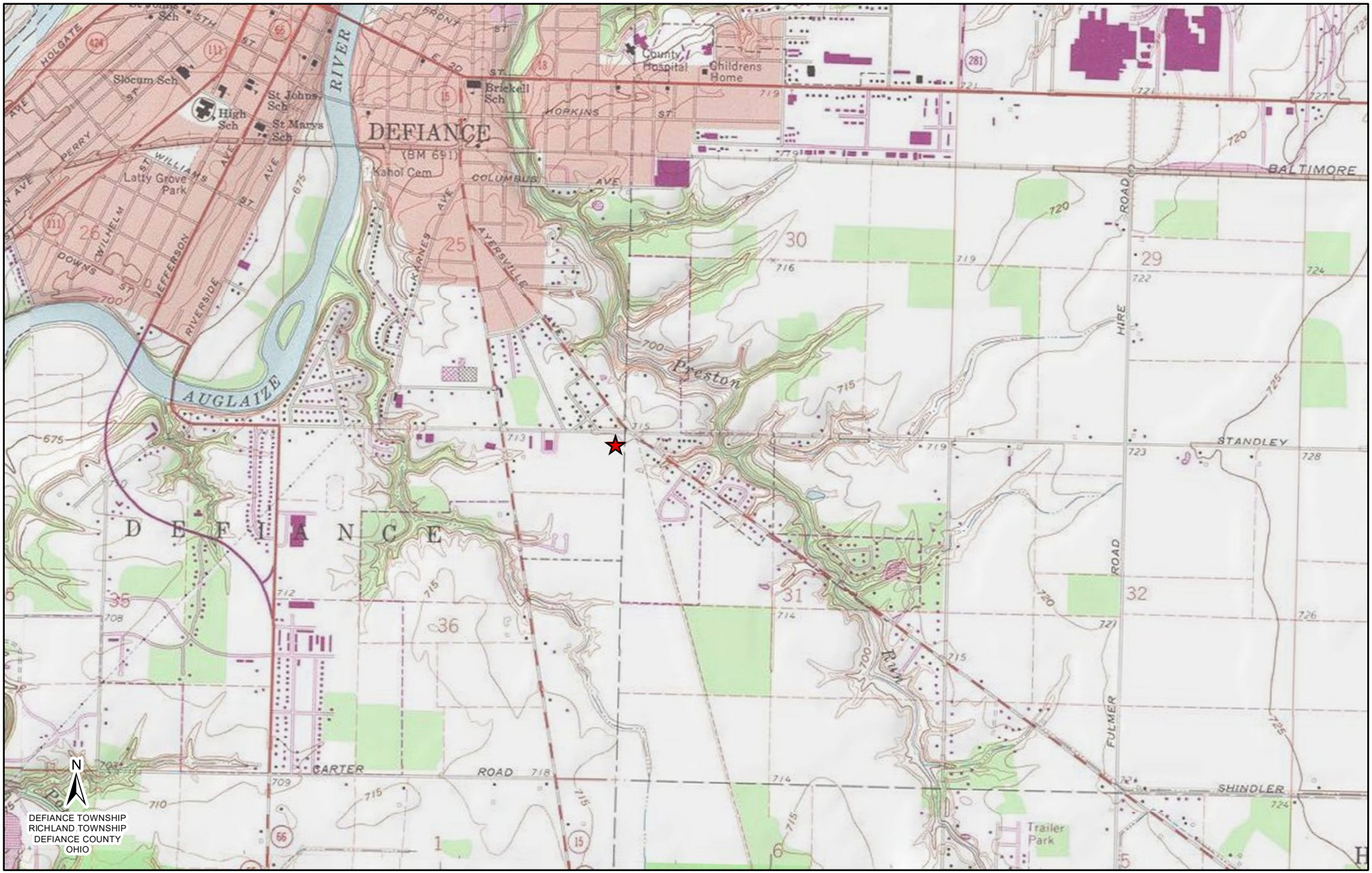
Tammy Flory, Fiscal Officer
Richland Township
1915 East Second Street
Defiance, OH 43512

Library

Ms. Cara Potter, Director
Defiance Public Library
320 Fort Street
Defiance, OH 43512
cpotter@defiancelibrary.org

Per Adm.Code 4906-6-07(B), exemplar copies of the notice letters sent to local government officials and to the library have been included with this application as proof of compliance with requirements of Adm.Code 4906-6-07(A)(1) and 4906-6-07(A)(2).

Information is posted at www.firstenergycorp.com/about/transmission_project/ohio.html on how to request an electronic or paper copy of this Letter of Notification application. The link to this website is being provided in accordance with Adm.Code 4906-6-07(B), which requires ATSI to provide the OPSB with proof of compliance with Adm.Code 4906-6-07(A)(3).



LEGEND:

★ Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 4,000

Feet

Reference:

USGS Topographical Overlay, ODOT

Coordinate System:

NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio North FIPS 3401 Feet
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic; Units: Foot US

EXHIBIT 1

ATSI®
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

Ayersville Substation Expansion and 138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

LEGEND:

★ Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 4,000

Feet

Reference:

ESRI Imagery, ODOT

Coordinate System:

NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio North FIPS 3401 Feet
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic; Units: Foot US

EXHIBIT 2

ATSI®
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

Ayersville Substation Expansion and 138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

DEFIANCE COUNTY
STATE OF OHIO

LEGEND

- SUBSTATION
- FENCE
- 138KV TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE
- 69KV TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE
- ROAD EDGE
- BUILDING LINE
- EXISTING POLE TO BE MODIFIED
- NEW LIGHT DUTY STEEL POLE
- NEW STEEL POLE
- EXISTING WOOD POLE
- TBR — EXISTING STR TO BE REMOVED
- EXISTING TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE
- EXISTING TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE TO BE REMOVED
- SUBSTATION BAY

#147
TBR
TO SOUTHWEST
DEFIANCE SUB
#148
TBR
TOP CUT EXISTING POLE
AYERSVILLE - RICHLAND NO 1 138KV LINE
#778
TOP CUT EXISTING POLE
#777
TBR
TO RICHLAND SUB
CLEVELAND AVE
AYERSVILLE-SAND RIDGE 69kV
#149
AYERSVILLE - RICHLAND NO 2 138KV LINE
#779
TBR
TBR
AYERSVILLE AVE

ATSI
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

Ayersville Substation Expansion and
138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

GENERAL LAYOUT

EXHIBIT 3 (SHEET 1 OF 3)

PAPER SIZE: 17X11

DEFIANCE COUNTY
STATE OF OHIO

AYERSVILLE - RICHLAND NO 1 138KV LINE

#776 TBR
#775 TBR
#774 TBR
#773 TBR
#772 TBR

TO AYERSVILLE SUB

STANDLEY RED

AYERSVILLE-SAND RIDGE 69kV

STANDLEY RD

TO RICHLAND SUB

AYERSVILLE - RICHLAND NO 1 138KV LINE

#771 TBR
#770 TBR
#769 TBR
#768 TBR
#767 TBR

TO AYERSVILLE SUB

STANDLEY RD

AYERSVILLE-SAND RIDGE 69kV

STANDLEY RD

TO RICHLAND SUB

LEGEND

- 138KV TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE
- 69KV TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE
- ROAD EDGE
- BUILDING LINE
- EXISTING POLE TO BE MODIFIED
- NEW LIGHT DUTY STEEL POLE
- TBR EXISTING STR TO BE REMOVED
- EXISTING TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE

PAPER SIZE: 17X11

ATSI
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
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Ayersville Substation Expansion and
138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

GENERAL LAYOUT

EXHIBIT 3 (SHEET 2 OF 3)

DEFIANCE COUNTY
STATE OF OHIO

TO RICHLAND SUB

#18

AYERSVILLE - RICHLAND NO 1
138KV LINE

TBR

#17

TO AYERSVILLE SUB

#767

TBR

#766

TBR

STANDLEY RD

LEGEND

- 138KV TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE
- 69KV TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE
- ROAD EDGE
- NEW LIGHT DUTY STEEL POLE
- NEW WOOD POLE
- NEW STEEL POLE
- EXISTING WOOD POLE
- TBR — EXISTING STR TO BE REMOVED
- E — EXISTING TRANSMISSION CENTERLINE

PAPER SIZE: 17X11

ATSI
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

Ayersville Substation Expansion and
138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

GENERAL LAYOUT

EXHIBIT 3 (SHEET 3 OF 3)

LEGEND

—— X ——	PROPOSED FENCELINE
— — — —	EXISTING FENCE LINE
//////	PROPOSED EXPANSION

NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION

THE DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF THE NATIVE FORMAT CAD FILE OF THIS DRAWING IS UNCONTROLLED. THE USER SHALL VERIFY TRACEABILITY OF THIS DRAWING TO THE LATEST CONTROLLED VERSION.

BY: BJG-BV	ATSI® American Transmission Systems, Inc. a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.	DIST. CODE:	OPERATING COMPANY TOLEDO EDISON [TE]	REGION OH-WE	AREA DEFIANCE
APP:					
DATE: 05/21/25		SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"	FACILITY AYERSVILLE		
ISSUE: PRELIMINARY		SIZE: 36x24			
Ayersville Substation Expansion and 138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project		RevisionNote	TITLE SUBSTATION EXPANSION GENERAL LAYOUT		
			SAP NO. 16343293	EXHIBIT 3A	DOC ID / REV.

MADE WITH AUTOCAD

EXHIBIT 4

ATSI Transmission Zone M-3 Process

Ayersville Weston Network and 69 kV Conversion Project - s1953 Scope Change

s1953: Originally presented in 01/14/2019, 3/28/2019 and 11/20/2020 SRRTEP Western meetings
Changes are marked in red

Project Driver(s):
Operational Flexibility and Efficiency
Infrastructure Resilience

Specific Assumption Reference(s)
Global Considerations

- System reliability and performance
- Substation / Line equipment limits
- Reliability of Non-Bulk Electric System (Non-BES) facilities
- Load and risk in planning and operational scenarios
- Load and/or customers at risk on single transmission lines

Problem Statement
Maroe - Malinta 34.5 kV Area

- *The existing Richland - Maroe 34.5kV line is a radial line with limited capability of transferring load onto different circuits for emergency restoration and scheduling of routine maintenance.*
- *The loss of the Richland - Maroe 34.5 kV radial line results in the loss of approximately 8 MW and 2,550 customers at two (2) sub-transmission service points.*
- *The existing Weston - Malinta 34.5 kV line is a radial line with limited capability of transferring load onto a different circuits for emergency restoration and scheduling of routine maintenance.*
- *The loss of the Weston - Malinta 34.5 kV radial line results in the of approximately 6 MW and 1,000 customers at two (2) sub-transmission service points.*
- *The 138 / 34.5 kV transformer #1 at Richland substation is greater than 70 years old and is showing signs of end of life; including oil leaks, failing components, and increasing maintenance.*

Continued on next slide…

Ayersville Weston Network and 69 kV Conversion Project - s1953 Scope Change

Need Number: ATSI-2019-009 (s1953)

Process Stage: Re-Present Solution Meeting – 7/19/2024

Problem Statement (continued..)

Maroe - Malinta 34.5 kV Area

- *The 69 / 34.5 kV transformer #3 at Westin substation is greater than 74 years old and is showing signs of end of life; including oil leaks and deteriorating components.*
- *Customers taking sub-transmission service on these two radial lines have requested additional reliability and operational flexibility.*
  - *The 34.5kV radial lines cannot be networked due to insufficient short circuit current.*
  - *The Westin 69 / 34.5 kV transformer #3 (end of life) does not have the capacity to carry the entire load on a networked 34.5 kV system for a path end outage at Richland substation.*

ATSI Transmission Zone M-3 Process
Ayersville Weston Network and 69 kV Conversion Project - s1953 Scope Change

Need Number: ATSI-2019-009 (s1953)

Process Stage: Re-Present Solution Meeting – 7/19/2024

Reason for Scope Change: FE unable to secure property for the expansion of the Weston Substation due to landowner concerns. Through community engagement, FE able to secure a property 600 feet west of the existing Weston Substation to build a new four (4) breaker ring bus station (Sand Ridge).

Ayersville-~~Weston~~ Sand Ridge 69 kV Line - Conversion from 34.5 kV

- **Ayersville Substation**: Install one (1) new 69 kV breaker. Install one (1) new 138 – 69 kV transformer. Install four (4) new 138 kV breakers and reconfigure the 138 kV yard to a four (4) breaker ring bus with a new 69 kV line exit to Weston Substation. Close in the N.O. switch A13404 at Ayersville to network Ayersville Substation to Richland Substation 138 kV K Bus. Remove all 34.5 kV equipment post conversion (ex: Richland 138 - 34.5 kV transformer #1 and circuit breakers).

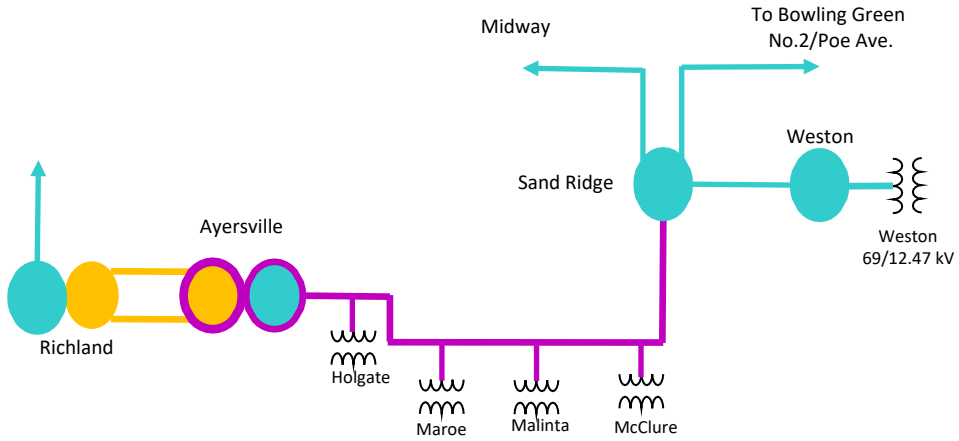
- ~~**Weston Substation:** Expand Weston substation to a four (4) breaker, future six (6) breaker ring bus with 69 kV line exits for the new Ayersville line, and the Midway and Tontogany 69 kV lines. Remove all 34.5 kV equipment post conversion (ex: Weston 69/34.5 kV transformer #3, circuit breakers, …etc.).~~

- **Sand Ridge Substation**: Build a new four (4) breaker, future six (6) breaker ring bus with 69 kV line exits for the new Ayersville line, the Midway and Bowling Green No.2 69 kV lines, and the Weston 69 kV line.

- A new 69 kV tie line from Sand Ridge Substation to Weston Substation will be constructed using the same conductor as Ayersville – Sand Ridge 69 kV proposed line rebuild.

- **Bowling Green No. 2-Midway 69 kV Line:**
  - Rebuild 5.0 miles of 69 kV transmission line from Weston Substation to the Weston tap on the Bowling Green No2 - Midway 69 kV Line as double circuit to eliminate the three-terminal line from Weston, Midway and Bowling Green No2 substations and extend both new lines and terminate into the new ring bus station (Sand Ridge).

Continued on next slide…



Convert existing 34.5 kV line and delivery points to 69 kV
Remove 34.5 kV Equipment.

Legend	
500 kV	
345 kV	
138 kV	
69 kV	
34.5 kV	
23 kV	
New	

ATSI Transmission Zone M-3 Process
Ayersville Weston Network and 69 kV Conversion Project - s1953 Scope Change

Need Number: ATSI-2019-009 (s1953)

Process Stage: Re-Present Solution Meeting – 7/19/2024

Proposed Solution:

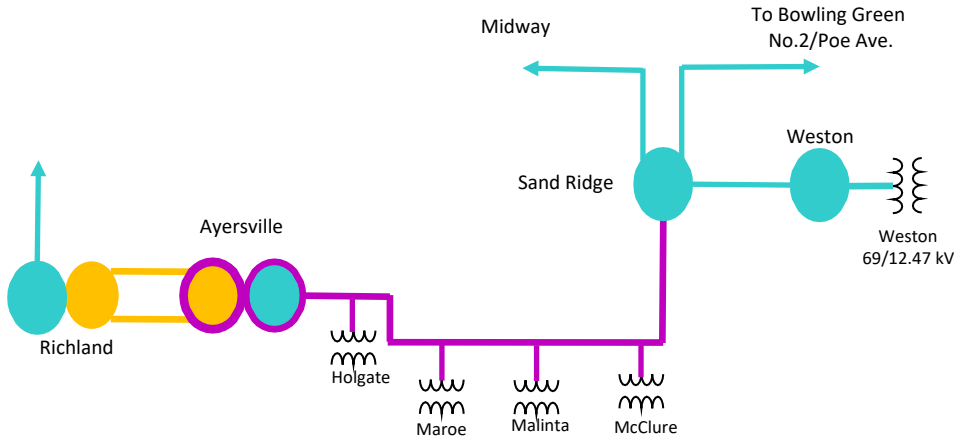
- **New Ayersville-~~Weston~~ Sand Ridge 69 kV Line:**
  - Build new 5.6 miles 69 kV line to network Ayersville-Maroe and Weston-Malinta radial lines.
  - Rebuild 0.5 miles of 138 kV transmission line as double circuit 138 kV and 69 kV to network the Maroe radial line to Ayersville Substation; de-energize and retire the 34.5 kV line section from Richland Substation.
  - Convert the existing Richland-Maroe 34.5 kV Line to 69 kV (Approximately 17 miles) and re-terminate line from Maroe Substation to Ayersville Substation; customers to upgrade existing substation equipment at Holgate Substation and Maroe Substation to 69 kV.
  - Convert the existing Weston-Malinta 34.5 kV Line to 69 kV (Approximately 13 miles) ; customers to upgrade existing substation equipment at Weston, McClure, and Malinta substations.
  - Remove all 34.5 kV equipment post conversion.
  - Install eight (8) SCADA and MOAB controlled switches on the new Ayersville-~~Weston~~ Sand Ridge 69 kV Line.

Transmission Line Ratings:

- Ayersville - ~~Weston~~ Sand Ridge 69 kV Line
  - After Proposed Solution: 111 MVA SN /134 MVA SE / 125 MVA WN / 159 MVA WE
- Sand Ridge – Weston 69 kV New Tie Line:
  - After Proposed Solution: 111 MVA SN /134 MVA SE / 125 MVA WN / 159 MVA WE

Alternatives Considered:

- Replace existing 138-34.5 kV and 69-34.5 kV transformers; rehab the existing 34.5 kV lines and maintain radial configuration; limits restoration, maintenance, and future economic growth.



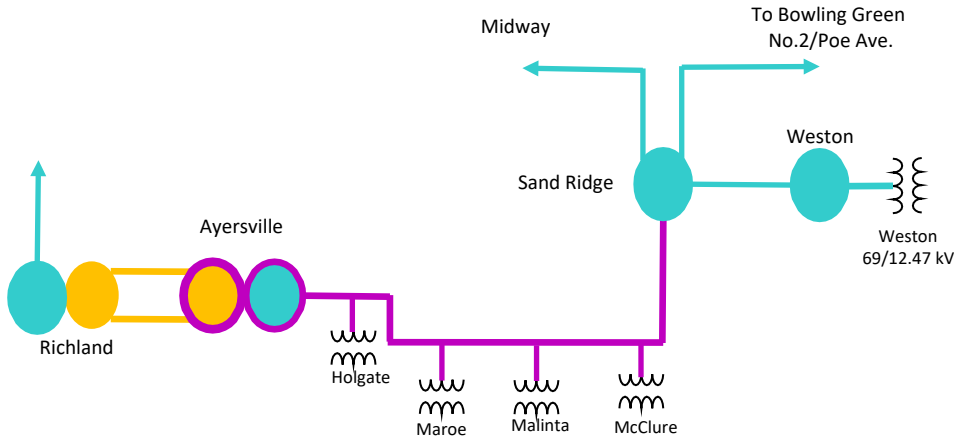
Convert existing 34.5 kV line and delivery points to 69 kV
Remove 34.5 kV Equipment.

Legend	
500 kV	
345 kV	
138 kV	
69 kV	
34.5 kV	
23 kV	
New	

ATSI Transmission Zone M-3 Process
Ayersville Weston Network and 69 kV Conversion Project - s1953 Scope Change

Need Number: ATSI-2019-009 (s1953)
Process Stage: Re-Present Solution Meeting – 7/19/2024

Estimated Project Cost: $99.3M
Projected IS Date: 1/21/2027
Status: Engineering
Model: 2023 RTEP model for the 2028 Summer (50/50)

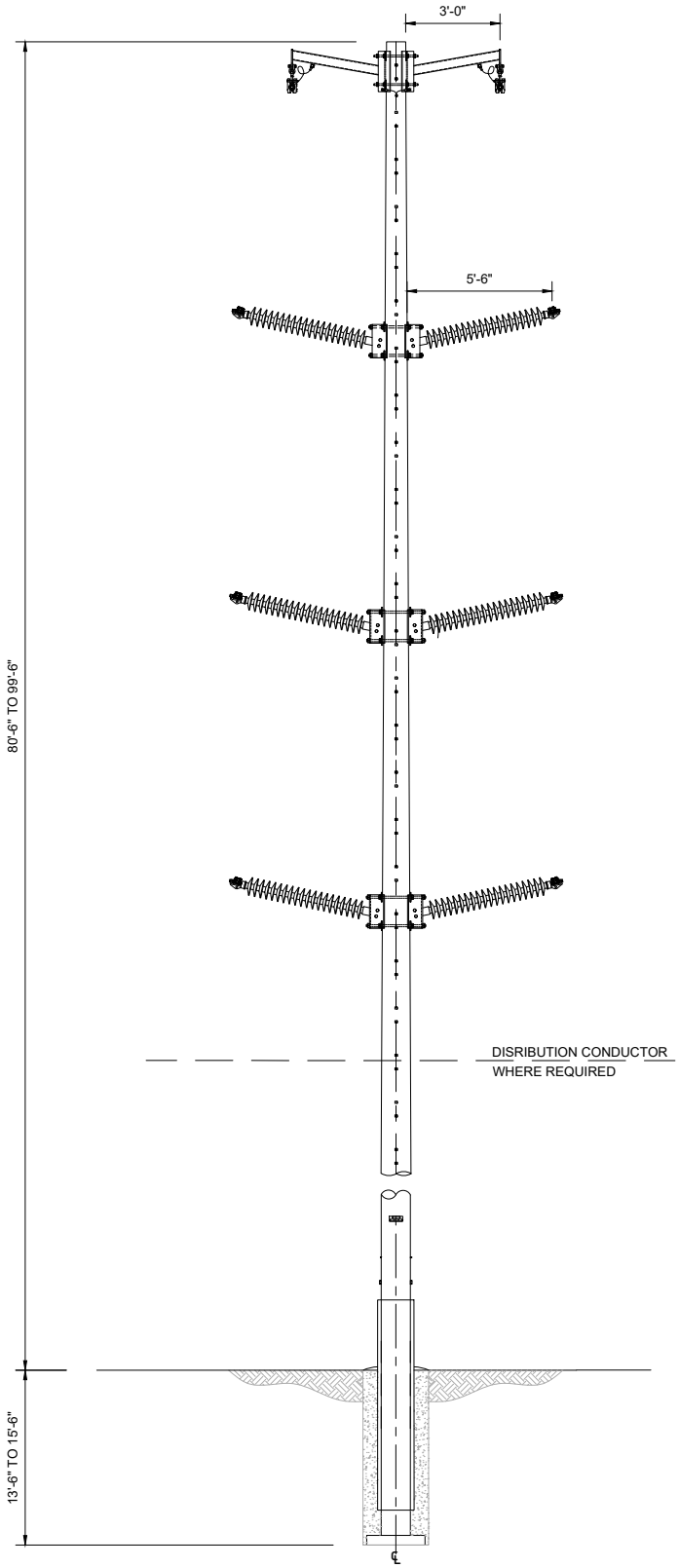


Convert existing 34.5 kV line and delivery points to 69 kV
Remove 34.5 kV Equipment.

Legend	
500 kV	
345 kV	
138 kV	
69 kV	
34.5 kV	
23 kV	
New	

EXHIBIT 5

Parcel Number(s)	Easement Status
B014168000401	Owned in Fee
B014173005800; B014173005700	Existing and New
J034030000101	Existing and New
J034030000100, J040030000201, J090030000203	Existing and New
J110030000202	Existing and New
J090030000302	Existing and New
B014173004700	Existing and New
B014173005500	Existing and New
B014173005600	Existing and New



ELEVATION VIEW
NOT TO SCALE

ATSI
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

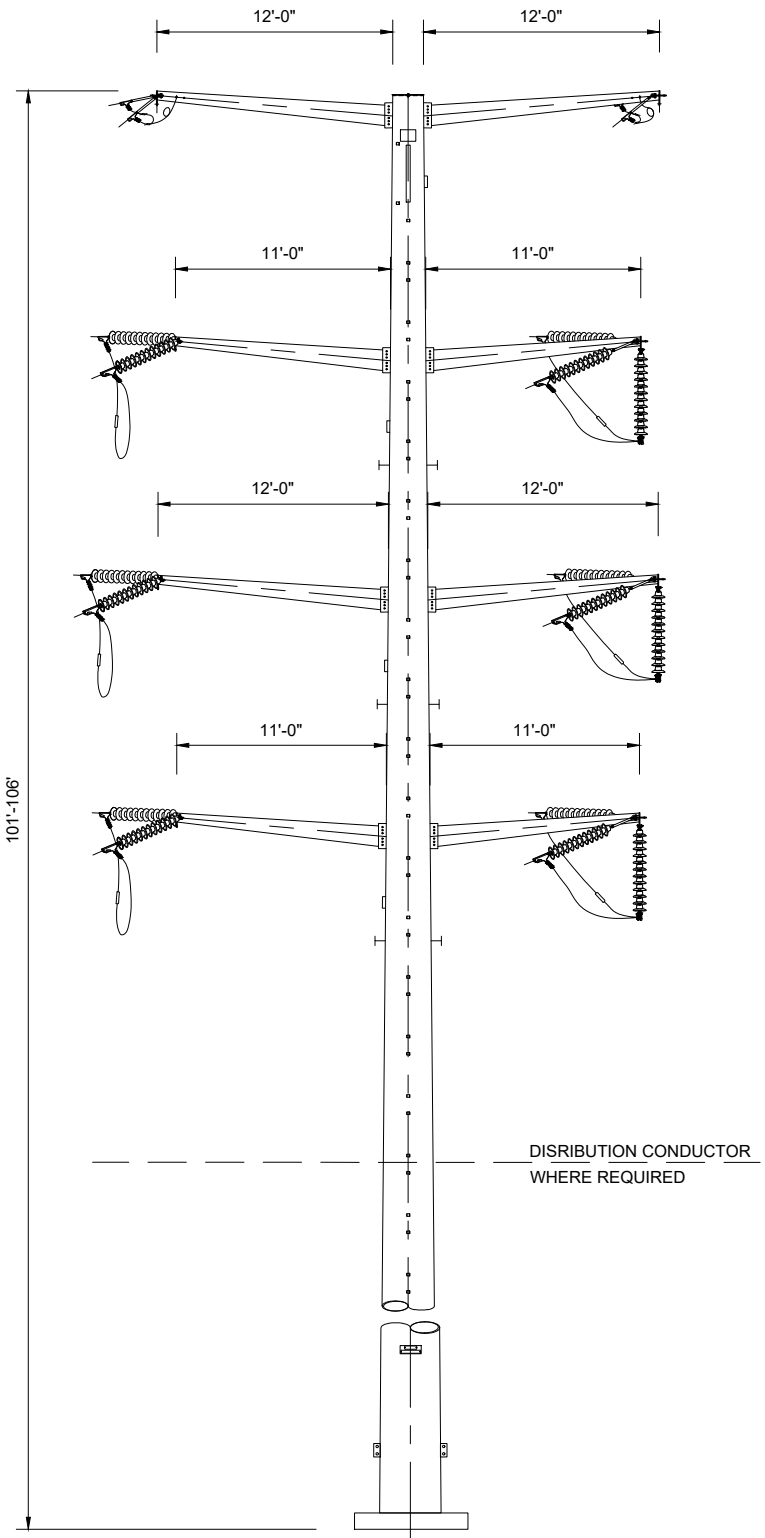
Ayersville Substation Expansion and
138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

69 kV/138 kV DOUBLE CIRCUIT
DIRECT EMBED STEEL TANGENT STRUCTURE

EXHIBIT 6

PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

SCALE: NTS



ELEVATION VIEW
NOT TO SCALE

ATSI
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

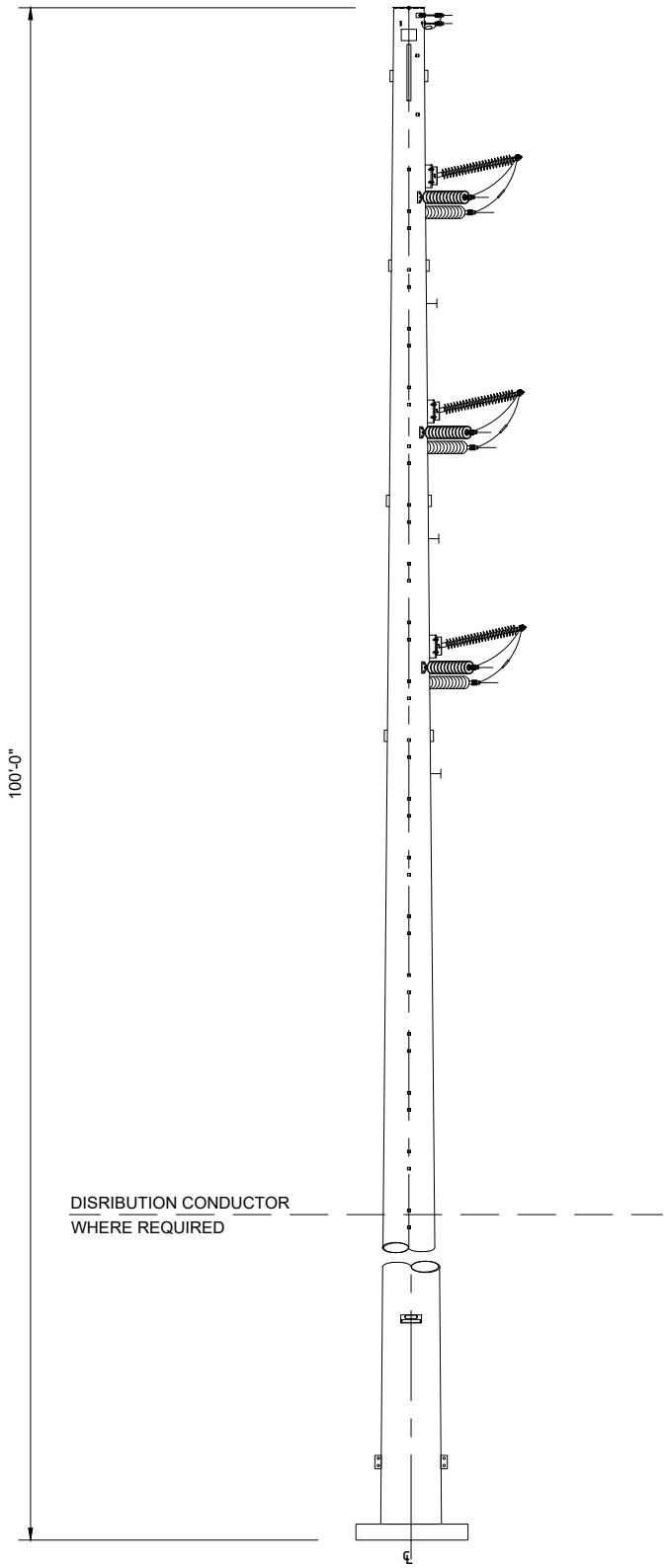
Ayersville Substation Expansion and
138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

69 kV/138 kV DOUBLE CIRCUIT STEEL POLE
DEADEND STRUCTURE ON CONCRETE FOUNDATION

EXHIBIT 7

SCALE: NTS

PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11



ELEVATION VIEW
NOT TO SCALE

ATSI
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

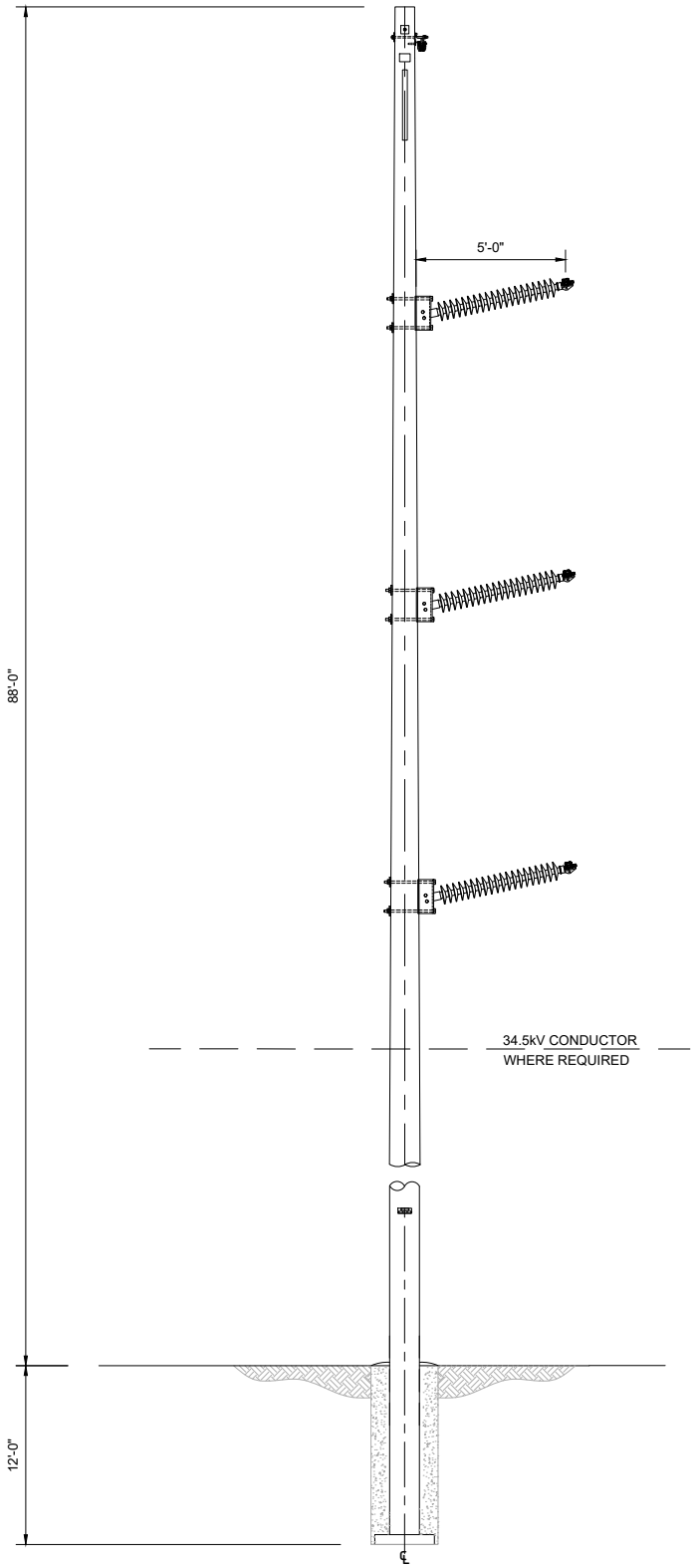
Ayersville Substation Expansion and
138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

138 kV SINGLE CIRCUIT STEEL POLE STRUCTURE
ON CONCRETE FOUNDATION

EXHIBIT 8

SCALE: NTS

PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11



ELEVATION VIEW
NOT TO SCALE

ATSI
American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

Ayersville Substation Expansion and
138 kV Transmission Line Partial Rebuild Project

138 kV SINGLE CIRCUIT
WOOD POLE TANGENT STRUCTURE

EXHIBIT 9

PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

SCALE: NTS

EXHIBIT 10

In reply refer to:
2025-DEF-65568

July 28, 2025

Thaddeus Bissett
WSP USA Inc.
312 Elm St., Ste. 2500
Cincinnati, OH 45202
thaddeus.bissett@wsp.com

RE: Phase 5 – Ayersville – Weston 69kV Transmission Line, Defiance and Henry Counties, Ohio

Mr. Bissett:

This letter is in response to correspondence received on June 27, 2025, regarding the proposed Phase 5 – Ayersville – Weston 69kV Transmission Line located in Defiance and Henry Counties, Ohio.. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

Per the submission, the proposed project is an approximately 11.7-mile-long transmission line that will extend from the City of Defiance to the Village of Holgate. The proposed right-of-way (ROW) includes a 60-foot-wide corridor along the length of the transmission line, as well as associated access routes. Our office considers the ROW to be the Area of Potential Effect (APE). A review of SHPO's records indicates that two previous surveys intersected with the current project; however, much of the project has not been surveyed. There are eleven (11) Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) sites, six (6) Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) cemeteries, four (4) Ohio Historic Inventory (OHI) resources, and two (2) historic properties eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) within one (1) mile of the project.

Based on this information, our office recommends a Phase I archaeological survey of the APE. Additionally, any buildings that appear to be over fifty (50) years old in the APE for indirect effects should be documented and evaluated for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility. The survey results will allow for a more informed decision concerning the effects the project may have on historic properties. The survey must be conducted by a qualified consultant and a copy of the results of the survey must be submitted to the SHPO for review following our submission standards. If you have any questions concerning this review, please contact me by email at cgullett@ohiohistory.org. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Catherine Gullett, Project Reviews Coordinator - Archaeology
Resource Protection and Review
State Historic Preservation Office

RPR Serial No. 1109696

"Please be advised that this is a Section 106 decision. This review decision may not extend to other SHPO programs."

EXHIBIT 10A

In reply, refer to
2025-DEF-65568

February 2, 2026

Thaddeus Bissett, Ph.D., RPA
WSP
11003 Bluegrass Pkwy, Ste. 690
Louisville, KY 40299
thaddeus.bissett@wsp.com

RE: Ayersville-Weston 138kV Transmission Line Project, Defiance County, Ohio

Dear Dr., Bissett:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received on November 28, 2025, regarding the proposed Ayersville-Weston 138kV Transmission Line Project located in Defiance County, Ohio. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made pursuant to Section 149.53 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) rules for siting this project (OAC 4906-4 & 4906-5). The comments of the Ohio SHPO are also submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

The following comments pertain to the *Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for the Ayersville-Weston 138kV Transmission Line, Defiance County, Ohio* (WSP USA, Inc. 2025). A literature review, visual inspection, photo documentation, and shovel test unit excavations were conducted for these investigations. The survey identified four (4) Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) sites within the Area of Potential Effect (APE). Of these, one (1) site was an historic isolate (33DE0547), while three (3) sites were historic scatters (33DE0544-33DE0546) that possible extend outside the current APE. It's WSP USA's recommendation that 33DE0547 is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), while sites 33DE0544-33DE0546 should be considered "unassessed," because they could not be fully delineated. Our office agrees with these recommendations and recommends no additional archaeological survey. A literature review and field survey identified ninety-one (91) aboveground resources within the APE for visual effects. None of these surveys were recommended as eligible for the NRHP. Our office agrees with these recommendations of eligibility.

Based on the information provided, it is our office's opinion that the project, as proposed, will have no effect on historic properties. No further coordination with this office is necessary, unless the project changes or unless new or additional cultural resources are discovered during the implementation of this project. In such a situation, this office should be contacted. If you have any questions, please contact me by e-mail at cgullett@ohiohistory.org, or Ms. Gabrielle Doty at gdoty@ohiohistory.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Catherine Gullett, Project Reviews Coordinator - Archaeology
Resource Protection and Review
State Historic Preservation Office

RPR Serial No. 1111899

EXHIBIT 11

Department of Natural Resources
ohiodnr.gov

Mike DeWine, *Governor*
Jim Tressel, *Lt. Governor*
Mary Mertz, *Director*

Office of Real Estate & Land Management
Tara Paciorek - Chief
2045 Morse Road – E-2
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693

June 5, 2025

Philip Renner
WSP USA Inc.
312 Elm Street, Suite 2500
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Re: 25-0685_Maroe-Ayersville 138 kV Transmission Line Rebuild

Project: The proposed project involves wetland delineation, assessment, and permitting.

Location: The proposed project is located in the Defiance and Richland Townships, Defiance County, Ohio.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has completed a review of the above referenced project. These comments were generated by an inter-disciplinary review within the Department. These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, Ohio Revised Code and other applicable laws and regulations. These comments are also based on ODNR's experience as the state natural resource management agency and do 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.

Natural Heritage Database: A review of the Ohio Natural Heritage Database indicates there are no records of state or federally listed plants or animals within one mile of the specified project area. Records searched date from 1980.

Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed, and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area.

Fish and Wildlife: The Division of Wildlife (DOW) has the following comments.

The DOW recommends that impacts to streams, wetlands and other water resources be avoided and minimized to the fullest extent possible, and that Best Management Practices be utilized to minimize erosion and sedimentation.

The entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer

(April 1 through September 30), these species of bats predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH ≥ 20 if possible. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the "*OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING*". If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31. However, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment is conducted, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if a potential hibernaculum is present within the project area. Direction on how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS "*RANGE-WIDE INDIANA BAT & NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT SURVEY GUIDELINES*." If a habitat assessment finds that a potential hibernaculum is present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Eileen Wyza for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the following listed mussel species.
Federally Endangered
clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)
rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)
northern riffleshell (*Epioblasma rangiana*)
white catspaw (*Epioblasma perobliqua*)

Federally Threatened
rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*)

This project must not have an impact on native mussels. This applies to both listed and non-listed species, as all species of mussel are protected in Ohio. Per the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol (2024), all Group 2, 3, and 4 streams (Appendix A) require a mussel survey. Per the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol, Group 1 streams (Appendix A) and unlisted streams with a watershed of 5 square miles or larger above the point of impact should be assessed using the Reconnaissance Survey for Unionid Mussels (Appendix B) to determine if mussels are present. Mussel surveys may be recommended for these streams as well. Therefore, if in-water work is planned in any stream that meets any of the above criteria, the DOW recommends the applicant provide information to indicate no mussel impacts will occur. If this is not possible, the DOW recommends a professional malacologist conduct a mussel survey in the project area. If mussels that cannot be avoided are found in the project area, the DOW recommends a professional malacologist collect and relocate the mussels to suitable and similar habitat upstream of the project site. Mussel surveys and any subsequent mussel relocation should be done in accordance with the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol. If there is no in-water work proposed, impacts to mussels are not likely.

The project is within the range of the greater redhorse (*Moxostoma valenciennesi*), a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact this or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the copperbelly water snake (*Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta*), a state endangered and federally threatened species. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

Due to the potential of impacts to federally listed species, as well as to state listed species, we recommend that this project be coordinated with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Water Resources: The Division of Water Resources has the following comment.

If the subject project is in a floodplain regulated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the local floodplain administrator should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals. The FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer (NHFL) Viewer website can be utilized to see if the project is in a FEMA regulated floodplain. If the project is not in a FEMA regulated floodplain, then no further action is required.

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Mike Pettegrew (Environmental Services Administrator) at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Expiration: *ODNR Environmental Reviews are typically valid for 2 years from the issuance date. If the scope of work, project area, construction limits, and/or anticipated impacts to natural resources have changed significantly from the original project submittal, then a new Environmental Review request should be submitted.*

EXHIBIT 11A

Bryksenkova, Nataliya

From: Ruggiero, Augustine
Sent: Thursday, October 2, 2025 8:59 AM
To: Bryksenkova, Nataliya
Subject: FW: Hibernacula Desktop Review Confirmation - FirstEnergy Ayersville-Weston Phase 5 59 kV Transmission Line Project - Defiance County and Henry County, Ohio

---

From: Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov <Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 2, 2025 8:52 AM
To: Ruggiero, Augustine <aruggiero@firstenergycorp.com>; Renner, Philip <Philip.Renner@wsp.com>
Cc: Thomayer, Matthew <matt.thomayer@wsp.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hibernacula Desktop Review Confirmation - FirstEnergy Ayersville-Weston Phase 5 59 kV Transmission Line Project - Defiance County and Henry County, Ohio

Thank you for the extra information, Auggie.

Per review of the desktop survey provided for FirstEnergy Ayersville-Weston Phase 5 59 kV Transmission Line Project, the Ohio Division of Wildlife concurs with your assessment that no caves, cliffs, or mine openings occur in the project area. Additionally, because the project will be following the existing road and does not involve blasting or impacting the bedrock, the project is not likely to impact hibernating bats that may be present in the possible karst features.

Should any reported conditions change before or during construction, please contact me for additional guidance.

Thank you,

Eileen Wyza, Ph.D.
(she/her/hers)
Wildlife Biologist
Ohio Division of Wildlife
Phone: 614-265-6764
Email: Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov

From: Ruggiero, Augustine <aruggiero@firstenergycorp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 11:27 AM
To: Wyza, Eileen <Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov>; Renner, Philip <Philip.Renner@wsp.com>
Cc: Thomayer, Matthew <matt.thomayer@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: Hibernacula Desktop Review Confirmation - FirstEnergy Ayersville-Weston Phase 5 59 kV Transmission Line Project - Defiance County and Henry County, Ohio

Good morning Eileen,

I'll step in and save Phillip an email. I was able to confirm that no bedrock was encountered during the geotechnical investigations that were conducted to support this project. Therefore, no impacts to bedrock are anticipated to result from this project.

Thanks!
Auggie

Auggie Ruggiero
Transmission Permitting
office: 330-315-6781 (8506781) | cell: 330-803-4304
aruggiero@firstenergycorp.com
341 White Pond Drive, Akron, OH 44320 | mailstop: AK-West Akron Campus

From: Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov <Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 8:37 AM
To: Renner, Philip <Philip.Renner@wsp.com>
Cc: Ruggiero, Augustine <aruggiero@firstenergycorp.com>; Thomayer, Matthew <matt.thomayer@wsp.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hibernacula Desktop Review Confirmation - FirstEnergy Ayersville-Weston Phase 5 59 kV Transmission Line Project - Defiance County and Henry County, Ohio

Hello Philip,

Thank you for sharing this with me. Is there subsurface disturbance planned for this project that might impact bedrock?

Eileen Wyza, Ph.D.
(she/her/hers)
Wildlife Biologist
Ohio Division of Wildlife
Phone: 614-265-6764
Email: Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov

Support Ohio's wildlife. Buy a license at wildohio.gov.

From: Renner, Philip <Philip.Renner@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 9:28 AM
To: Wyza, Eileen <Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov>
Cc: Ruggiero, Augustine <aruggiero@firstenergycorp.com>; Thomayer, Matthew <matt.thomayer@wsp.com>
Subject: Hibernacula Desktop Review Confirmation - FirstEnergy Ayersville-Weston Phase 5 59 kV Transmission Line Project - Defiance County and Henry County, Ohio

Good morning, Eileen.

WSP has prepared the attached Hibernacula Desktop Habitat Assessment in support of FirstEnergy's Ayersville-Weston Phase 5 69 kV Transmission Line Project (Project), located in Richland Township, Defiance County, Ohio and Flat Roack and Pleasant townships, Henry County, Ohio. Per ODNR Environmental Review 25-0685, dated June 5, 2025 (included in the attached habitat assessment), WSP conducted a review of publicly available information within a 0.25-mile radius of the Project area. Based on information used during the desktop habitat assessment, as well as field observations during on-site environmental surveys, no potential hibernacula were observed within the recommended 0.25-mile radius of the Project, and as a result no impacts to bat hibernacula are anticipated as a result of this Project. On behalf of FirstEnergy, I am requesting your review and concurrence with the attached habitat assessment. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out and we will respond as quickly as possible. Also, please note that you will also be receiving a very similar but separate request for the Ayersville-Weston Phase 5A/B 69 kV Transmission Line Project. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Philip J. Renner
Environmental Scientist

Phone: +1 937 570 7691
Email: philip.renner@wsp.com

-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbK

EXHIBIT 12

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

May 16, 2025

Project Code: 2025-0091544

Dear Mr. Renner:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. We offer the following comments and recommendations to assist you in minimizing and avoiding adverse impacts to threatened, endangered, and proposed species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: The endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) occur throughout the State of Ohio. The Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat may be found wherever suitable habitat occurs unless a presence/absence survey has been performed to document absence. Suitable summer habitat for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and breed that may also include adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, woodlots, fallow fields, and pastures. Roost trees for both species include live and standing dead trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) that have any exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, hollows and/or cavities. These roost trees may be located in forested habitats as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet of other forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat. In the winter, Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats hibernate in caves, rock crevices and abandoned mines.

Federally Proposed Species: On September 14, 2022, the Service proposed to list the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) as endangered under the ESA. The bat faces extinction due to the impacts of white-nose syndrome, a deadly disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. During spring, summer, and fall, this species roosts primarily among leaf clusters of live or recently dead trees, emerging at dusk to hunt for insects over waterways and forest edges. While white-nose syndrome is by far the most serious threat to the tricolored bat, other threats now have an increased significance due to the dramatic decline in the species' population. These threats include disturbance to bats in roosting, foraging, commuting, and over-wintering habitats. Mortality due to collision with wind turbines, especially during migration, has also been documented across their range. Conservation measures for the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat will also help to conserve the tricolored bat.

Seasonal Tree Clearing for Federally Listed Bat Species: Should the proposed project site contain trees ≥3 inches dbh, we recommend avoiding tree removal wherever possible. If any caves or abandoned mines may be disturbed, further coordination with this office is requested to determine if fall or spring portal surveys are warranted. If no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥3 inches dbh cannot be avoided, we recommend removal of any trees ≥3 inches dbh only occur between October 1 and March 31. Seasonal clearing is recommended to avoid adverse effects to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats.

If implementation of this seasonal tree cutting recommendation is not possible, a summer presence/absence survey may be conducted for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. If Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats are not detected during the survey, then tree clearing may occur at any time of the year. Surveys must be conducted by an approved surveyor and be designed and conducted in coordination with the Ohio Field Office. Surveyors must have a valid federal permit. Please note that in Ohio summer mist net surveys may only be conducted between June 1 and August 15.

Section 7 Coordination: If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), then no tree clearing should occur on any portion of the project area until consultation under section 7 of the ESA, between the Service and the federal action agency, is completed. We recommend the federal action agency submit a determination of effects to this office, relative to the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, for our review and concurrence. This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document.

Stream and Wetland Avoidance: Over 90% of the wetlands in Ohio have been drained, filled, or modified by human activities, thus is it important to conserve the functions and values of the remaining wetlands in Ohio (https://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/facts/ohio_wetlands.pdf). We recommend avoiding and minimizing project impacts to all wetland habitats (e.g., forests, streams, vernal pools) to the maximum extent possible in order to benefit water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Additionally, natural buffers around streams and wetlands should be preserved to enhance beneficial functions. If streams or wetlands will be impacted, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted to determine whether a Clean Water Act section 404 permit is required. Best management practices should be used to minimize erosion, especially on slopes. Disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant species. In addition, prevention of non-native, invasive plant establishment is critical in maintaining high quality habitats.

Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat. Should the project design change, or 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, coordination with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

Thank you for your efforts to conserve listed species and sensitive habitats in Ohio. We recommend coordinating with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the proposed project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact Mike Pettegrew, Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov.

If you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact our office at (614) 416-8993 or ohio@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Erin Knoll
Field Office Supervisor

cc: Matthew.Stooksbury@dnr.ohio.gov
Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov

EXHIBIT 13

AYERSVILLE-WESTON PHASE 5A/B 138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

WETLAND DELINEATION REPORT

DATE: OCTOBER 2025

PREPARED FOR:
FIRSTENERGY SERVICE COMPANY
341 WHITE POND DRIVE
AKRON, OH 44320

WSP USA
312 ELM STREET, SUITE 2500
CINCINNATI, OH 45202

WSP.COM

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TABLES

FIGURES

APPENDICES

1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

FirstEnergy Corporation (FirstEnergy) has retained WSP USA (WAP) to provide environmental permitting services for the Ayersville-Weston Phase 5A/B 138 kV Transmission Line Project (Project). This document present the results of a wetland and water resource delineation effort. This effort was conducted to determine whether wetlands and streams are present within the vicinity of the Project which would be subject to regulation by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or Ohio Environmental Protection agency (OEPA), and to document their extent and condition if present. The wetland delineation was performed by individuals trained in the three-parameter methodology (hydrophytic vegetation, wetland hydrology, and hydric soils) adopted by the USACE as outline in the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory, 1987) and the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region (Version 2.0)* (USACE, 2011). This report presents the results of the ecological considerations and review of the site's existing and reasonably foreseeable site conditions at the time of the wetland delineation. The results cannot apply to site changes occurring after the survey which WSP has not had the opportunity to review. During the course of any survey, site conditions may change over time due to human and/or natural causes; as such, the results presented in this report may be invalidated, either wholly or in part, by changes beyond the control of WSP.

1.2 PROJECT AREA

WSP conducted a wetland delineation for the Project on April 10, 2025 and June 4, 2025. As shown in Figure 1 (Appendix A), the Project is located within Defiance Township and Richland Township, Defiance County, Ohio. Additionally, the Project is within the Defiance East, Ohio U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map quadrangle boundaries. The Project extends from the existing Ayersville Station, located southwest of the intersection of Standley Road and Ayersville Avenue at coordinate 41.2675°, -84.3424°, east 0.6 miles to approximate coordinate 41.2682°, -84.3336°. Table 1-1 provides an overview of the Project location. The Project's 9.4-acre Environmental Survey Corridor (ESC) encompasses the proposed right-of-way (ROW) as well as the entire parcel containing proposed expansion of Ayersville Substation.

TABLE 1-1: GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

COUNTY:	Defiance County
TOWNSHIP(S):	Defiance Township and Richland Township
END POINT COORDINATES:	41.2675°, -84.3424° (Ayersville Station) 41.2682°, -84.3336°
USGS QUADRANGLE(S):	Defiance East, Ohio
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY CORRIDOR LENGTH:	0.6 miles
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY CORRIDOR WIDTH:	60 feet
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY CORRIDOR SIZE:	9.4 acres
ELEVATION RANGE (FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL):	690 - 715

TABLE 1-1: GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

8-DIGIT HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE:	04100007 (Auglaize River) 04100009 (Lower Maumee River)
12-DIGIT HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE(S):	04100007-12-09 04100009-02-01
DATE(S) OF SURVEY :	April 10, 2025 June 4, 2025

1.3 DRAINAGE BASINS

All streams in the vicinity of the ESC drain through named and unnamed tributaries northward to the Maumee River. The Maumee River is considered a traditionally navigable waterway (TNW) by the USACE. The ESC is located within two eight-digit hydrologic unit codes (HUC), 04100007 (Auglaize) and 04100008 (Lower Maumee). The ESC lies within two 12-digit sub-watersheds, as outlined in Table 1-2.

The OEPA *401 Water Quality Certification for the Nationwide Permits Web Mapping Application* indicates that field-assessed streams within the ESC occur within watersheds that have been designated as “eligible” or “possibly eligible”. Stream impacts within watersheds denoted as “eligible” may be completed under the OEPA’s Section 401 water quality certification (WQC) for the 2022 USACE nationwide permits (NWPs) provided the Project complies with all specific and general permit conditions. Stream impacts within watersheds denoted as “possibly eligible” may be completed under the OEPA’s Section 401 WQC for the 2022 USACE NWPs dependent on stream quality and provided the Project complies with all specific and general permit conditions.

TABLE 1-2: 12-DIGIT HUC’S CROSSED BY THE ESC

8-DIGIT HUC CODE[1]	8-DIGIT HUC CODE NAME[1]	12-DIGIT HUC CODE[1]	12-DIGIT HUC NAME	OHIO EPA SECTION 401 ELIGIBILITY
04100007	Auglaize	04100007-12-09	Eagle Creek – Auglaize River	Eligible
04100009	Lower Maumee	04100009-02-01	Preston Run – Maumee River	Possibly Eligible

2 METHODOLOGY

WSP ecologists traversed the ESC to conduct a wetland and waters delineation on April 10, 2025 and June 4, 2025. The physical boundaries of aquatic resources were recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit rated for sub-meter accuracy.

Prior to conducting field surveys, the WSP ecologists completed a desktop review by analyzing several federal and state documents for the presence of wetland and streams. This review included Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey data, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps of Ohio, USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps, and USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) stream and river data as an exercise to identify the occurrence and location of potential wetlands and streams.

2.1 WETLAND DELINEATION AND ASSESSMENT

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) define wetlands as areas inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions (33 CFR, Part 328.3).

Wetlands were delineated according to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Technical Report Y-87-1 *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (1987 Manual)* (Environmental Laboratory, 1987), and the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region, (Version 2.0)* (*Regional Supplement*) (USACE, 2011). Representative data points were collected for wetlands and corresponding, adjacent upland areas. Wetland data was recorded on the USACE *Regional Supplement* Wetland Determination Data Forms.

Wetland vegetation communities were classified according to the *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States*, commonly referred to as the Cowardin Classification System (Cowardin et al., 1979). Wetlands within the ESC were assessed using the OEPA *Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands v. 5.0* (ORAM) to determine the ecological quality and level of disturbance (Mack, 2001).

2.2 STREAM DELINEATION AND ASSESSMENT

Streams were identified by the presence of a defined bed and bank, and evidence of an ordinary high water mark (OHWM). The OHWM is defined in the USACE *Regulatory Guidance Letter No. 05*-05 (USACE, 2005) and the *National Ordinary High Water Mark Field Delineation Manual for Rivers and Streams* (USACE, 2025). Generally, the OHWM is identified by a clearly defined, natural line along the stream bank created by fluctuations and flow of water; this may include changes in contours, substrate, vegetation, and debris (USACE, 2005).

Stream assessments were conducted using the methods described in the OEPA's Methods for Assessing Habitat in Flowing Waters: Using OEPA's *Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index* (Rankin, 2006) and *Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's Primary Headwater Habitat Streams, Version 3* (OEPA, 2012).

3 RESULTS

WSP ecologists surveyed the ESC on April 10, 2025 and June 4, 2025 by walking the ESC and evaluating for wetlands, streams, and other potential Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) or waters of the state. The WSP ecologists delineated three wetlands and two streams within the ESC. No open-water features were observed within the ESC. The results of the desktop review are provided in Figure 2 (Appendix A). The location and extents of delineated features are provided in Figure 3 (Appendix A).

3.1 Desktop Review

3.1.1 Soils Evaluation

According to the NRCS Soil Data for Defiance County and Henry County, Ohio, there are 23 soil map units shown within the ESC, as presented in Table 3-1. The soils observed by the WSP ecologists during the wetland delineation of the ESC were consistent with the NRCS soil survey mapping. The majority of the ESC is underlain by predominantly non-hydric soils, comprising 5.4 acres (57.4%) of the ESC. The remainder of the ESC is comprised of 3.6acres (38.3%) of predominantly hydric soils, and 0.4 acres (4.2%) of non-hydric soils.

TABLE 3-1: SOIL UNITS MAPPED WITHIN THE ESC

SOIL UNIT SYMBOL	SOIL UNIT NAME	PERCENT HYDRIC	HYDRIC RATING[1]	AREA WITHIN ESC (ac.)
Pa	Paulding clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	95	Predominantly Hydric	2.7
RrA	Roselms loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	3	Predominantly Non-Hydric	1.1
RsA	Roselms silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes	3	Predominantly Non-Hydric	4.3
ScE3	St. Clair clay, 18 to 35 percent slopes, severely eroded	0	Non-Hydric	0.4
So	Sloan silty clay loam, frequently flooded	90	Predominantly Hydric	0.9
			Total Area of Non-Hydric Soils	0.4
			Total Area of Predominantly Non-Hydric Soils	5.4
			Total Area of Predominantly Hydric Soils	3.6

[1]Non-Hydric = 0% hydric soil component; Predominantly Non-Hydric = 1-32%; Partially Hydric =33-65%; Predominantly Hydric = 66-99%; and All Hydric = 100%.
Source: Soil Survey Staff, NRCS. Web Soil Survey.

3.1.2 National Wetlands Inventory Review

According to the NWI maps of the Defiance East, Ohio quadrangle, there is one mapped NWI feature within the ESC, as shown in Table 3-2. The locations of mapped NWI features in the vicinity of the ESC are shown on Figure 2 (Appendix A).

TABLE 3-2: NWI FEATURES MAPPED WITHIN THE ESC

NWI CODE	NWI DESCRIPTION	MAP PAGE	ASSOCIATED DELINEATED RESOURCE
R2UBH	Riverine, lower perennial, unconsolidated bottom, permanently flooded	Page 1	Stream MA-1

Source: USFWS National Wetlands Inventory Mapper

3.1.3 FEMA Floodplain Review

According to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) Panel 39039C0265F, effective March 9, 2021, mapped 100-year floodplains or floodways within the ESC total 0.07 acres, associated with Preston Run, as shown on Figure 2 (Appendix A).

3.2 Delineation Results

3.2.1 Delineated Wetlands

The WSP ecologists identified three wetlands totaling 0.22 acres within the ESC. This included 0.22 acres of palustrine emergent (PEM) wetland and <0.01 acres of palustrine forested (PFO) wetland. All delineated wetlands were identified as Category One (low quality) wetlands. No Category Two or Category Three wetlands were identified within the ESC. One of the three wetlands (Wetland MA-3a/b), totaling 0.04 acres, possesses a direct hydrologic surface connection to an unnamed tributary (UNT) to Preston Run, which flows to the Maumee River, a TNW. Two wetlands, Wetland MA-1 and Wetland MA-2, totaling 0.18 acres, do not have a direct hydrologic surface connection to a TNW. Therefore, Wetlands MA-3 is likely to be considered jurisdictional by the USACE. Wetlands MA-1 and MA-2, however, are expected to be considered isolated by the USACE and subject to regulation by the OEPA. It should be noted that final determination of wetland jurisdiction will be made by the USACE and any permit activities in streams regulated by OEPA will first require acquisition of an approved jurisdictional determination (AJD) from the USACE.

The location and extent of delineated wetlands within the ESC are displayed in Figure 3 (Appendix A). Table 3-3 provides specific wetland habitat types, acreages corresponding to each route and the entire ESC, ORAM category, as well as information regarding jurisdictional status. Wetland Determination Data Forms are provided in Appendix B. ORAM data forms are provided in Appendix C. Representative photographs were taken within the ESC and are provided in Appendix E.

TABLE 3-3: WETLANDS DELINEATED WITHIN THE ESC

WETLAND ID	LOCATION		COWARDIN CLASS.[1]	DELINEATED AREA[2] (ac.)	ORAM CATEGORY (score)	HYDROLOGIC CONNECTION	PROXIMAL WATERBODY
	LAT.	LON.					
Wetland MA-1	41.2668	-84.3421	PEM	0.17	1 (14)	No	Isolated
Wetland MA-2	41.2673	-84.3421	PEM	0.01	1 (13)	No	Isolated
Wetland MA-3a	41.2682	-84.3338	PEM	0.04	1 (10)	Yes	Offsite UNT to Preston Run

TABLE 3-3: WETLANDS DELINEATED WITHIN THE ESC

WETLAND ID	LOCATION		COWARDIN CLASS.[1]	DELINEATED AREA[2] (ac.)	ORAM CATEGORY (score)	HYDROLOGIC CONNECTION	PROXIMAL WATERBODY
	LAT.	LON.					
Wetland MA-3b	41.2683	-84.3338	PFO	<0.01	1 (10)	Yes	Offsite UNT to Preston Run
			PEM Wetland Areas	0.22			
			PFO Wetland Areas	<0.01			
			Total Wetland Area in ESC	**0.22**			

[1]PEM = palustrine emergent, PSS = palustrine scrub/shrub. PFO = palustrine forested;
[2]Acreages reflect the area delineated within the ESC and are approximate based on GPS data and are rounded to the nearest 0.01-acre.

3.2.2 Delineated Streams

The WSP ecologists identified two streams totaling 89 linear feet (lf) within the ESC. This included 68 lf of ephemeral stream and 21 lf of perennial stream. Of the two streams identified, one (Stream MA-2) was evaluated with the HHEI methodology. Preston Run (Stream MA-1) had an existing OEPA aquatic life use designation of Warmwater Habitat; therefore, his stream was not evaluated with either the HHEI or QHEI. All delineated streams were identified as tributaries to the Maumee River, a TNW, or its tributaries. Stream MA-2, an ephemeral stream, was determined to be a non-relatively permanent waterway (RPW), and therefore is not likely to be considered jurisdictional by the USACE. It should be noted that the USACE will make the final determination of jurisdictional status.

Locations of the identified streams within the ESC are shown in Figure 3 (Appendix A). Table 3-4 provides waterbody name, flow regime, stream length corresponding to each route and the entire ESC, field evaluation data, and jurisdictional status. Completed OEPA HHEI forms are provided in Appendix D. Representative photographs were taken of each stream during the field survey and are provided in Appendix E.

TABLE 3-4: STREAMS DELINEATED WITHIN THE ESC

STREAM ID	LOCATION		STREAM NAME	STREAM TYPE	DELINEATED LENGTH (FEET)	OHWM WIDTH (FEET)	BANKFULL WIDTH (FEET)	FIELD EVALUATION		OHIO EPA 401 ELIGIBILITY
	LAT	LONG						SCORE (METHOD)	CLASS	
Stream MA-1	41.2682	-84.3365	Preston Run	Perennial	21	13.0	20	N/A	Warmwater Habitat	Possibly Eligible
Stream MA-2	41.2687	-84.3335	UNT to Preston Run	Ephemeral	68	1.0	3	20 (HHEI)	Modified Ephemeral Stream	N/A[1]
				Length of Ephemeral Streams	68					
				Length of Intermittent Streams	0					
				Length of Perennial Streams	21					
				Total Stream Length in ESC	**89**					

Notes: UNT = unnamed tributary, WWH = Warmwater Habitat, EWH = Exceptional Warmwater Habitat, MWH = Modified Warmwater Habitat
Lengths are approximate based on GPS data and are rounded to the nearest foot.
[1]Stream is an ephemeral non-relatively permanent waterway and is therefore not expected to be regulated by the USACE or OEPA.

3.2.3 Delineated Open Water Habitat

No ponds, lakes, reservoirs, or other open water habitat types were identified within the ESC during the environmental surveys, as shown in Figure 3 (Appendix A).

4 Summary

WSP conducted environmental surveys of the approximately 9.4-acre ESC on April 10, 2025 and June 4, 2025. Land uses within the ESC are primarily composed of agricultural and residential land uses, maintained roadways, and limited old field and scrub-shrub habitat. The environmental surveys resulted in the delineation of three wetlands totaling 0.22 acres and two streams totaling 89 lf. No open water features were identified.

The three wetlands totaled 0.22 acres within the ESC, including 0.22 acres of PEM wetland and <0.01 acres of PFO wetland. All three wetlands were evaluated with the ORAM and identified as Category One wetlands. It is anticipated that one wetland (0.04 acres) is likely to be considered jurisdictional by the USACE and two (0.18 acres) are likely to be considered isolated. Table 4-1 provides a comparison of wetland area and anticipated jurisdictional status.

TABLE 4-1: SUMMARY OF DELINEATED WETLANDS

WETLAND COWARDIN CLASSIFICATION	DELINEATED AREA (ac.)		
	Isolated	Jurisdictional	Total
PEM	0.18	0.04	0.22
PSS	0.00	0.00	0.00
PFO	0.00	<0.01	<0.01
Total	0.18	0.04	0.22

The two delineated streams totaled 89 lf within the ESC. This included 68 lf of ephemeral stream and 21 lf of perennial stream. The ephemeral stream was determined to be non-relatively permanent waterway (RPWs, and therefore is not likely to be considered jurisdictional by the USACE.

5 References

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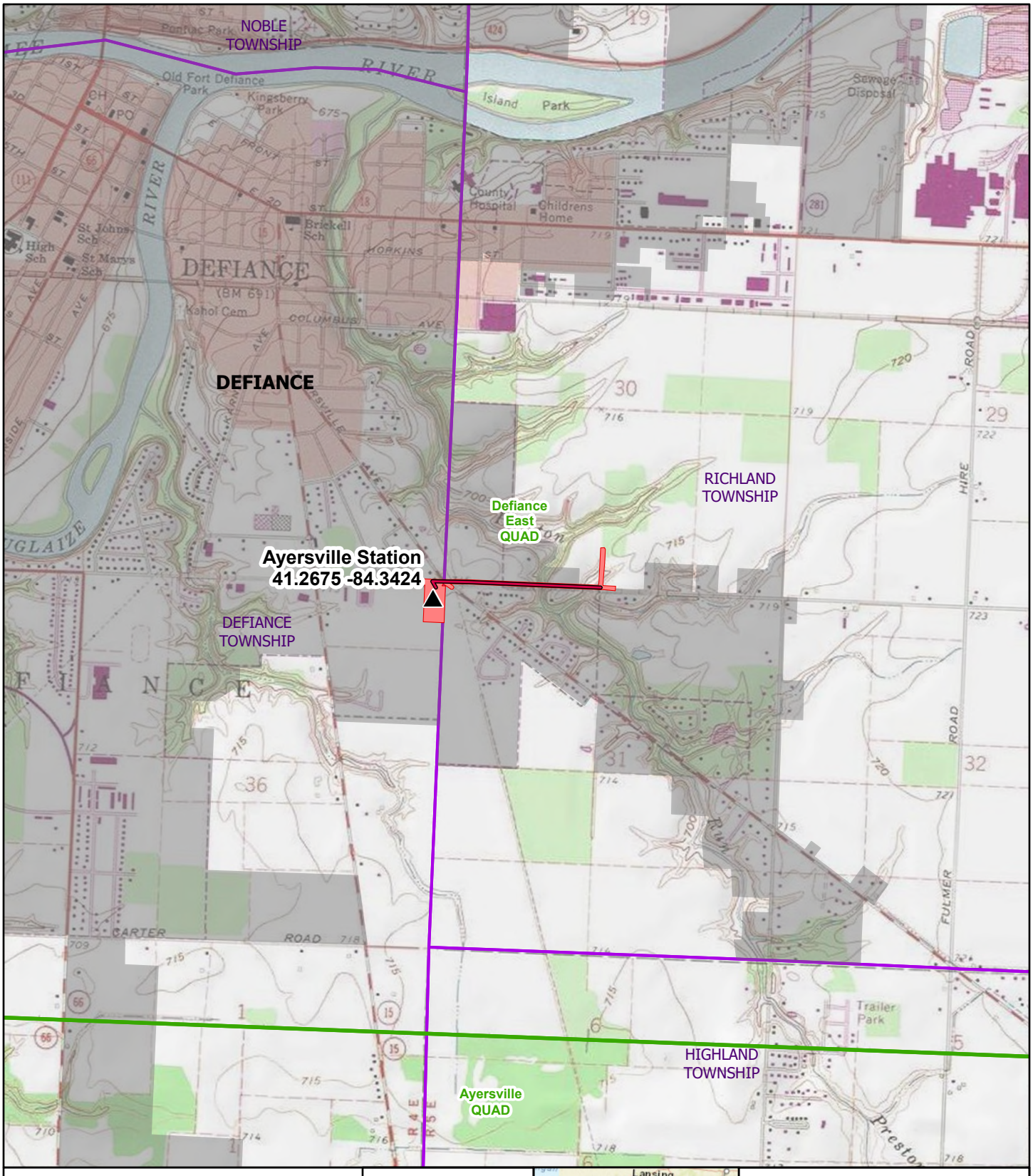
APPENDIX

A FIGURES



Ayersville-Weston 138kV
USGS 24k Topo Quad
City Boundary
Township Boundary
County Boundary

Coordinate System:
UTM Zone 17N
NAD 1983

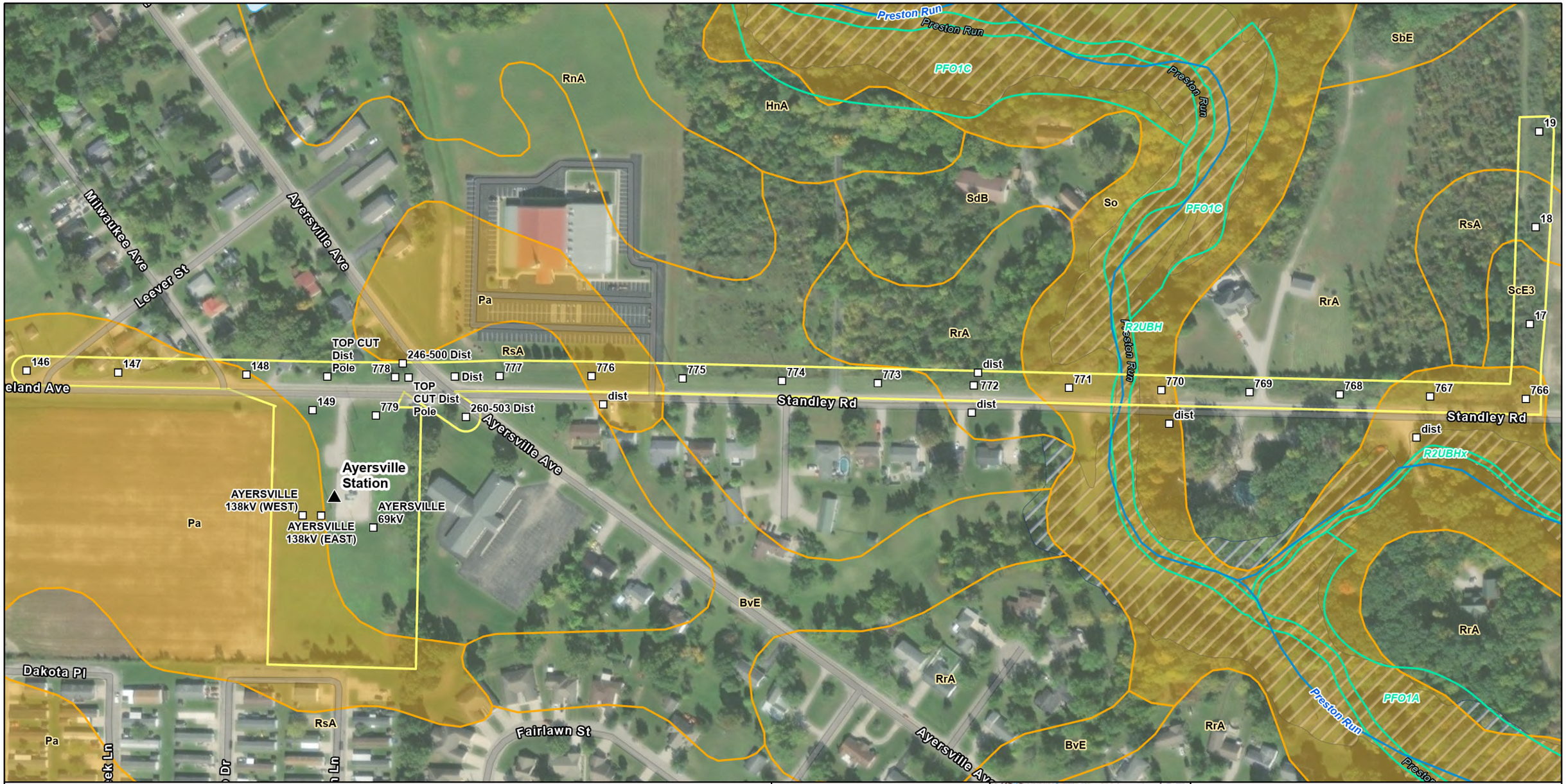
August 19, 2025

AYERSVILLE-WESTON
PHASE 5AB: HOLGATE TO AYERSVILLE

Project Location Map

FirstEnergy

0 0.2 0.4 Miles

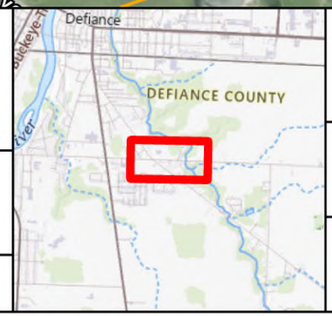


- Substation
- Proposed Structure
- Environmental Survey Corridor
- NHD Stream
- NHD Waterbody
- NWI Wetland
- Soil Map Unit
- FEMA 100-yr Floodplain

Sources:
Hydrography (USGS)
Wetlands (USFWS)
Soil Units (USDA)
Floodplains (FEMA)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 30, 2025



AYERSVILLE SUBSTATION EXPANSION
& 138KV TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD

Figure 2: Environmental Basemap

FirstEnergy

wsp

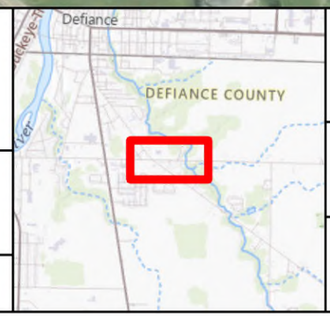
0 100 200 400 Feet

- Proposed Structure
- Environmental Survey Corridor
- Delineated Stream
- Delineated Wetland
- Culvert
- Wetland Data Point
- Upland Data Point

Sources:
Imagery (ESRI 2024)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 30, 2025



AYERSVILLE SUBSTATION EXPANSION
& 138KV TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD

Figure 3: Delineated Features

FirstEnergy

wsp

N

0 95 190 380 Feet

APPENDIX

B USACE DETERMINATION DATA FORMS

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Northcentral and Northeast Region
See ERDC/EL TR-12-1; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp: 11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Ayersville - Weston City/County: Defiance, Defiance Sampling Date: 4-10-2025

Applicant/Owner: First Energy State: OH Sampling Point: WDP MA-1

Investigator(s): P.Renner Section, Township, Range:

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope %: 0

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR L Lat: 41.2668 Long: -84.3421 Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Roselms silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ____ No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area**
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	**within a Wetland?** **Yes** X **No** ____
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	If yes, optional Wetland Site ID:

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- X Surface Water (A1)
- X High Water Table (A2)
- X Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ Marl Deposits (B15)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Moss Trim Lines (B16)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- ___ Microtopographic Relief (D4)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes X	No ____	Depth (inches): 4
Water Table Present?	Yes X	No ____	Depth (inches): 0
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes X	No ____	Depth (inches): 0

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: WDP MA-1

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	15	Yes	FACW
2. *Cyperus esculentus*	25	Yes	FACW
3. *Lysimachia nummularia*	10	Yes	FACW
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
	50 =Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
	=Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	50	x 2 =	100
FAC species	0	x 3 =	0
FACU species	0	x 4 =	0
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	50 (A)		100 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 2.00

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

X 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Definitions of Vegetation Strata:

Tree – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

Sapling/shrub – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

Herb – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

Woody vines – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point WDP MA-1

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-18	10YR 4/2	95	10YR 4/6	5	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Prominent redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Mesic Spodic (A17) **(MLRA 144A, 145, 149B)**
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ High Chroma Sands (S11) (**LRR K, L)**
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)
- ___ Marl (F10) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(MLRA 145)**

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10) (**LRR K, L, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (**MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(outside MLRA 145)**
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Northcentral and Northeast Region
See ERDC/EL TR-12-1; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp: 11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Ayersville - Weston City/County: Defiance, Defiance Sampling Date: 4-10-2025

Applicant/Owner: First Energy State: OH Sampling Point: UDP MA-1

Investigator(s): P.Renner Section, Township, Range:

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope %: 0

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR L Lat: 41.2668 Long: -84.3421 Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Roselms silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ____ No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area**
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	**within a Wetland?** **Yes** ____ **No** X
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	If yes, optional Wetland Site ID:

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ Marl Deposits (B15)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Moss Trim Lines (B16)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- ___ Microtopographic Relief (D4)
- ___ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Water Table Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: UDP MA-1

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Poa pratensis*	65	Yes	FACU
2. *Cyperus esculentus*	5	No	FACW
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
	70 =Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
	=Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 1 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	5	x 2 =	10
FAC species	0	x 3 =	0
FACU species	65	x 4 =	260
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	70 (A)		270 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.86

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

___ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Definitions of Vegetation Strata:

Tree – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

Sapling/shrub – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

Herb – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

Woody vines – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point UDP MA-1

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-18	10YR 5/3	100					Loamy/Clayey	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Mesic Spodic (A17) **(MLRA 144A, 145, 149B)**
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ High Chroma Sands (S11) (**LRR K, L)**
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- ___ Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)
- ___ Marl (F10) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(MLRA 145)**

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10) (**LRR K, L, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (**MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(outside MLRA 145)**
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Northcentral and Northeast Region
See ERDC/EL TR-12-1; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp: 11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Ayersville - Weston City/County: Defiance, Defiance Sampling Date: 4-10-2025

Applicant/Owner: First Energy State: OH Sampling Point: WDP MA-2

Investigator(s): P.Renner Section, Township, Range:

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope %: 0

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR L Lat: 41.2673 Long: -84.3421 Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Roselms silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ____ No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area**
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	**within a Wetland?** **Yes** X **No** ____
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	If yes, optional Wetland Site ID:

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- X Surface Water (A1)
- X High Water Table (A2)
- X Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ Marl Deposits (B15)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Moss Trim Lines (B16)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- ___ Microtopographic Relief (D4)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes X	No ____	Depth (inches): 1
Water Table Present?	Yes X	No ____	Depth (inches): 0
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes X	No ____	Depth (inches): 0

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: WDP MA-2

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	10	Yes	FACW
2. *Cyperus esculentus*	5	Yes	FACW
3. *Lysimachia nummularia*	2	No	FACW
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
	17 =Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
	=Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	17	x 2 =	34
FAC species	0	x 3 =	0
FACU species	0	x 4 =	0
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	17 (A)		34 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 2.00

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

X 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Definitions of Vegetation Strata:

Tree – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

Sapling/shrub – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

Herb – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

Woody vines – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: WDP MA-2

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-18	10YR 4/2	97	10YR 4/6	3	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Prominent redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Mesic Spodic (A17) **(MLRA 144A, 145, 149B)**
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ High Chroma Sands (S11) (**LRR K, L)**
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)
- ___ Marl (F10) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(MLRA 145)**

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10) (**LRR K, L, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (**MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(outside MLRA 145)**
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Northcentral and Northeast Region
See ERDC/EL TR-12-1; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp: 11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Ayersville - Weston City/County: Defiance, Defiance Sampling Date: 4-10-2025

Applicant/Owner: First Energy State: OH Sampling Point: UDP MA-2

Investigator(s): P.Renner Section, Township, Range:

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope %: 0

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR L Lat: 41.2673 Long: -84.3421 Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Roselms silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ____ No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area**
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	**within a Wetland?** **Yes** ____ **No** X
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	If yes, optional Wetland Site ID:

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ Marl Deposits (B15)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Moss Trim Lines (B16)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- ___ Microtopographic Relief (D4)
- ___ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Water Table Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: UDP MA-2

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	5	No	FACW
2. *Poa pratensis*	45	Yes	FACU
3. *Plantago major*	2	No	FACU
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
	52 =Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
	=Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 1 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	5	x 2 =	10
FAC species	0	x 3 =	0
FACU species	47	x 4 =	188
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	52 (A)		198 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.81

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

___ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Definitions of Vegetation Strata:

Tree – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

Sapling/shrub – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

Herb – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

Woody vines – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point UDP MA-2

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-18	10YR 4/4	100					Loamy/Clayey	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Mesic Spodic (A17) **(MLRA 144A, 145, 149B)**
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ High Chroma Sands (S11) (**LRR K, L)**
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- ___ Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)
- ___ Marl (F10) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(MLRA 145)**

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10) (**LRR K, L, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (**MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(outside MLRA 145)**
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Northcentral and Northeast Region
See ERDC/EL TR-12-1; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp: 11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Ayersville - Weston City/County: Defiance, Defiance Sampling Date: 06-04-2025

Applicant/Owner: First Energy State: OH Sampling Point: WDP MA-3a

Investigator(s): J. Witschy, O. Koval Section, Township, Range:

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope %: 0

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR L Lat: 41.16548 Long: -84.20149 Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Sloan silty clay loam, frequently flooded NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ____ No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area**
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	**within a Wetland?** **Yes** X **No** ____
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	If yes, optional Wetland Site ID:

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- X Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ Marl Deposits (B15)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- X Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Moss Trim Lines (B16)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- X Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- X Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- ___ Microtopographic Relief (D4)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Water Table Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes X	No ____	Depth (inches): 2

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: WDP MA-3a

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	=Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	70	Yes	FACW
2. *Carex shortiana*	15	No	FACW
3. *Impatiens capensis*	10	No	FACW
4. *Persicaria hydropiper*	5	No	OBL
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
	100 =Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
	=Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 1 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 1 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	5	x 1 =	5
FACW species	95	x 2 =	190
FAC species	0	x 3 =	0
FACU species	0	x 4 =	0
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	100 (A)		195 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 1.95

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

X 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Definitions of Vegetation Strata:

Tree – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

Sapling/shrub – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

Herb – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

Woody vines – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point WDP MA-3a

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-18	10YR 4/2	85	10YR 4/4	15	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Distinct redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Mesic Spodic (A17) **(MLRA 144A, 145, 149B)**
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ High Chroma Sands (S11) (**LRR K, L)**
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)
- ___ Marl (F10) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(MLRA 145)**

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10) (**LRR K, L, MLRA 149B**)
- ? Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (**MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(outside MLRA 145)**
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Northcentral and Northeast Region
See ERDC/EL TR-12-1; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp: 11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Ayersville - Weston City/County: Defiance, Defiance Sampling Date: 06-04-2025

Applicant/Owner: First Energy State: OH Sampling Point: WDP MA-3b

Investigator(s): J. Witschy, O. Koval Section, Township, Range:

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope %: 0

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR L Lat: 41.16573 Long: -84.20157 Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Sloan silty clay loam, frequently flooded NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ____ No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area**
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	**within a Wetland?** **Yes** X **No** ____
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	If yes, optional Wetland Site ID:

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- X Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ Marl Deposits (B15)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- X Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Moss Trim Lines (B16)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- X Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- X Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- ___ Microtopographic Relief (D4)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Water Table Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes X	No ____	Depth (inches): 2

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: WDP MA-3b

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Aesculus glabra*	12	Yes	FAC
2. *Ulmus rubra*	10	Yes	FAC
3. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	25	Yes	FACW
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	47	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Cornus amomum*	10	Yes	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	10	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	70	Yes	FACW
2. *Carex shortiana*	15	No	FACW
3. *Impatiens capensis*	10	No	FACW
4. *Persicaria hydropiper*	5	No	OBL
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
	100	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
		=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 5 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 5 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	5	x 1 =	5
FACW species	130	x 2 =	260
FAC species	22	x 3 =	66
FACU species	0	x 4 =	0
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	157 (A)		331 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 2.11

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

X 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Definitions of Vegetation Strata:

Tree – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

Sapling/shrub – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

Herb – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

Woody vines – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point WDP MA-3b

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-18	10YR 4/2	85	10YR 4/4	15	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Distinct redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Mesic Spodic (A17) **(MLRA 144A, 145, 149B)**
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ High Chroma Sands (S11) (**LRR K, L)**
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)
- ___ Marl (F10) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(MLRA 145)**

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10) (**LRR K, L, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (**MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(outside MLRA 145)**
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Northcentral and Northeast Region
See ERDC/EL TR-12-1; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp: 11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Ayersville - Weston City/County: Defiance, Defiance Sampling Date: 06-04-2025

Applicant/Owner: First Energy State: OH Sampling Point: UDP MA-3

Investigator(s): J. Witschy, O. Koval Section, Township, Range:

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Slope Local relief (concave, convex, none): Convex Slope %: 18

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR L Lat: 41.16571 Long: -84.20118 Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: St. Clair clay, 18 to 35 percent slopes, severly eroded NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes ____ No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area**
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	**within a Wetland?** **Yes** ____ **No** X
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	If yes, optional Wetland Site ID:

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ Marl Deposits (B15)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Moss Trim Lines (B16)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- ___ Microtopographic Relief (D4)
- ___ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Water Table Present?	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes ____	No X	Depth (inches): ____

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: UDP MA-3

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Aesculus glabra*	10	No	FAC
2. *Quercus rubra*	20	Yes	FACU
3. *Carya glabra*	30	Yes	FACU
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	60	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Lonicera japonica*	20	Yes	FACU
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
	20	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Dipsacus fullonum*	15	Yes	FACU
2. *Glechoma hederacea*	20	Yes	FACU
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
	35	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
		=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 5 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	0	x 2 =	0
FAC species	10	x 3 =	30
FACU species	105	x 4 =	420
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	115 (A)		450 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.91

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

___ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Definitions of Vegetation Strata:

Tree – Woody plants 3 in. (7.6 cm) or more in diameter at breast height (DBH), regardless of height.

Sapling/shrub – Woody plants less than 3 in. DBH and greater than or equal to 3.28 ft (1 m) tall.

Herb – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, regardless of size, and woody plants less than 3.28 ft tall.

Woody vines – All woody vines greater than 3.28 ft in height.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point UDP MA-3

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-18	10YR 4/3	100					Loamy/Clayey	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Mesic Spodic (A17) **(MLRA 144A, 145, 149B)**
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ High Chroma Sands (S11) (**LRR K, L)**
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- ___ Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)
- ___ Marl (F10) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(MLRA 145)**

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10) (**LRR K, L, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (**MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21) **(outside MLRA 145)**
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Remarks:

APPENDIX

C OEPA ORAM FORMS

Site: Ayersville - Weston 69 kV Transmission Line	**Rater(s):** P. Renner	**Date:** 4/10/2025

Wetland MA-1

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

1	1
max 6 pts.	subtotal

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [x] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [ ] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

3	4
max 14 pts.	subtotal

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [ ] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [x] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [x] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

6	10
max 30 pts.	subtotal

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [ ] Recovered (7)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] ditch
- [x] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [x] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [x] filling/grading
- [x] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [ ] other_____

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

3	13
max 20 pts.	subtotal

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [ ] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [ ] Poor to fair (2)
- [x] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [x] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [x] shrub/sapling removal
- [x] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [x] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

13
subtotal this page

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Ayersville - Weston 69 kV Transmission Line	**Rater(s):** P. Renner	**Date:** 4/10/2025

13
subtotal first page

0 (max 10 pts.) | 13 (subtotal)

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

1 (max 20 pts.) | 14 (subtotal)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [1] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [ ] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [ ] Low (1)
- [✔] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [✔] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [0] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [1] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

14

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

Site: Ayersville - Weston 69 kV Transmission Line	**Rater(s):** P. Renner	**Date:** 4/10/2025

Wetland MA-2

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

0	0
max 6 pts.	subtotal

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [ ] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [x] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

3	3
max 14 pts.	subtotal

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [ ] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [x] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [x] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

6	9
max 30 pts.	subtotal

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [ ] Recovered (7)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] ditch
- [x] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [x] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [x] filling/grading
- [x] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [ ] other_____

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

3	12
max 20 pts.	subtotal

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [ ] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [ ] Poor to fair (2)
- [x] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [x] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [x] shrub/sapling removal
- [x] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [x] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

12
subtotal this page

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Ayersville - Weston 69 kV Transmission Line	**Rater(s):** P. Renner	**Date:** 4/10/2025

12
subtotal first page

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

0 (max 10 pts.) | 12 (subtotal)

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

1 (max 20 pts.) | 13 (subtotal)

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [1] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [ ] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [ ] Low (1)
- [✔] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [✔] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [0] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [1] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

13

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

Site: Ayersville - Weston 69 kV Transmission Line	**Rater(s):** J. Witschy	**Date:** 6/4/2025

Wetland MA-3

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

0 (max 6 pts.) | 0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [ ] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [x] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

3 (max 14 pts.) | 3 (subtotal)

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [ ] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [x] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [x] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [ ] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [x] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

5 (max 30 pts.) | 8 (subtotal)

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [x] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [ ] Recovered (7)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] ditch
- [x] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [x] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [x] filling/grading
- [x] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [ ] other_____

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

3 (max 20 pts.) | 11 (subtotal)

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [ ] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [ ] Poor to fair (2)
- [x] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [x] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [x] shrub/sapling removal
- [x] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [x] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

11 (subtotal this page)

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Ayersville - Weston 69 kV Transmission Line	**Rater(s):** J. Witschy	**Date:** 6/4/2025

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subtotal first page

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

0 (max 10 pts.) | 11 (subtotal)

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

-1 (max 20 pts.) | 10 (subtotal)

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [1] Emergent
- [0] Shrub
- [1] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [✔] Low (1)
- [ ] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [✔] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [ ] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [1] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
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low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

10

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

APPENDIX

D OEPA STREAM FORMS

Primary Headwater Habitat Evaluation Form

HHEI Score (sum of metrics 1, 2, 3) : 20

SITE NAME/LOCATION: Ayersville - Weston 69kV Transmission Line

SITE NUMBER: MA-2 RIVER BASIN: Maumee DRAINAGE AREA (mi²): 0.01

LENGTH OF STREAM REACH (ft): 68 LAT.: 41.26810 LONG.: -84.33350 RIVER CODE: RIVER MILE:

DATE: 06/04/25 SCORER: JW COMMENTS: Stream AW-2

NOTE: Complete All Items On This Form - Refer to "Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's PHWH Streams" for Instructions

STREAM CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: ☐ NONE / NATURAL CHANNEL ☐ RECOVERED ☑ RECOVERING ☐ RECENT OR NO RECOVERY

1. SUBSTRATE (Estimate percent of every type of substrate present. Check *ONLY* two predominant substrate *TYPE* boxes (Max of 32). Add total number of significant substrate types found (Max of 8). Final metric score is sum of boxes A & B.

TYPE		PERCENT	TYPE		PERCENT
☐ ☐	BLDR SLABS [16 pts]	0%	☑ ☐	SILT [3 pt]	80%
☐ ☐	BOULDER (>256 mm) [16 pts]	0%	☐ ☐	LEAF PACK/WOODY DEBRIS [3 pts]	5%
☐ ☐	BEDROCK [16 pt]	0%	☐ ☐	FINE DETRITUS [3 pts]	0%
☐ ☐	COBBLE (65-256 mm) [12 pts]	0%	☐ ☐	CLAY or HARDPAN [0 pt]	0%
☐ ☑	GRAVEL (2-64 mm) [9 pts]	15%	☐ ☐	MUCK [0 pts]	0%
☐ ☐	SAND (<2 mm) [6 pts]	0%	☐ ☐	ARTIFICIAL [3 pts]	0%

Total of Percentages of Bldr Slabs, Boulder, Cobble, Bedrock: 0.00% **(A)** 12

Substrate Percentage Check: 100% **(B)** 3

SCORE OF TWO MOST PREDOMINATE SUBSTRATE TYPES: 12 **TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSTRATE TYPES:** 3

HHEI Metric Points

Substrate Max = 40: 15

A + B

2. Maximum Pool Depth ***(Measure the maximum pool depth within the 61 meter (200 ft)*** evaluation reach at the time of evaluation. Avoid plunge pools from road culverts or storm water pipes) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐	> 30 centimeters [20 pts]	☐	> 5 cm - 10 cm [15 pts]
☐	> 22.5 - 30 cm [30 pts]	☐	< 5 cm [5 pts]
☐	> 10 - 22.5 cm [25 pts]	☑	NO WATER OR MOIST CHANNEL [0 pts]

COMMENTS: **MAXIMUM POOL DEPTH (centimeters):** 0

Pool Depth Max = 30: 0

3. BANK FULL WIDTH (Measured as the average of 3-4 measurements) **(Check *ONLY* one box):**

☐	> 4.0 meters (> 13') [30 pts]	☐	> 1.0 m - 1.5 m (> 3' 3" - 4' 8") [15 pts]
☐	> 3.0 m - 4.0 m (> 9' 7" - 13') [25 pts]	☑	≤ 1.0 m (<=3' 3") [5 pts]
☐	> 1.5 m - 3.0 m (> 9' 7" - 4' 8") [20 pts]		

COMMENTS: **AVERAGE BANKFULL WIDTH (meters):** 0.30

Bankfull Width Max=30: 5

This information must also be completed

RIPARIAN ZONE AND FLOODPLAIN QUALITY ☆NOTE: River Left (L) and Right (R) as looking downstream☆

RIPARIAN WIDTH (Per Bank) L R	FLOODPLAIN QUALITY (Most Predominant per Bank) L R	L R
☐ ☐ Wide >10m	☐ ☐ Mature Forest, Wetland	☐ ☐ Conservation Tillage
☐ ☐ Moderate 5-10m	☑ ☑ Immature Forest, Shrub or Old Field	☐ ☐ Urban or Industrial
☐ ☐ Narrow <5m	☐ ☐ Residential, Park, New Field	☐ ☐ Open Pasture, Row Crop
☐ ☐ None	☐ ☐ Fenced Pasture	☐ ☐ Mining or Construction

COMMENTS:

FLOW REGIME *(At Time of Evaluation)* (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐ Stream Flowing
☐ Subsurface flow with isolated pools (Interstitial)
☐ Moist Channel, isolated pools, no flow (Intermittent)
☑ Dry channel, no water (Ephemeral)

COMMENTS:

SINUOSITY (Number of bends per 61 m (200 ft) of channel) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☑ None	☐ 1.0	☐ 2.0	☐ 3.0
☐ 0.5	☐ 1.5	☐ 2.5	☐ >3

STREAM GRADIENT ESTIMATE

☑ Flat (0.5 ft/100 ft) ☐ Flat to Moderate ☐ Moderate (2 ft/100 ft) ☐ Moderate to Severe ☐ Severe (10 ft/100 ft)

APPENDIX

E REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOGRAPHS

AYERSVILLE-WESTON PHASE 5 69 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

PHOTOGRAPH 1

Wetland MA-1 (PEM), facing north on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 2

Wetland MA-1 (PEM), facing south on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 3

Wetland MA-1 (PEM), facing east on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 4

Wetland MA-1 (PEM), facing west on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 5

Upland MA-1, facing north on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 6

Upland MA-1, facing west on 4/10/2025.

AYERSVILLE-WESTON PHASE 5 69 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

PHOTOGRAPH 7

Wetland MA-2 (PEM), facing north on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 8

Wetland MA-2 (PEM), facing south on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 9

Wetland MA-2 (PEM), facing east on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 10

Wetland MA-2 (PEM), facing west on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 11

Upland MA-2, facing north on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 12

Upland MA-2, facing east on 4/10/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 13

Wetland MA-3 (PEM/PFO), facing north on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 14

Wetland MA-3 (PEM/PFO), facing south on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 15

Wetland MA-3 (PEM/PFO), facing east on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 16

Wetland MA-3 (PEM/PFO), facing west on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 17

Upland MA-3, facing east on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 18

Upland MA-3, facing west on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 19

Stream MA-1 (perennial), facing upstream on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 20

Stream MA-1 (perennial), facing downstream on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 21

Stream MA-1 (perennial), substrate on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 22

Stream MA-2 (ephemeral), facing upstream on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 23

Stream MA-2 (ephemeral), facing downstream on 6/4/2025.

PHOTOGRAPH 24

Stream MA-2 (ephemeral), substrate on 6/4/2025.