**AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED**
**A FIRSTENERGY COMPANY,**
**OHIO EDISON COMPANY,**

# CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

# EVERGREEN-HIGHLAND NO.3 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE INTERCONNECTION PROJECT

## OPSB CASE NO.: 25-0914-EL-BNR

**November 25, 2025**

**American Transmission Systems, Incorporated**
**341 White Pond Dr.**
**Akron, Ohio 44320**

**CONSTRUCTION NOTICE**
**EVERGREEN-HIGHLAND NO. 3 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE**
**INTERCONNECT PROJECT**

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 ("Board") as a Construction Notice.

## 4906-6-05: ACCELERATED APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

### 4906-6-05: Name and Reference Number

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of Project: | Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV Transmission Line Interconnection Project |
| Reference Number: | 2022 |

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

American Transmission Systems, Incorporated ("ATSI"), a FirstEnergy company, and the Ohio Edison Company, (OE), (together, the "Companies") propose to construct a 0.2-mile line extension of the existing Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 Transmission Line. The proposed line extension is needed to provide a new 138 kV retail delivery point for Emerald City (the Customer). The construction of the proposed line extension will require the replacement of three (3) existing structures, the addition of four (4) structures, two (2) new SCADA controlled switches, and approximately 1,585 feet of 795 kcmil "Drake" ACSR conductor and 7#8 Alumoweld shield wire.

Existing structure (#10860) will be removed and replaced with one single pole horizontal post structure and one single circuit tubular steel switch pole, (Structure #10860A and #10860B). Structure #10860A will house a new 2000A SCADA operated switch. Existing structure #10861A will be removed and replaced with a new single circuit tubular steel

pole single deadend structure. Existing structure #10862 will be replaced with a new double circuit tubular steel pole single deadend structure.

Thew new radial tap to the customer substation will require the installation of one 138 kV single circuit tubular steel pole single pole deadend structure (#10861C), and one 138 kV single circuit single pole braced post suspension structure (#10861D). There will also be one 138 kV single circuit tubular steel single pole switch structure (#10861E) installed. Structure #10861E will house the new proposed switch A-709.

The Project is located in the city of Warren, Howland and Warren Townships, Trumbull County, Ohio. The general location of the Project is shown in **Exhibit 1**, a partial copy of the United States Geologic Survey, Trumbull County OH, Quad Map. **Exhibit 2** provides a partial copy of ESRI aerial imagery of the Project area. The General Layout is attached as **Exhibit 3.**

**4906-6-05 (B)(1): Construction Notice Requirement**

The Project meets the requirements for a Construction Notice because the Project is within the types of projects defined by Items (1)(d)(i) of the Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines, Appendix A of OAC 4906-101. Item (1)(d)(i) states.

> *(1) New construction, extension, or relocation of single or multiple circuit electric power transmission line(s), or upgrading existing transmission or distribution line(s) for operation at a higher transmission voltage, as follows:*
>
> > *(d) Line(s) primarily needed to attract or meet the requirements of a specific customer or customers, as follows:*
> >
> > > *(i) The line is completely on property owned by the specific customer or the applicant.*

The Project is within the requirements of Item (1)(d)(i) because the proposed line and all work for the project is completely on property owned by the specific customer or the applicant.

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

The Project is needed to support a customer request for a new retail delivery point. The Customer requested the proposed delivery point for electric service for a new production facility. The proposed load addition is approximately 17 MVA. The Project is not part of a larger project/initiative and is solely needed to provide the requested new 138 kV retail delivery point. The proposed Project will consist of tapping the Evergreen-Highland No.3 138 kV Transmission Line, installing two 138 kV switches, adjusting remote end relay settings, and installing a 138 kV revenue meter (collectively the "direct connection facilities"). Both 138 kV switches will be outfitted with Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition ("SCADA"). All new network path components associated with the proposed Project will be sized such that the new equipment will not reduce the present rating of the Evergreen-Highland No.3 138 kV Transmission Line. The Project will be designed in accordance with the FirstEnergy ("FE") "Requirements for Transmission Connected Facilities" document[1] Figure 1B.

The need for the proposed Project was presented at the March 15, 2024, Subregional Regional Transmission Expansion Plan ("RTEP") Committee – Western meeting. The solution for the proposed Project was presented at the April 19, 2024, Subregional RTEP Committee – Western meeting. The proposed project has been assigned PJM supplemental RTEP number s3456.1. The PJM SSRTEP-Western presentation slides are included as **Exhibit 4.**

[1] https://firstenergycorp.com/content/dam/feconnect/files/wholesale/Requirements-for-Transmission-Connected-Facilities.pdf

The implementation of advanced transmission technologies was considered as part of this Project. Two SCADA switches will be installed as part of the Project. SCADA switches offer significant advantages over traditional air switches, primarily due to their enhanced remote control, monitoring, and automation capabilities. SCADA systems allow for real-time data collection and analysis, enabling remote monitoring of multiple devices, troubleshooting problems, and even controlling equipment from anywhere.

**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 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. This map was submitted to the Public Utility Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") in Case No. 25-0504-EL-FOR under Adm.Code 4901:5-5:04 (C)(2)(b). The Project is included on page 46 in the 2025 LTFR. The general location of the Project area is shown in **Exhibits 1 and 2**. The Project layout is shown in **Exhibit 3.**

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

No alternatives were considered for this project because of the specific needs and schedule of the Customer.

**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 Construction Notice, along with other Project information, on FirstEnergy's website: https://www.firstenergycorp.com/about/transmission_projects/ohio.html.

During all phases of this Project, the public may ask questions, submit comments or 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 this Project is expected to begin as early as March 2026, and be completed by June 2026, at which time the Project will be placed in service.

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

**Exhibit 1** provides a partial copy of the USGS Topographic Map, Trumbull County, Ohio, Quad Map. **Exhibit 2** provides a partial copy of ESRI aerial imagery.

### 4906-6-05 (B)(8): Property List

The proposed Project is located wholly within property that was secured by the Customer (parcel numbers 28-903738, 28-901340).

## 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 |
| ROW Width: | 100 ft |
| Conductors: | 795 kcmil “Drake” ACSR |
| Static Wire: | 7#8 Alumoweld |
| Insulators: | Porcelain |
| Structure Type: | **Exhibit 5**: 138 kV single circuit tubular steel single pole switch A-708 structure (structure 10860A) |
| | **Exhibit 6**: 138 kV single circuit tubular steel pole single deadend structure (structure 10861A) |
| | **Exhibit 7**: 138 kV single circuit tubular steel single pole switch A-709 structure (structure 10861E) |
| | **Exhibit 8:** 138 kV double circuit tubular steel pole single deadend structure (structure 10862) |
| | **Exhibit 9: 1**138 kV single circuit LDS pole single pole horizontal post structure (structure 10860B) |

**Exhibit 10:** 138 kV single circuit tubular steel pole single pole deadend structure (structure 10861C)

**Exhibit 11:** 138 kV single circuit LDS single pole braced post suspension structure (structure 10861D)

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

There are zero (0) occupied residences or institutions within 100 feet from the proposed transmission line. No Electric and Magnetic Field ("EMF") calculations are required by this subsection.

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

The estimated cost for the proposed Project is $2,640,000 Although not statutorily required for approval, at the request of OPSB Staff, 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 located in the city of Warren, Howland and Warren Townships, Trumbull County, Ohio. The land use within the vicinity of the proposed Project is industrial use. This project will take place in existing and new ROW that will be solely on the customers' property.

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

There are zero parcels within the Project Area designated as an Agricultural District property, therefore there will be no impact to any agricultural land.

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

As part of the investigation for this Construction Notice, TRC Companies, Inc. ("TRC") requested database information from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) on November 20, 2024, 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. On, December 19, 2024, OHPO replied to the request, attached as **Exhibit 12.**

The OHPO 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, building, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The results of the search indicate that there are no NRHP-listed properties within one (1) -mi of the Study Area.

The OHPO 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 OHPO determinations of eligibility, both of which were recommended under Criterion C. In addition, there are four (4) above-ground historic resources that have not yet been evaluated for NRHP eligibility located within one (1)-mi of the Study Area. The nearest of these is located 0.43 mi northwest of the north-western Study Area extent. Four (4) Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) cemeteries mapped within one (1)-mi of the proposed Project, 0.5, 0.54, 0.74, and 0.94 mi to the north.

There have been four (4) archaeological surveys conducted within one (1)-mi of the Study Area. One (1) archaeological site has been recorded 0.4 mi west of the western extent of the Study Area. The single pre-contact open site has a Late Woodland temporal affiliation based on diagnostics recovered. The site has not been fully excavated or assessed for NRHP eligibility.

The Project Study Area consists of a wooded landscape, existing substation, and former industrial facility. Regional development in the area centers around the City of Warren and its residential suburbs with industrial facilities along Mahoning River. The proposed Project is not expected to have any adverse effects on known historic properties.

SHPO's findings state that there will be no effect on historic resources as a result of the Project. No cultural resource studies are warranted for the Project. No further coordination is required for this project unless the scope of work changes or archaeological remains are discovered during the course of the Project.

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

Coordination with Trumbull County Engineer's Office will be completed to obtain ROW permits necessary for work along and across Warren Avenue/Pine Avenue SE, based on the proposed Project with less than one (1) acre of earth disturbance. If more than one (1) acre of earth disturbance is proposed in the Project scope, then submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI) application to the Ohio EPA will be required for coverage under the general construction stormwater permit (OHC000006), and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be submitted to the Trumbull County Soil and Water Conservation District. Proposed structures within the 100-year floodplain will require coordination with the Trumbull County Floodplain Administrator to confirm exemption as a major utility facility (over 100kV). 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. A list of government agency requirements can be seen in Table 1.

**Table 1. List of Government Agency Requirements**

| Agency | Requirement |
|---|---|
| Ohio EPA | General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction Storm Water Permit OHC000006 |
| Trumbull County Soil and Water Conversation District | SWPPP Review |
| Trumbull County Engineer's Office | ROW Permit(s) |

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

As part of the investigation, ATSI retained TRC to conduct all necessary surveys. TRC requested an Environmental Review of the proposed Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138kV Interconnect Project (Project), totaling 21.50 acres in size, located in the City of Warren, Warren and Howland Townships, in Trumbull County, Ohio. The official request for an Environmental Review of the Project was sent on August 19, 2024, and a response was received on September 17, 2024, attached as **Exhibit 13.**

As part of the Environmental Review, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Office of Real Estate searches the ODNR Division of Wildlife (DOW) Natural Heritage Database in order to research the presence of any endangered, threatened, or rare species within one (1) mile of the Project Study Area. ODNR's response indicated that there are records of the three (3) following state and/or federally listed plants or animals within a one (1) mile radius of the Project Study Area: yellow false indigo (*Baptisia tinctoria*), forked rush (*Juncus dichotomus*), and the muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy*). ODNR noted that of the species listed above, the muskellunge is recorded within or adjacent to the boundaries of the Project Study Area. In addition, the Project is within the range of ten (10) state and/or federally listed animal species. A list of all endangered, threatened, and rare species, as identified by ODNR, within the range of the Project is provided in Table 2.

**Table 2. List of Endangered and Threatened Species within range of Project Study Area**

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Federal Listed Status | State Listed Status | Affected Habitat |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Amphibian** | | | | |
| Eastern hellbender | *Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis* | Species of concern | Endangered | Perennial streams with large flat rocks. |
| **Bird** | | | | |
| Northern harrier | *Circus hudsonius* | N/A | Endangered | Marshes and grasslands. |
| **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** | | | | |
| Northern brook lamprey | *Ichthyomyzon fossor* | N/A | Endangered | Perennial streams. |
| Mountain brook lamprey | *Ichthyomyzon greeleyi* | N/A | Endangered | Perennial streams. |
| **Reptiles** | | | | |
| Eastern massasauga | *Sistrurus catenatus* | Threatened | Endangered | Wet prairies, fens, and other wetlands, as well as drier upland habitat. |
| Spotted turtle | *Clemmys guttata* | N/A | Threatened | Fens, bogs and marshes, wet prairies, meadows, pond edges, wet woods, and the shallow sluggish waters of small streams and ditches. |

Based on the information received from correspondence with ODNR, the Project is within the ranges of the Indiana bat, the northern long-eared bat, the little brown bat, and the tricolored bat. 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 TRC completed for FirstEnergy and submitted to ODNR for concurrence on October 11, 2024. ODNR responded on October 21, 2024, attached as **Exhibit 14,** concurring that no caves, cliffs, or mine openings occur in the Project Study Area; therefore, the Project is not likely to impact hibernating bats. In assessing compliance with NWP General Condition 18, TRC determined that tree clearing is not anticipated within the Project Study Area. However, a mist-net survey was completed by AECOM in June 2024. During the survey, no Indiana bats (Myotis sodalis) or northern long-eared bats (Myotis septentrionalis) were captured/detected, demonstrating probable absence of Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats in the Project Study Area. According to USFWS's response on the submitted Bat Survey Report, tree clearing on the project site at any time of the year is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. Negative Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat summer surveys are valid for five years. Therefore, no tree clearing should occur on the site after March 31, 2029, without further coordination with the USFWS field office.

The Project is within the range of the northern brook lamprey *(Ichthyomyzon fossor*), a state endangered fish, and the mountain brook lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon greeleyi*), a state endangered 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, this Project will not impact these or other aquatic species.

The Project is within the range of the eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), a state endangered and a federally threatened snake species. The eastern massasauga uses a range of habitats including wet prairies, fens, and other wetlands, as well as drier upland habitat. 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.

The Project is within the range of the spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*), a state threatened species. This species prefers fens, bogs and marshes, but also is known to inhabit wet prairies, meadows, pond edges, wet woods, and the shallow sluggish waters of small

streams and ditches. 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.

The Project is within the range of the eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*), a state endangered species and a federal species of concern. This long-lived, entirely aquatic salamander inhabits perennial streams with large flat rocks. Projects that contribute to altered flow regimes (e.g., by increasing areas of impervious surfaces or modifying the floodplain) can also adversely affect hellbender habitat. Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream to provide suitable habitat, this Project will not impact this species.

The Project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), a state endangered bird species. This species prefers marshes and grasslands where they often hunt and nest in loose colonies. Due to the industrial and developed land use, that there is a lack of suitable habitat, and that the species is not likely present within the Project Study Area, no impacts are anticipated to this species.

In addition, TRC submitted a Technical Assistance request to the USFWS on August 19, 2024, to research the presence of any endangered, threatened, rare, or designated species within the Project Study Area. A copy of the USFWS' response, dated September 3, 2024, is included as **Exhibit 15**. The response stated that due to the Project type, size, location, and the proposed 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 the tricolored bat, USFWS does not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat.

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

TRC performed field investigations to identify and delineate wetlands and waterbodies located within the 21.50 acres Project Study Area on August 8 and 9, 2024 and April 2, 2025. Six (6) wetlands and five (5) streams were identified and delineated within the

Project Study Area. A Surface Water Delineation Report for the Project is included as **Exhibit 16.**

The Project Study Area consists of an existing, maintained utility right-of-way (ROW) and substation, forested habitat, and industrial land use. TRC 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 and surrounding industrial and developed land use. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated to any of the listed species detailed in the ODNR correspondence.

The Limits of Disturbance (LOD) will be completely within the Project Study Area and will predominantly include using the existing utility ROW, substation, and developed open space within the industrial land use for access to the existing structures. NWP 57 (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. Nationwide Permit Regional General Conditions were reviewed regarding this Project. This Project is located in the City of Warren, Warren and Howland Townships, Trumbull County, Ohio, which is within the USACE Pittsburgh Regulatory District. All townships in Trumbull County are listed in Appendix 1 to Regional General Condition 5(a) (Endangered Species and Threatened Species) (USACE, 2021), which triggers the need for a Section 404 Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) application to be submitted to the USACE when the proposed Project includes regulated activities within jurisdictional resources. A Section 404 PCN application is being drafted at this time and will be submitted to USACE prior to construction when full impacts are known.

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 National Electrical Safety Code 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 Construction Notice Transmittal and Availability for Public Review**

This Construction Notice application is being provided concurrently with its docketing with the Board to the following officials in the City of Warren, Howland Township, and Warren Township, Trumbull County, Ohio. A copy will also be provided to the Warren-Trumbull County Public Library for public review/reference.

**Trumbull County**

Tony Bernard
Trumbull County Commissioner
Tony.Bernard@co.trumbull.oh.us
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**Warren**

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Mathew Vansuch
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**Warren Township**

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Ryan Yoho
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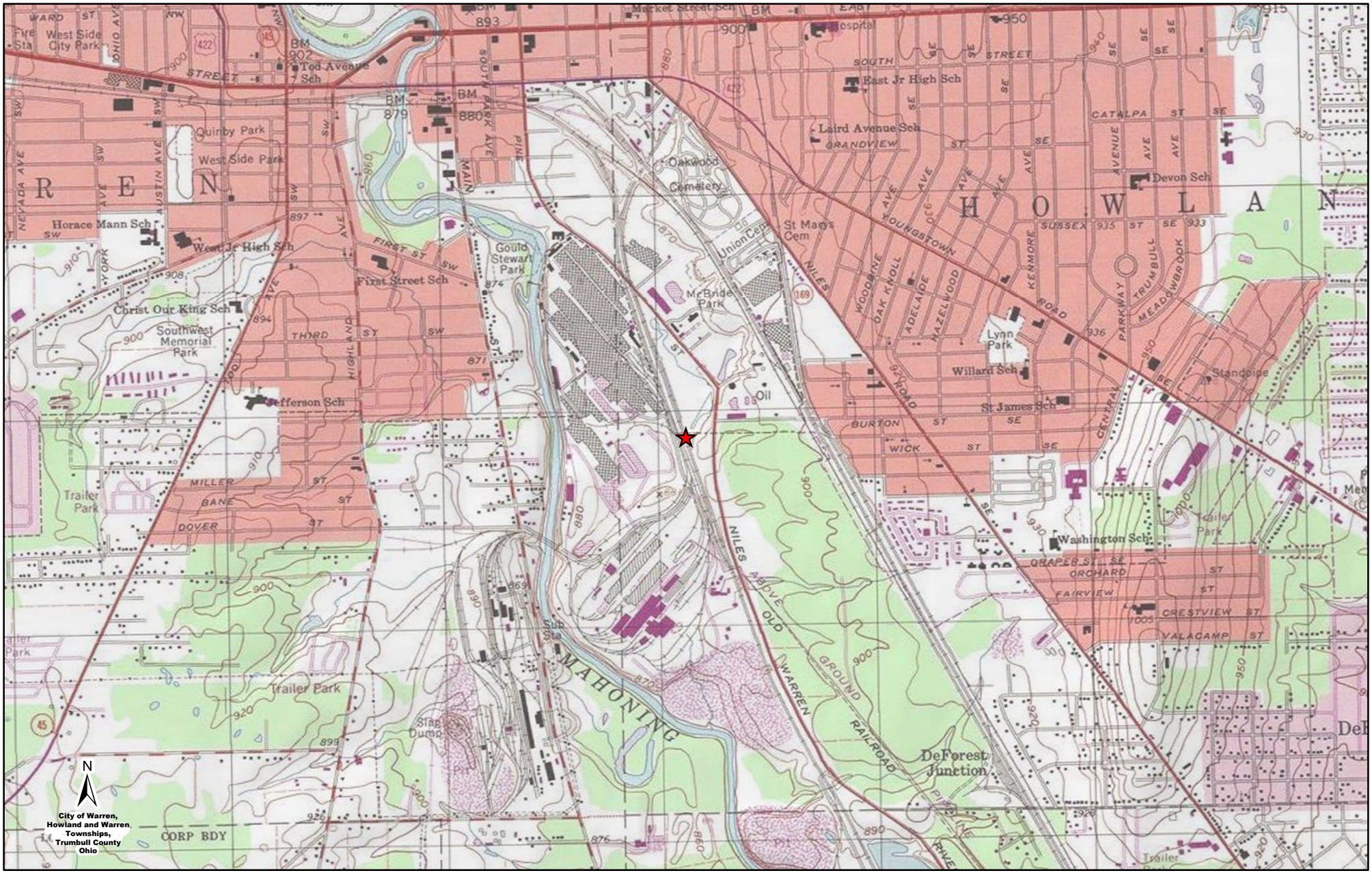
**Library**

Jim Wilkins, Director
Warren-Trumbull County Public Library
444 Mahoning Ave NW
Warren, Ohio 44483
wilkinsj@wtcpl.org

Copies of the transmittal letters to these officials have been included with this application as proof of compliance under Adm.Code 4906-6-07 (B) to provide the Board with proof of notice to local officials as required by Adm.Code 4906-6-07 (A)(1) and to the library per Adm.Code 4906-6-07 (A)(2).

Information is posted at Ohio Transmission Projects on how to request an electronic or paper copy of this Construction Notice application. The link to this website is being provided to meet the requirements of Adm.Code 4906-6-07 (B) and to provide the Board with proof of compliance with the notice requirements in Adm.Code 4906-6-07 (A)(3).




**LEGEND:**

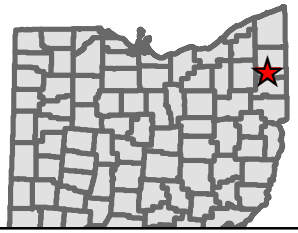
★ Project Area

0 1,000 2,000 4,000

Feet

**Reference:**
USGS Topographical Overlay

**Coordinate System:**
NAD_1983_StatePlane_Ohio_North_FIPS_3401_Feet
WKID: 3734 Authority: EPSG



# EXHIBIT 1

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

**Evergreen-Highland No. 3**
**138 kV Interconnection Project**


**LEGEND:**

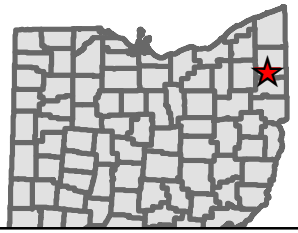
★ Project Area

0 1,000 2,000 4,000

Feet

**Reference:**
USGS Topographical Overlay

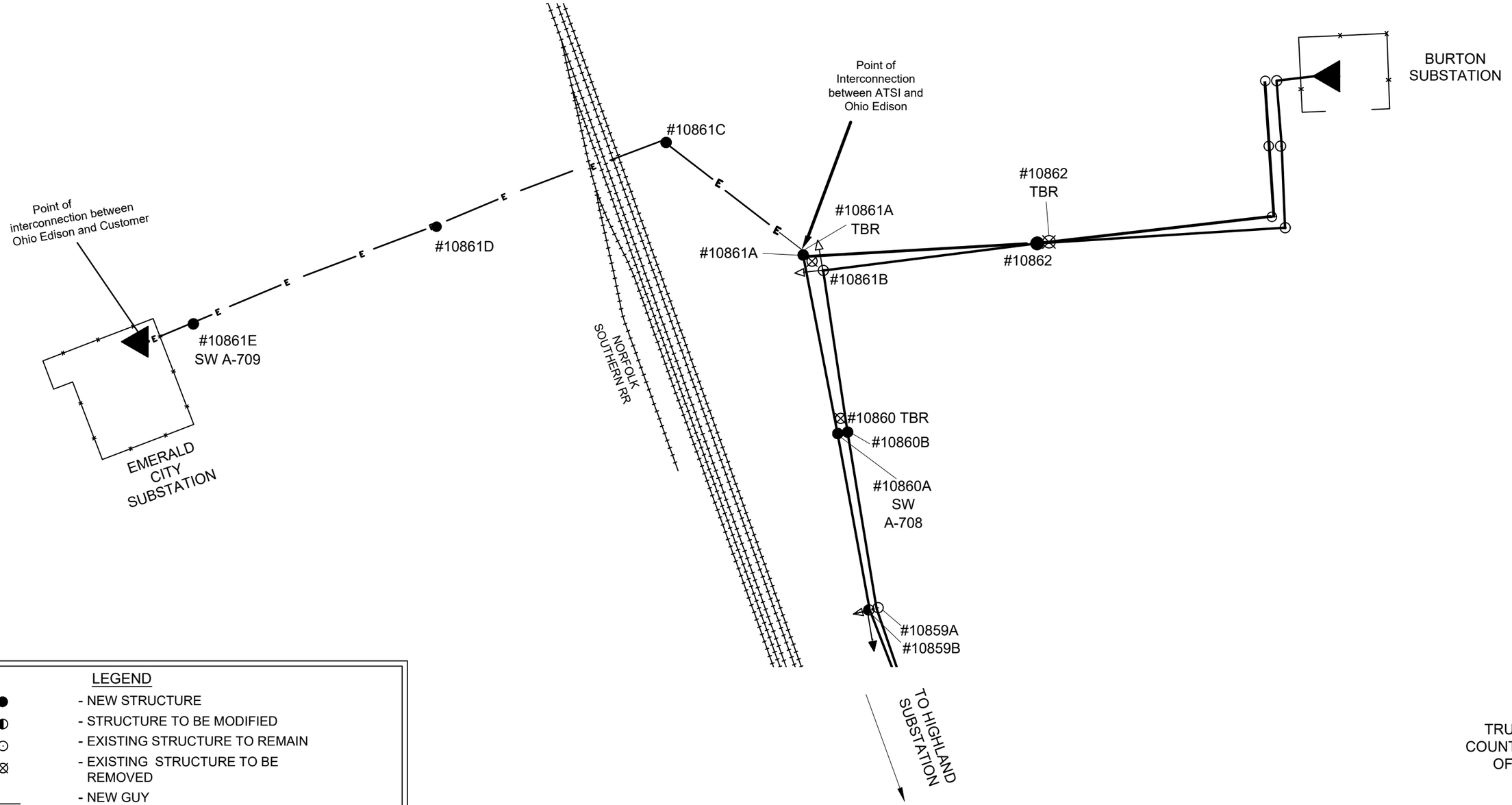
**Coordinate System:**
NAD_1983_StatePlane_Ohio_North_FIPS_3401_Feet
WKID: 3734 Authority: EPSG



# EXHIBIT 2

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

**Evergreen-Highland No. 3**
**138 kV Interconnection Project**




LEGEND

- NEW STRUCTURE
- STRUCTURE TO BE MODIFIED
- EXISTING STRUCTURE TO REMAIN
- EXISTING STRUCTURE TO BE REMOVED
- NEW GUY
- EXISTING GUY
- SUBSTATION
- EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE
- NEW TRANSMISSION LINE
- RAILROAD

PAPER SIZE: 17X11

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

Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV Transmission Line Interconnection Project

General Layout

Exhibit 3

# ATSI Transmission Zone M-3 Process
# Evergreen – Highland No. 3 138 kV Line Customer Connection

**Need Number:** ATSI-2024-030

**Process Stage:** Need Meeting – 03/15/2024

**Supplemental Project Driver(s):**

*Customer Service*

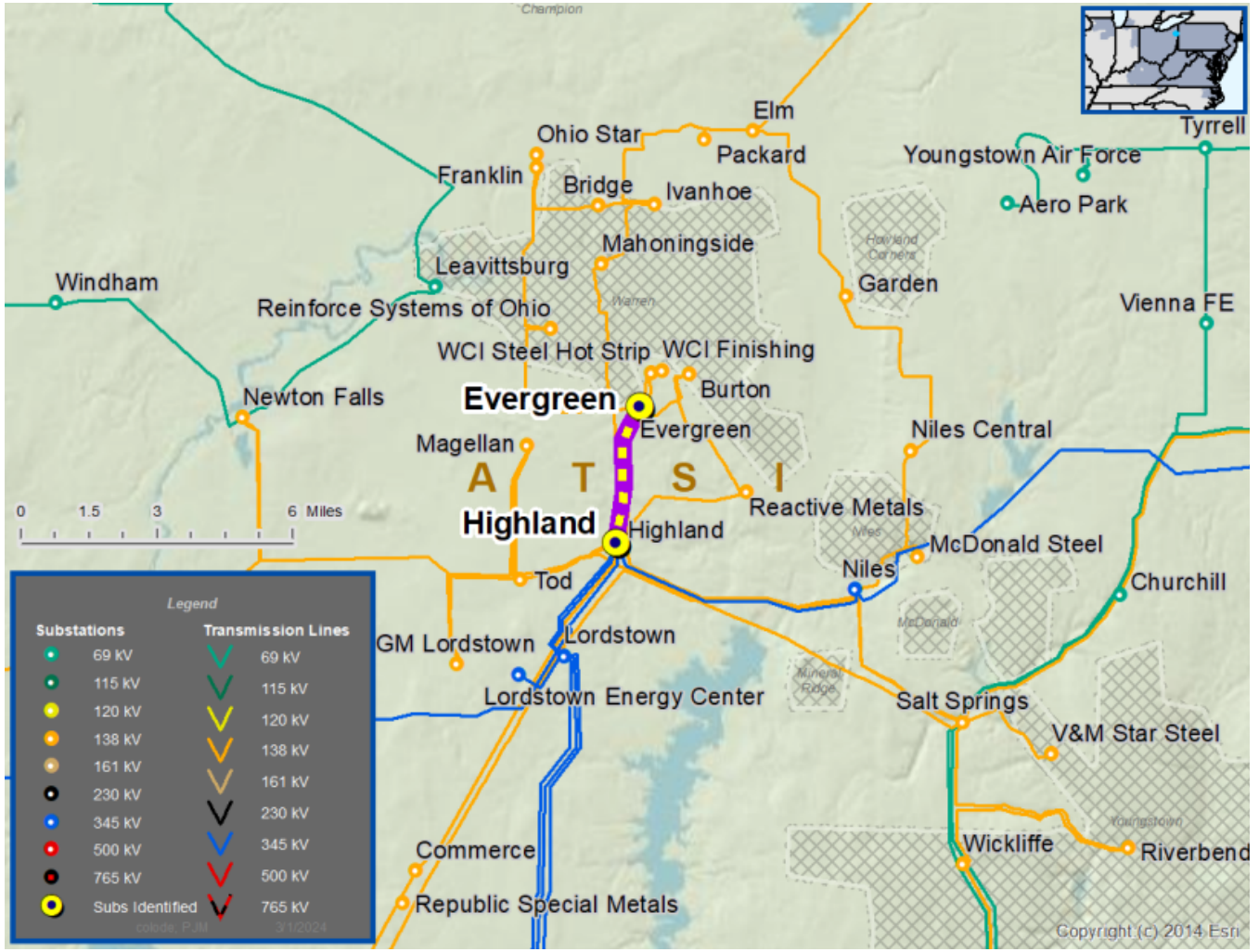
**Specific Assumption Reference(s):**

New customer connection request will be evaluated per FirstEnergy's "Requirements for Transmission Connected Facilities" document and "Transmission Planning Criteria" document.

**Problem Statement**

New Customer Connection – A customer requested 138 kV service for approximately 17 MVA of initial load near the Evergreen – Highland No. 3 138 kV Line. The customer location is approximately 1.1 miles from Evergreen Substation.

Requested in-service date is June 20, 2025.



# ATSI Transmission Zone M-3 Process
# Evergreen – Highland No. 3 138 kV Line Customer Connection

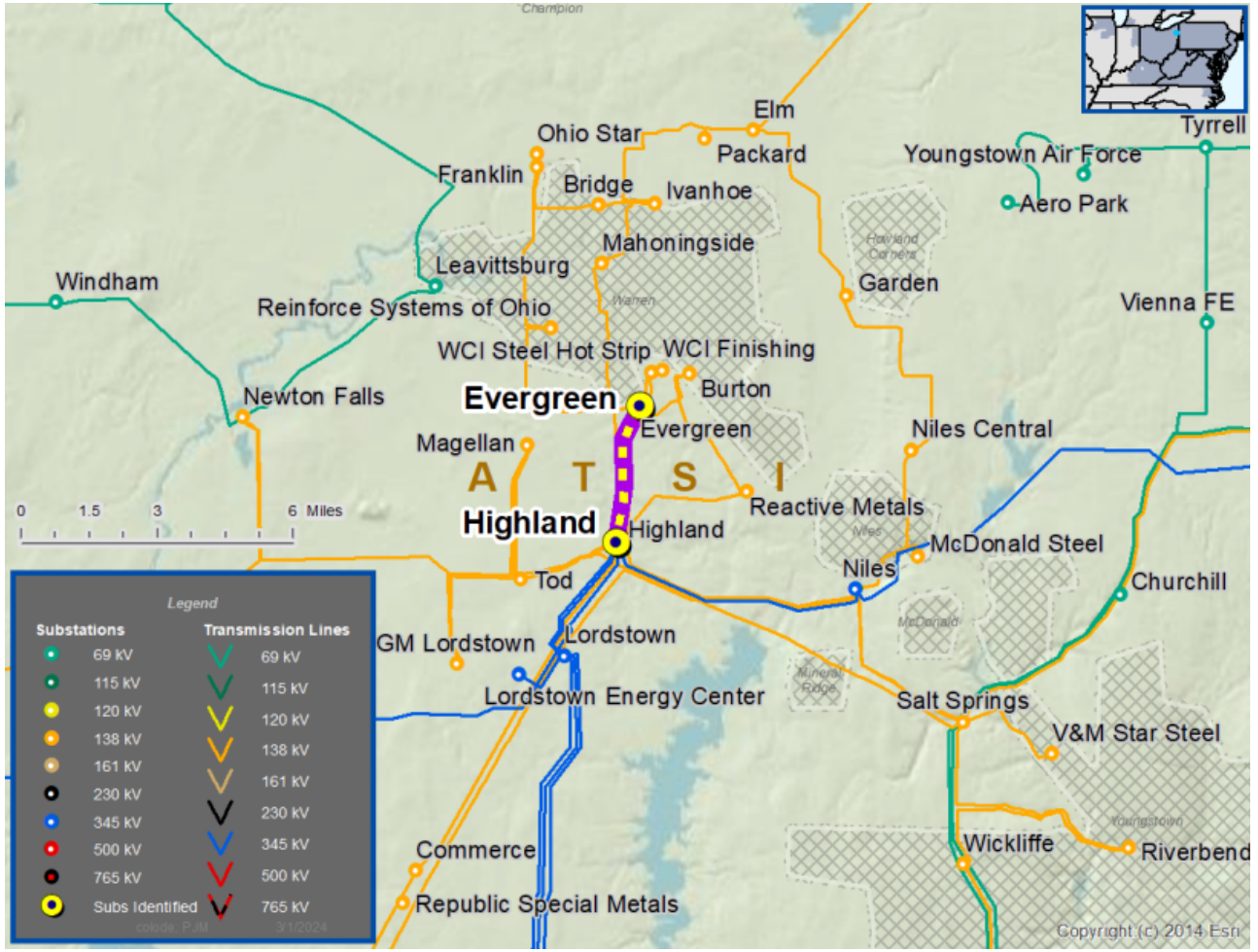
**Need Number:** ATSI-2024-030
**Process Stage:** Solution Meeting – 04/19/2024
**Previously Presented:** Need Meeting – 03/15/2024

**Supplemental Project Driver(s):**
*Customer Service*

**Specific Assumption Reference(s):**
New customer connection request will be evaluated per FirstEnergy's "Requirements for Transmission Connected Facilities" document and "Transmission Planning Criteria" document.

**Problem Statement**
New Customer Connection – A customer requested 138 kV service for approximately 17 MVA of initial load near the Evergreen – Highland No. 3 138 kV Line. The customer location is approximately 1.1 miles from Evergreen Substation.

Requested in-service date is June 20, 2025.



# ATSI Transmission Zone M-3 Process
# Evergreen – Highland No. 3 138 kV Line Customer Connection

**Need Number:** ATSI-2024-030

**Process Stage:** Solution Meeting – 04/19/2024

**Proposed Solution:**

- Install one main-line SCADA controlled switch
- Install one tap-line SCADA controlled switch
- Construct approximately 0.2 miles of 138 kV line to the customer substation
- Revise relay settings at Evergreen and Highland substations

**Alternatives Considered:**

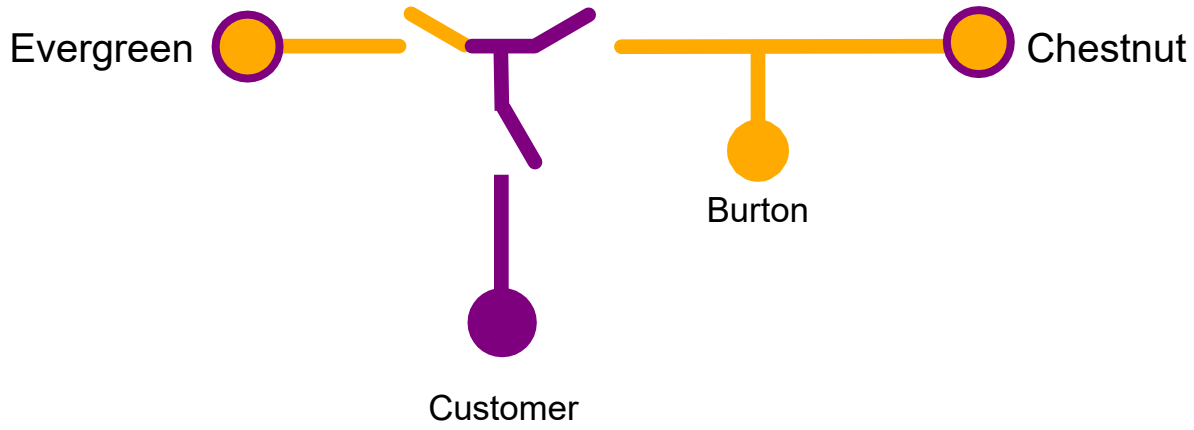
- No feasible alternatives to meet customer's request due to proximity to Evergreen – Highland No. 3 138 kV Line.

**Estimated Project Cost:** $1.40 M

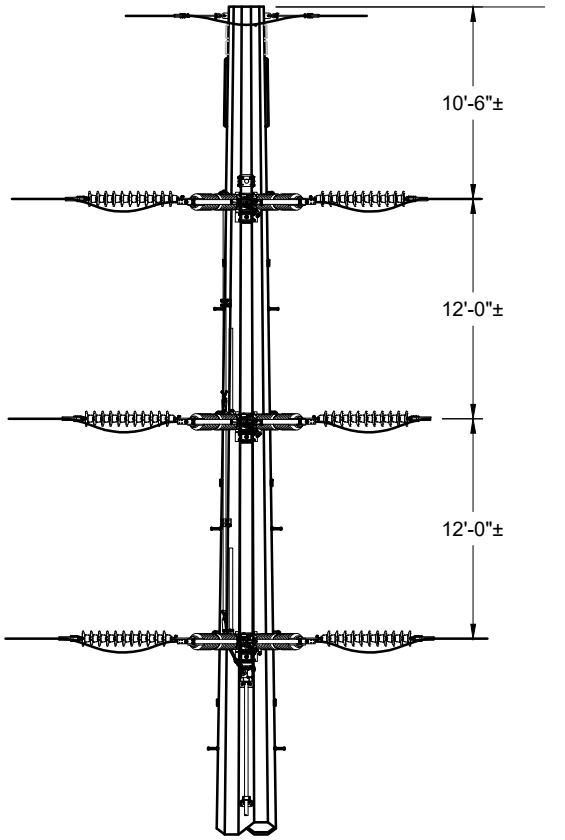
**Projected In-Service Date:** 5/1/2025

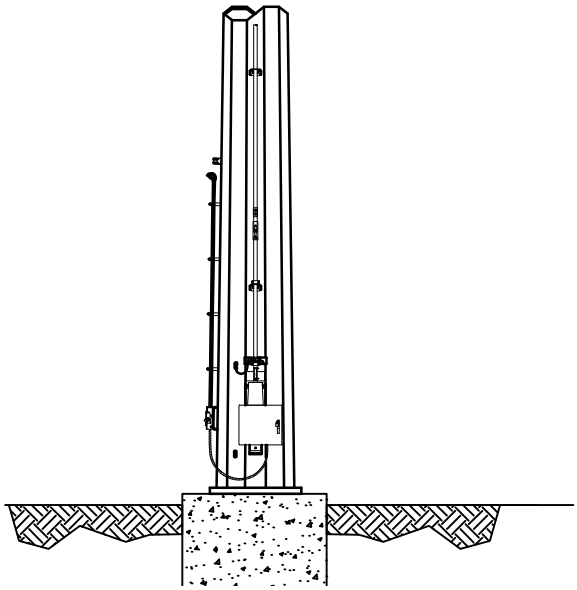
**Status:** Engineering

**Model:** 2023 RTEP model for 2028 Summer (50/50)




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



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

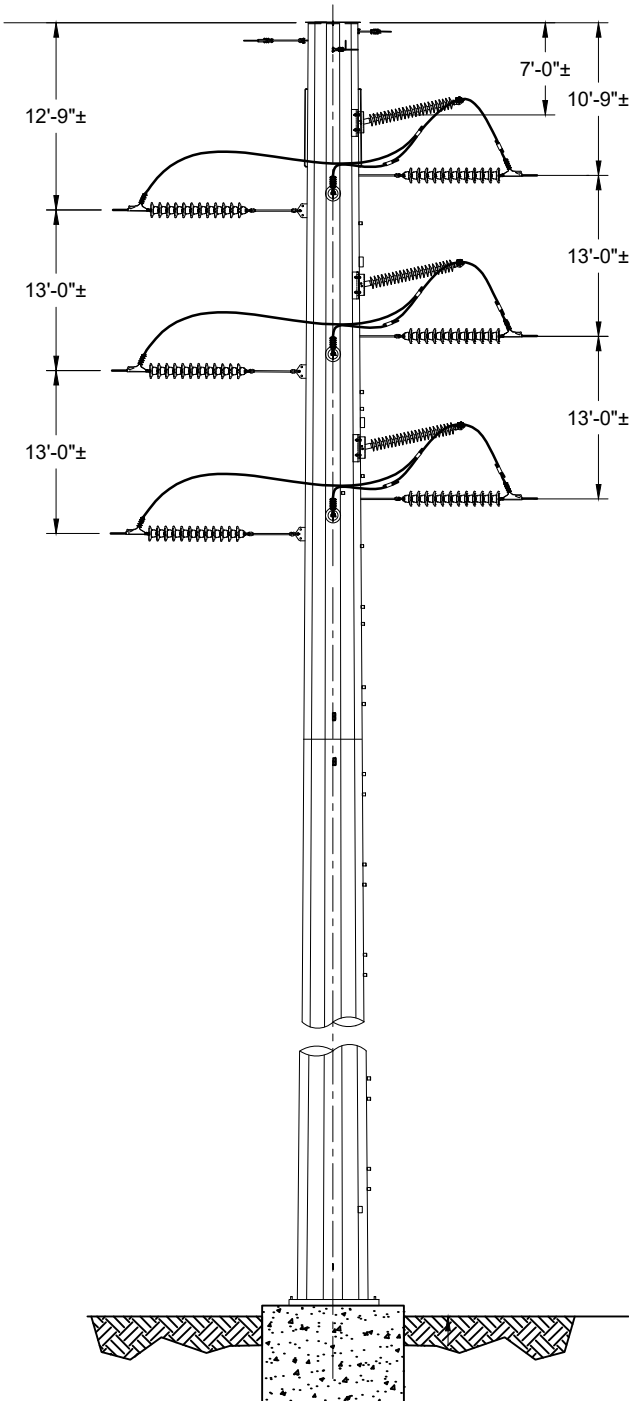
Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV
Transmission Line Interconnection Project

138KV SINGLE CIRCUIT TUBULAR STEEL
SINGLE POLE SWITCH STRUCTURE

Exhibit 5

PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

SCALE: NTS




PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

SCALE: NTS

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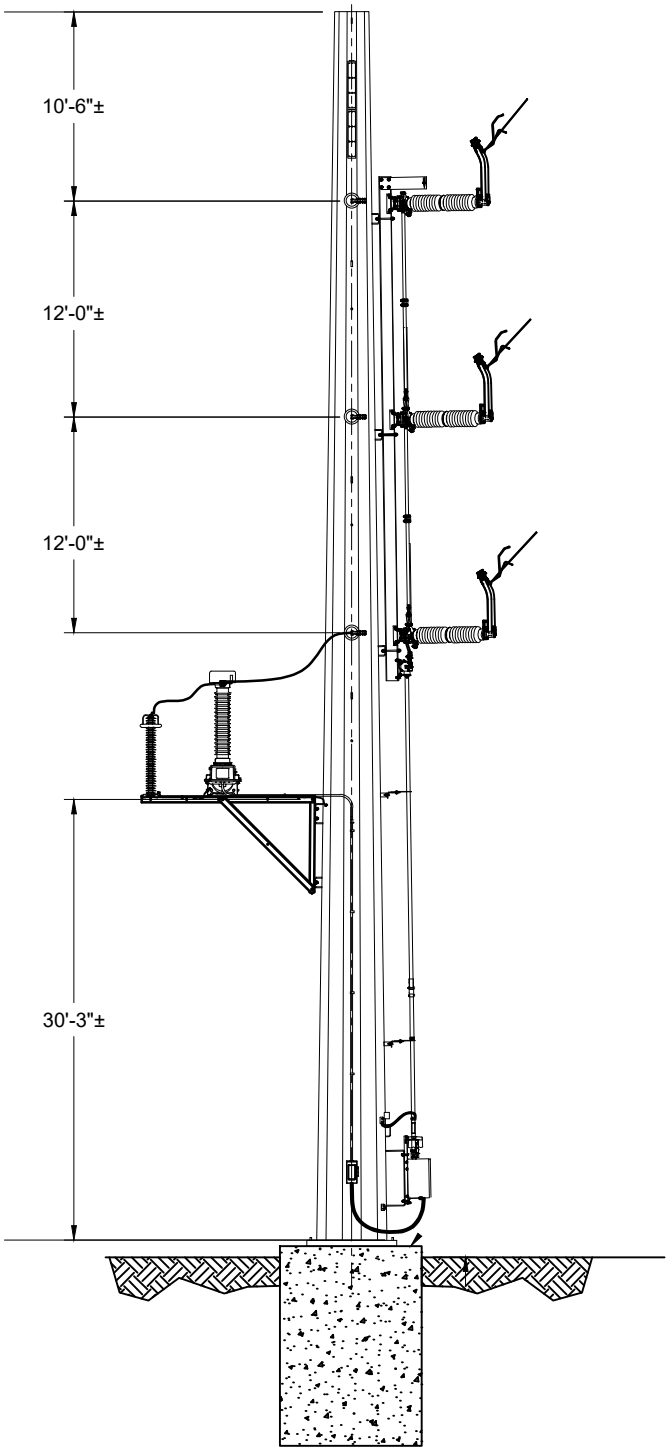
Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV Transmission Line Interconnection Project

138KV SINGLE CIRCUIT TUBULAR STEEL POLE
SINGLE POLE DEADEND STRUCTURE

Exhibit 6




PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

SCALE: NTS

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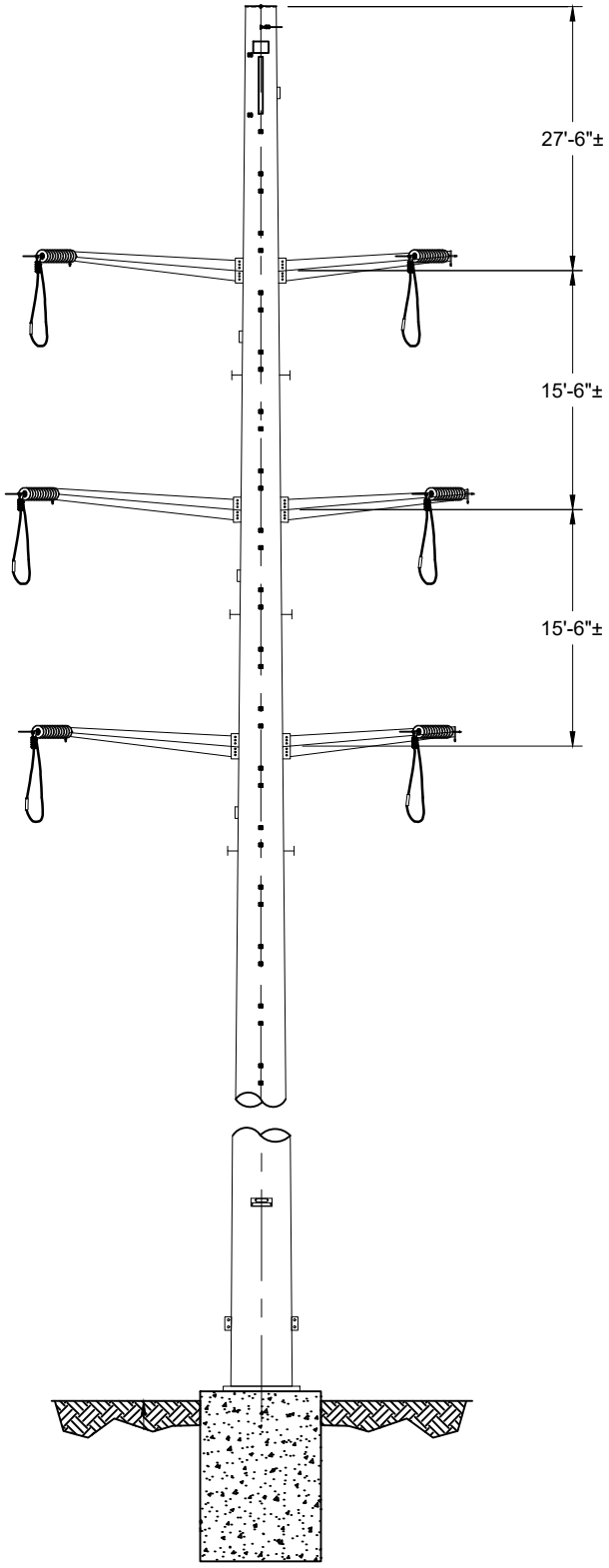
Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV Transmission Line Interconnection Project

138KV SINGLE CIRCUIT TUBULAR STEEL
SINGLE POLE SWITCH A–709 STRUCTURE

Exhibit 7

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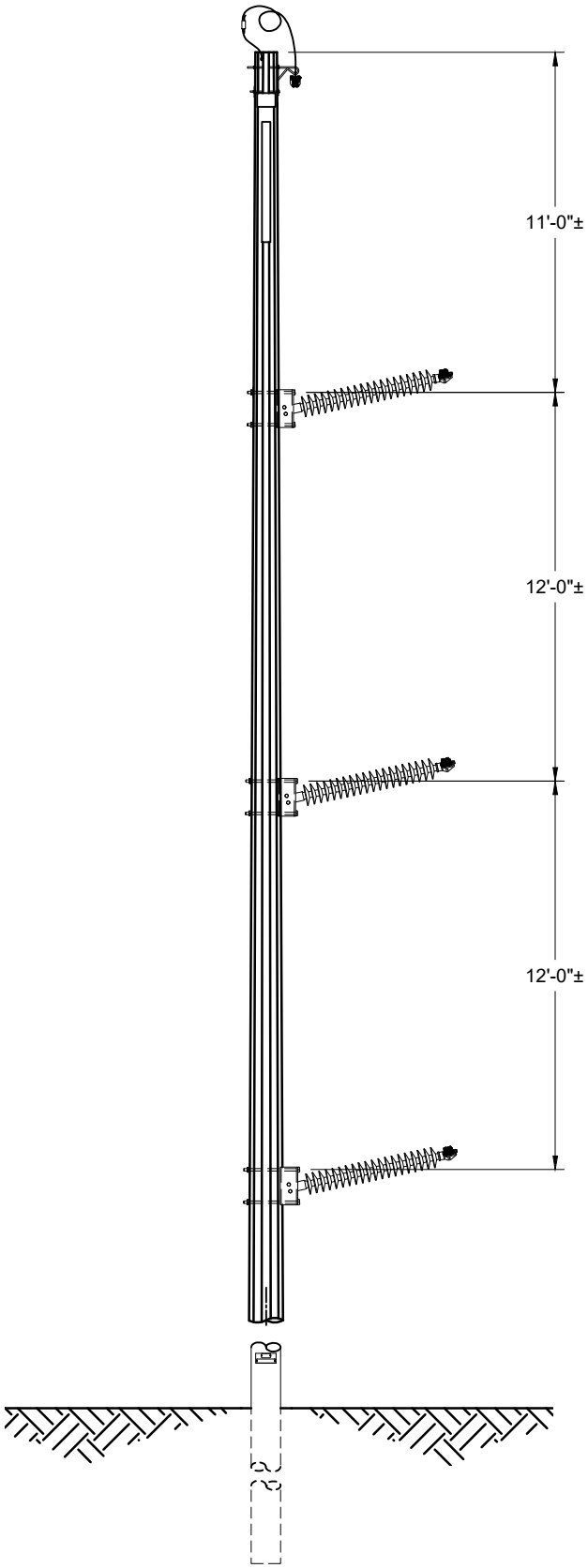
Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV Transmission Line Interconnection Project

138KV DOUBLE CIRCUIT TUBULAR STEEL POLE
SINGLE POLE DEADEND STRUCTURE

Exhibit 8

PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

SCALE: NTS




PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

SCALE: NTS

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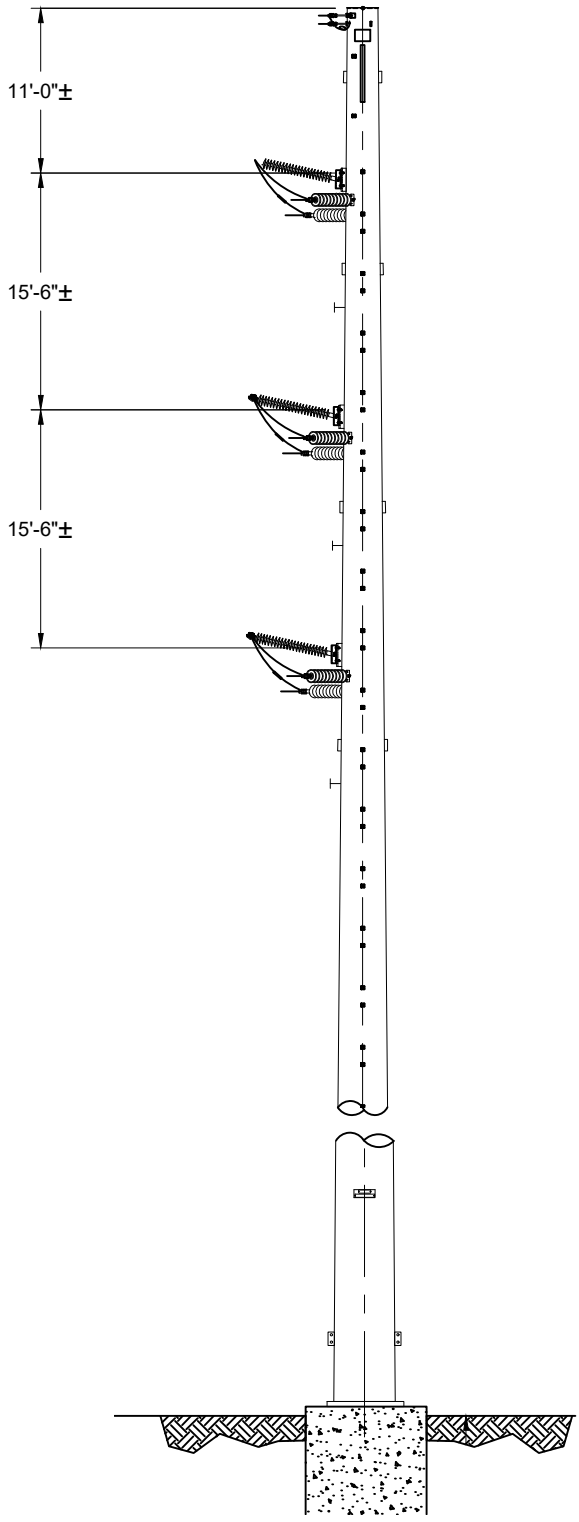
Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV Transmission Line Interconnection Project

138KV SINGLE CIRCUIT LDS POLE
SINGLE POLE HORIZONTAL POST STRUCTURE

Exhibit 9

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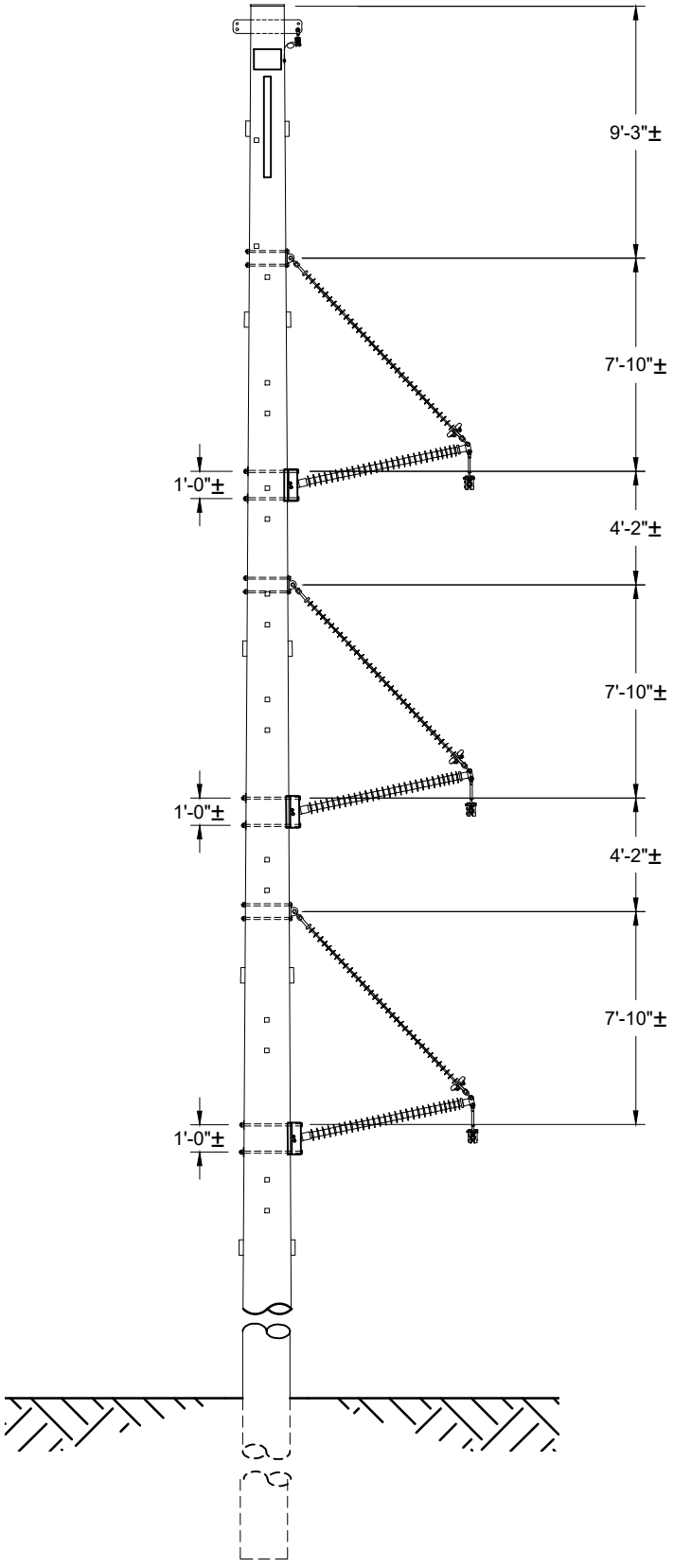
Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV Transmission Line Interconnection Project

138KV SINGLE CIRCUIT TUBULAR STEEL POLE
SINGLE POLE DEADEND STRUCTURE

Exhibit 10

SCALE: NTS

PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

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Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138 kV Transmission Line Interconnection Project

138KV SINGLE CIRCUIT LDS
SINGLE POLE BRACED POST SUSPENSION STRUCTURE

Exhibit 11

PAPER SIZE: 8.5X11

SCALE: NTS

Exhibit 12

In reply refer to:
2024-TRU-63106

December 19, 2024

Justin McKissick, MA, RPA
Project Archaeologist/Field Director
TRC Environmental Corporation
317 E Carson Street, Suite 113
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Email: JMcKissick@trccompanies.com

RE: Section 106 Review: Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138kV Customer Interconnect Project, Trumbull County, Ohio

Dear Mr. McKissick:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received on November 22, 2024, regarding the above reference project in the City of Warren, Warren and Howland Townships, Trumbull 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 (O.R.C.) and the Ohio Power Siting Board rules for siting this project. 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 proposed project involves the construction of the Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138kV tap to the Kimberly-Clark Customer Substation. Based on information submitted by you, which included a Project Summary Form, no historic properties, districts, or archaeological sites are located within the direct Area of Potential Effect (APE), as defined by you. Based on this and the presence of previously industrial development and poorly drained soils, it is our opinion that the APE has a very low potential for significant archaeological deposits. Therefore, it is our opinion that there will be no effect on historic resources as a result of the project. No cultural resource studies are warranted for the project. No further coordination is required for this project unless the scope of work changes or archaeological remains are discovered during the course of the project. In such a situation, this office should be contacted. If you have any questions concerning this review, please contact either myself via email at sbiehl@ohiohistory.org or Ms. Joy Williams at jwilliams@ohiohistory.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Biehl

Stephen M. Biehl, Project Reviews Manager-Archaeology
Resource Protection and Review
State Historic Preservation Office

RPR Serial No. 1105911

Exhibit 13

Department of Natural Resources
ohiodnr.gov

**Mike DeWine,** *Governor*
**Jon Husted,** *Lt. Governor*
**Mary Mertz,** *Director*

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

September 17, 2024

Jenna Slabe
TRC Companies, Inc.
1382 West 9th Street, Suite 400
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

**Re:** 24-1296 - Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138kV Customer Interconnect

**Project:** The proposed project involves the Evergreen-Highland No.3 138kV tap to the Kimberly-Clark Customer Substation.

**Location:** The proposed project is located in Warren, Trumbull 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:** The Natural Heritage Database has the following data within one mile of the project area:

Yellow False Indigo (*Baptisia tinctoria*), P
Forked Rush (*Juncus dichotomus*), E
Muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy*), SC

Conservation status abbreviations are as follows: E = state endangered; T = state threatened; P = state potentially threatened; SC = state species of concern; SI = state special interest; U = state status under review; X = presumed extirpated in Ohio; FE = federally endangered, and FT = federally threatened. The review was performed on the specified project area as well as an additional one-mile radius. Records searched date from 1980. Features searched include locations of rare and endangered plants and animals determined to be of value to the conservation of their species, high quality plant communities, animal breeding assemblages, and outstanding geological features.

Of the species listed above, Muskellunge is recorded within or adjacent to the boundaries of the specified project area. Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving

information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for an 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 northern brook lamprey *(Ichthyomyzon fossor*), a state endangered fish, and the mountain brook lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon greeleyi*), a state endangered 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. Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), a state endangered and a federally threatened snake species. The eastern massasauga uses a range of habitats including wet prairies, fens, and other wetlands, as well as drier upland habitat. 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.

The project is within the range of the spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*), a state threatened species. This species prefers fens, bogs and marshes, but also is known to inhabit wet prairies, meadows, pond edges, wet woods, and the shallow sluggish waters of small streams and ditches. 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.

The project is within the range of the eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*), a state endangered species and a federal species of concern. This long-lived, entirely aquatic salamander inhabits perennial streams with large flat rocks. In-water work in hellbender streams can reduce availability of large cover rocks and can destroy hellbender nests and/or kill adults and juveniles. The contribution of additional sediment to hellbender streams can smother large cover rocks and gravel/cobble substrate (used by juveniles), making them unsuitable for refuge and nesting. Projects that contribute to altered flow regimes (e.g., by increasing areas of impervious surfaces or modifying the floodplain) can also adversely affect hellbender habitat. Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, 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.

The local floodplain administrator should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals for this project.

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 14

**From:** Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov
**To:** Given, Emma
**Cc:** Falkinburg, Brad M (Ruszala, Amy M); Molnar, Maggie
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: 24-1296_TRC - Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138kV Customer Interconnect: Desktop Hibernacula Assessment
**Date:** Monday, October 21, 2024 9:31:34 AM
**Attachments:** image002.png
image004.png
image005.png
image006.png
image007.png
image008.png
image001.png

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Hello Emma,

Per review of the desktop survey provided for the Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138kV Customer Interconnect Project, the Ohio Division of Wildlife concurs with your assessment that no caves, cliffs, or mine openings occur in the project area. Therefore, the project is not likely to impact hibernating bats.

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

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

**From:** Given, Emma <EGiven@trccompanies.com>
**Sent:** Friday, October 11, 2024 10:13 AM
**To:** Wyza, Eileen <Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov>
**Cc:** Falkinburg, Brad <BFalkinburg@trccompanies.com>; Molnar, Maggie <MMolnar@trccompanies.com>
**Subject:** 24-1296_TRC - Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138kV Customer Interconnect: Desktop Hibernacula Assessment

Eileen,

In response to ODNR's DOW recommendations (attached), TRC completed a desktop habitat assessment to determine if potential hibernaculum is present within FirstEnergy's proposed Evergreen-Highland No. 3 138kV Customer Interconnect Project in the City of Warren, Warren Township, and Howland Township in Trumbull County, Ohio.

Please let us know if you have any questions on the provided desktop assessment.

Thank you,

**Emma Given, PhD**
Ecologist
Planning, Permitting, and Licensing

1382 W 9th St, Suite 400, Cleveland, OH 44113
**C** 330.446.0265
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