

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

LETTER OF NOTIFICATION

**BAYSHORE-JEEP No. 2 138 kV TAP
TO CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES SUBSTATION
PROJECT**

OPSB CASE NO.: 18-1394-EL-BLN

November 7, 2018

**American Transmission Systems, Incorporated
76 South Main Street
Akron, Ohio 44308**

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(d): Local, State, and Federal Requirements

There are no known government agency requirements and the filing status at the time of filing.

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

As part of the investigation, a request was submitted to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Division of Wildlife (“ODNR”) to research the presence of any endangered, threatened, or rare species within the Project area. The ODNR response received on August 16, 2018, is attached as Exhibit 11.

As part of the investigation, a request for comments was submitted to the United States Fish and Wildlife Services (“USFWS”). The USFWS’s July 17, 2018 response is attached as Exhibit 12.

Both, ODNR and USFWS, responses indicated the Project is within the range of the federally and state endangered Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*). The USFWS response indicated the Project is within the range of the federally threatened Northern Long-Eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). If tree clearing is deemed necessary to support construction, it will be scheduled between October 1st and March 31st to avoid affecting potential habitat for any federally or state listed bat species. If this schedule cannot be achieved and the clearing of trees outside of this window is deemed necessary, consultation with ODNR and USFWS will be completed prior to clearing.

The ONDR’s response also indicated records of the following aquatic species within one mile of the Project area:

- Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*) - state endangered and federally endangered mussel.
- Rayed Bean (*Villosa fabalis*) - state endangered and federally endangered mussel.
- Pondhorn (*Unio merus tetralasmus*) - state threatened mussel.
- Black Sandshell (*Ligumia recta*) - state threatened mussel.
- Fawnsfoot (*Truncilla donaciformis*) - state threatened mussel.
- Threehorn Wartyback (*Obliquaria reflexa*) - state threatened mussel.

- Western Banded Killfish (*Fundulus diadphanus menona*) - state endangered fish.
- Lake Sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) - state endangered fish.
- Channel Darter (*Percina copelandi*) - state threatened fish.
- American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) - state threatened fish.
- Greater Redhorse (*Moxostoma valenciennesi*) - state threatened fish.
- Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) - state threatened species.
- Spotted Turtle (*Clemmys guttata*) - state threatened species.

The ODNR comments indicate that the Project is not likely to impact these species due to location, and that no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream.

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- Kirtland's Snake (*Setophaga kirtlandii*) - state endangered species.
- Blue-Spotted Salamander (*Ambystoma laterale*) - state endangered species.

The ODNR comments indicate that this Project is not likely to impact these species due to location, the type of habitat at the Project site and surrounding area, and the type of work proposed,

The ODNR's response also indicated that the Project Area is within the range of the Kirtland's Warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*), a state endangered and federally endangered bird. This species migrates through Ohio in the spring and fall, approximately half of all observations in Ohio have occurred within 3 miles of the Lake Erie shoreline. If clearing of suitable habitat cannot be avoided, to preclude adverse effects to Kirtland's warblers, clearing within 3 miles of the Lake Erie shoreline should be avoided from April 22nd to June 1st, and from August 15th to October 15th. Access roads to the Project Area will be constructed after October 15th and before April 22nd, therefore no impact to this species is anticipated.

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- Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) - state endangered bird.
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ATSI will complete any necessary tree clearing between October 1 and March 31 to avoid potential bat habitat, as suggested by the ODNR and the USFWS. If clearing is needed outside of this time period, ATSI will consult with the ODNR and USFWS prior to clearing.

The USFWS's response also indicated that there are no federal wilderness areas, wildlife refuges or designated critical habitat within the vicinity of the project area.

The USFWS's response also indicated that based on the Project type, size and location, they do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed or candidate species.

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

As part of its investigation, requests were submitted to the ONDR and USFWS in June 2018 to research the presence of any unique ecological sites, geological features, animal

assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, nature preserves, parks or forest, national wildlife refuges, or other protected natural areas within one mile of the Project area. The ODNR's August 16, 2018 response, attached as Exhibit 11, indicated that there is no record of any areas of ecological concern within one (1) mile of the proposed Project area. The USFWS's response on July 16, 2018, attached as Exhibit 12, indicated that there are no records of any areas of ecological concern within one (1) mile of the proposed Project area.

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

Construction and operation of the proposed Project will be in accordance with the requirements specified in the latest revision of the National Electric Safety Code as adopted by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (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 to the following officials in the City of Toledo and Lucas County Ohio.

Lucas County

Commissioner Pete Gerken, President
Lucas County Commissioners
1 Government Center, Suite 800
Toledo, OH 43604

Commissioner Tina Skeldon-Wozniak
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Copies of the transmittal letters to these officials have been included with this Letter of Notification application to the OPSB and are being provided to meet the requirement of OAC Rule 4906-6-07 (B) as proof of compliance with the notice requirement to local officials in OAC Rule 4906-6-07 (A)(1) and to libraries at OAC Rule 4906-6-07 (A)(2). Information is posted on 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 the website is being provided to meet the requirement of OAC 4906-6-07 (B) and to provide the OPSB with proof of compliance with the notice requirements in OAC Rule 4906-6-07 (A)(3).

4609-6-05 (B)(6): Construction Schedule

Construction on this Project is expected to begin as early as March 1, 2019 and be completed by August 1, 2019.

4609-6-05 (B)(7): Area Map

Exhibits 1 and 2 depict the general location of the Project. Exhibit 1 provides a partial copy of the United States Geologic Survey, Lucas County, OH Quad Map. Exhibit 2 provides a partial copy of ESRI aerial imagery.

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

The Project is located on new and existing right-of-way. The property information for this Project is listed below and was obtained through the Lucas County Auditor's website.

Table 1. List of Affected Property Owners

Parcel Number	Property Owner	Property Address	Easement Status
1899149	CSX Transportation Inc.	City of Toledo, Lucas County OH 43605	Previously Obtained
1879904	Toledo Edison Company	3210 Tiffin Avenue, Toledo OH 43605	Owned in Fee
0806891 0806951	Toledo Lucas County Port Authority	405 Millard Avenue, Toledo OH 43605	Previously Obtained
0806911	Chambers Marvin	401 Millard Avenue, Toledo OH 43605	Will be Obtained

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

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

The transmission line construction will have the following characteristics:

Voltage: 138 kV

Conductors: 954 kcmil 45/7 ACSR

Static Wire: 7#8 Alumoweld

Insulators: 138 kV Polymer J11/138 Post
138 kV Polymer J3/21 Strain

ROW Width: 60 feet

Structure Types: Single Circuit Switch Wood Pole Structure (Exhibit 4)
Single Circuit Slack Span Strain Wood Pole Structure (Exhibit 5)
Single Circuit In-Line Strain with Wave Trap Wood Pole Structure (Exhibit 6)
Single Circuit Light Angle Wood Pole Structure (Exhibit 7)
Single Circuit Deadend Wood Pole Structure (Exhibit 8)
Single Circuit Tangent Wood Pole Structure (Exhibit 9)

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

The closest occupied residence or institution is approximately 160 feet from the transmission line centerline. As this distance is greater than the 100 feet, Electric and Magnetic Field (“EMF”) calculations have not been estimated.

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

The estimated capital cost for the proposed Project is approximately \$694,000 and will be paid by ATSI.

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 Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Based on the US Bureau of Census estimates the 2010 population of the City of Toledo was 287,208. The 2010 population of Lucas County was 441,815.

The Project area is zoned industrial. As the proposed Project corridor will mostly follow the Tiffin Street road limits, no significant changes or impacts to the current land use is anticipated.

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

Agricultural land use does not exist within the Project limits.

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

A search of Ohio Historic Preservation Office's ("OHPO") National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP") online database was conducted to identify the existence of any significant archaeological or cultural resource sites within 0.5 miles of the Project area. A map of the results of the search is shown in Exhibit 10. The OHPO database includes all Ohio listings on the NRHP, including districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. The results of the search indicate that there are no Listed NRHP properties and no OHPO eligible properties identified within 0.5 miles of the Project's potential disturbance area. The OHPO database also includes listing of the Ohio Archaeological Inventory ("OAI"), the Ohio Historic Inventory ("OHI"), previous cultural resource surveys, and the Ohio Genealogical Society ("OGS") cemetery inventory. Two (2) OAI listed archeological resources have been previously inventoried within 0.5 miles of the Project area and are shown in Table 2. Nine (9) OHI listed structural resources are located within 0.5 miles of the Project area and are shown in Table 3. Two (2) previous archaeological resource surveys were conducted within 0.5 miles of the Project area. The previous cultural resources surveys are identified in Table 4.

Table 2. List of OAI Listed Archeological Resources

OAI Number	Affiliation	Description	County	Quad Name
LU0629	Prehistoric	Unknown	Lucas	City of Toledo
LU0662	Prehistoric	Unknown	Lucas	City of Toledo

Table 3. List of OHI Listed Structural Resources

OHI Number	Present Name	Historic Use	County	Municipality
LUC0334210	Culvert Walls	Water Related	Lucas	City of Toledo
LUC0188410	Harborside	Warehouse	Lucas	City of Toledo
LUC0188510	N/A	Sewage Treatment Plant	Lucas	City of Toledo
LUC0226410	Turntable Car Shop	Rail Related	Lucas	City of Toledo
LUC0226510	Diesel Fueling Station	Rail Related	Lucas	City of Toledo
LUC0226610	Railyard Office Bldg.	Rail Related	Lucas	City of Toledo
LUC0226710	Ice House	Rail Related	Lucas	City of Toledo
LUC0226810	Office & Maintenance Shed	Rail Related	Lucas	City of Toledo
LUC0226910	N/A	Rail Related	Lucas	City of Toledo

Table 4. Previous Cultural Resource Surveys

Year	Name	County	Municipality
1994	Phase I A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey of the Maumee River Crossing in Lucas and Wood Counties, Ohio (PID # 10718)	Lucas, Ohio	City of Toledo
1997	Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Feasible Alternative Access Improvements Tiffin Avenue Bridge Project, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio.	Lucas, Ohio	City of Toledo

There are no OAI sites located within 0.5 miles of the Project's potential disturbance area.

No OSG cemeteries are located within 0.5 miles of the Project area.

As the proposed Project involves installing eight (8) transmission structures within previously disturbed area, no changes or impacts to archaeological and cultural resources are anticipated.

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(d): Local, State, and Federal Requirements

Table 5 shows the list of government agency requirements and the filing status at the time of filing.

Table 5. List of Government Agency Requirements to be Secured Prior to Construction

Agency	Permit Requirement	Status
Lucas County Soil and Water District	General NPDES Construction Storm Water Permit	Will be Filed

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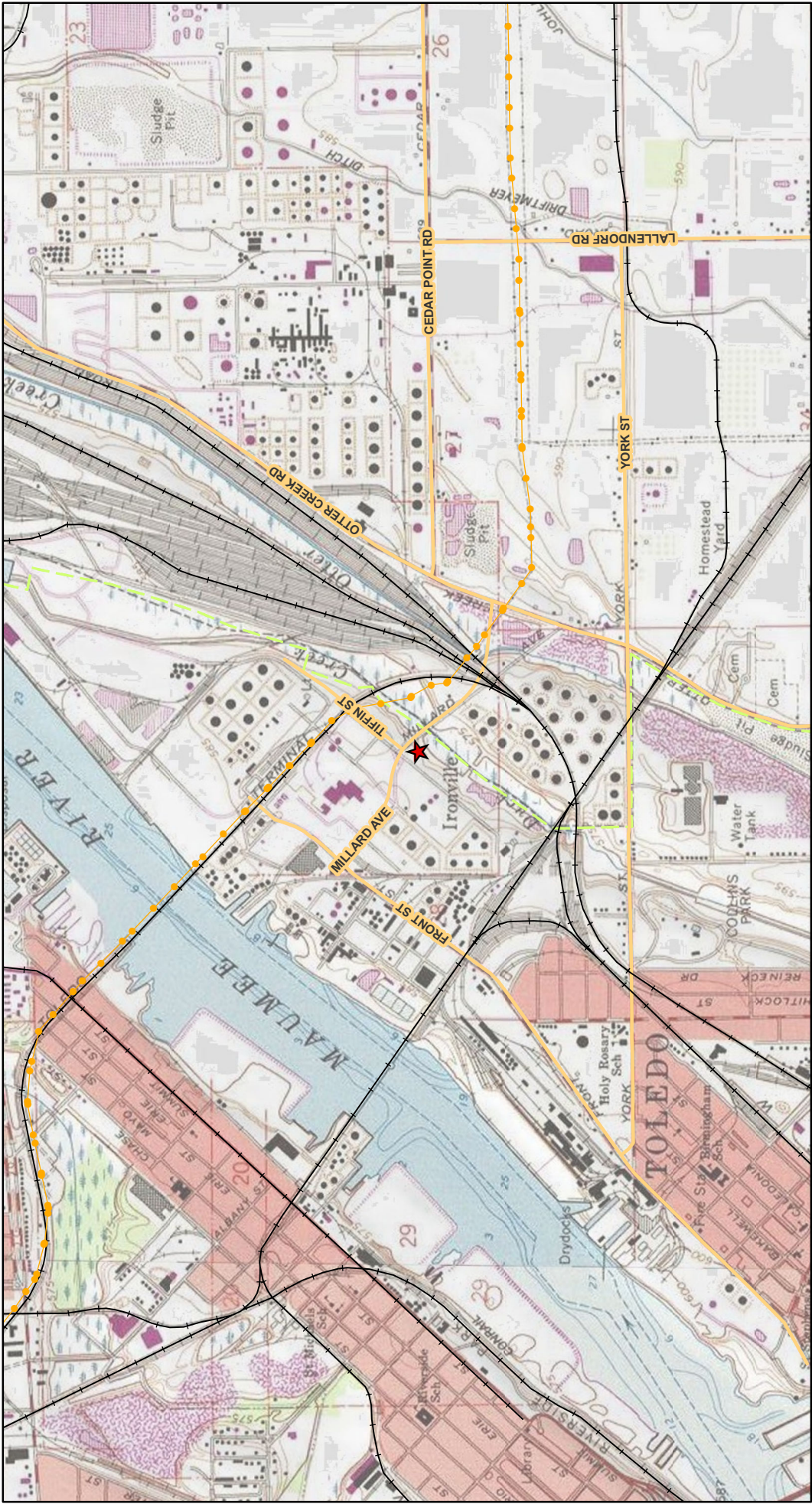
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<h2>EXHIBIT 1</h2> <h3>Bayshore-Jeep #2 138 kV Tap to Cliffs Natural Resources Substation Project</h3>	<p>Location: Municipality: Toledo County: Lucas State: Ohio</p>
<p>0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet</p> <p>1 inch = 2,000 feet</p> <p>N</p> <p>NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio North Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic Linear Unit: US Foot Source: National Geographic Society Scale: 1:24,000</p>	
<p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Project Area— Bayshore-Jeep #2 138 kV— Railroad— Roadway— Municipal Boundary— County Boundary	
<p>Monroe</p> <p>Lucas</p> <p>Wood</p> <p>Ottawa</p> <p>Lake Erie</p> <p>Key Map not to Scale</p>	



EXHIBIT 2

Bayshore-Jeep #2 138 kV Tap to Cliffs Natural Resources Substation Project

Location:

Municipality: Toledo
County: Lucas
State: Ohio

0 1,000 2,000 4,000
Feet

1 inch = 2,000 feet

N

NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio North
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
Linear Unit: US Foot
Source: ESRI Imagery
Scale: 1:24,000

LEGEND

- ★ Project Area
- Bayshore-Jeep #2 138 kV
- Railroad
- Roadway
- - - Municipal Boundary
- ▭ County Boundary

Monroe

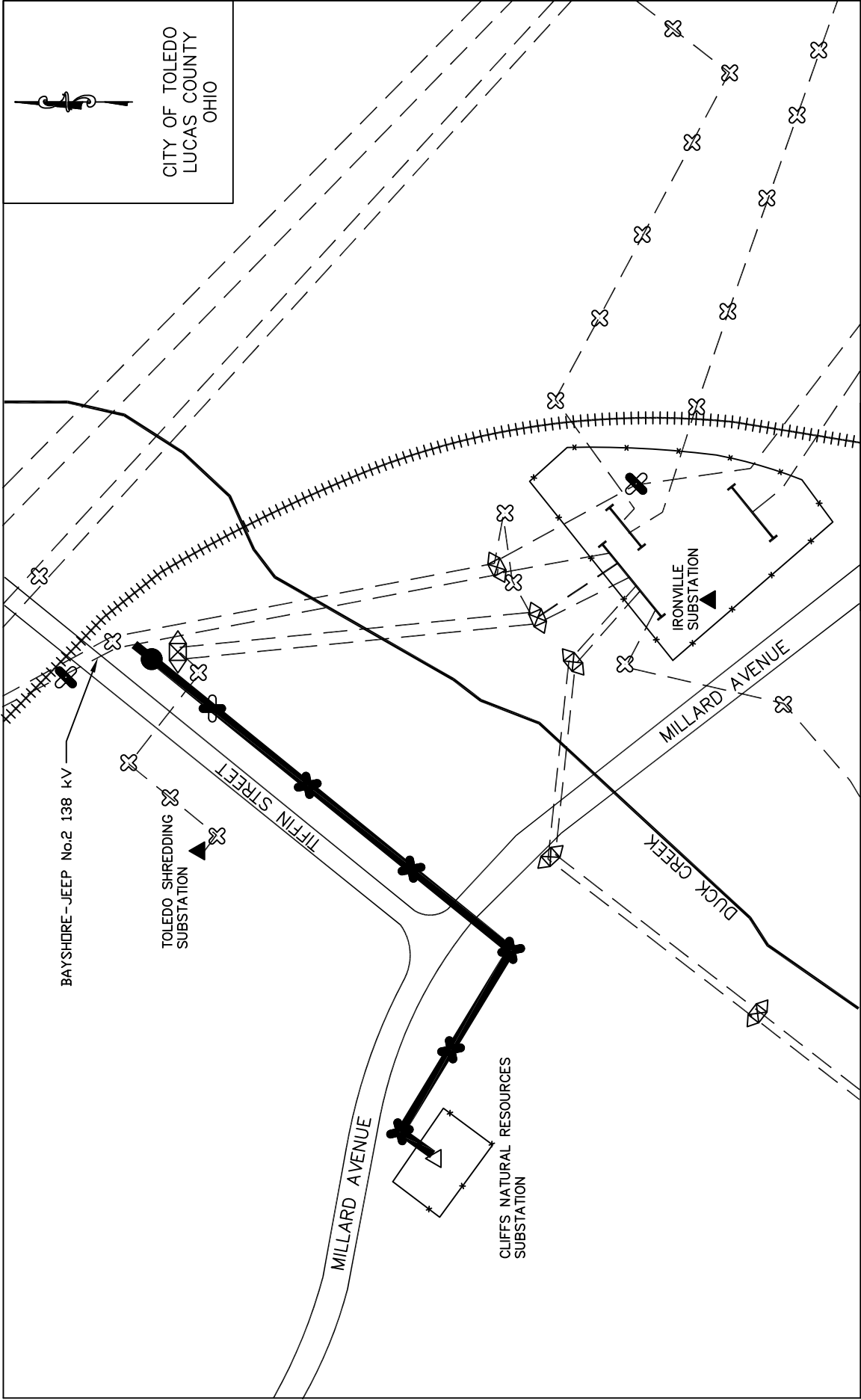
Lucas

Wood

Ottawa

Lake Erie

Key Map not to Scale



CITY OF TOLEDO
LUCAS COUNTY
OHIO

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

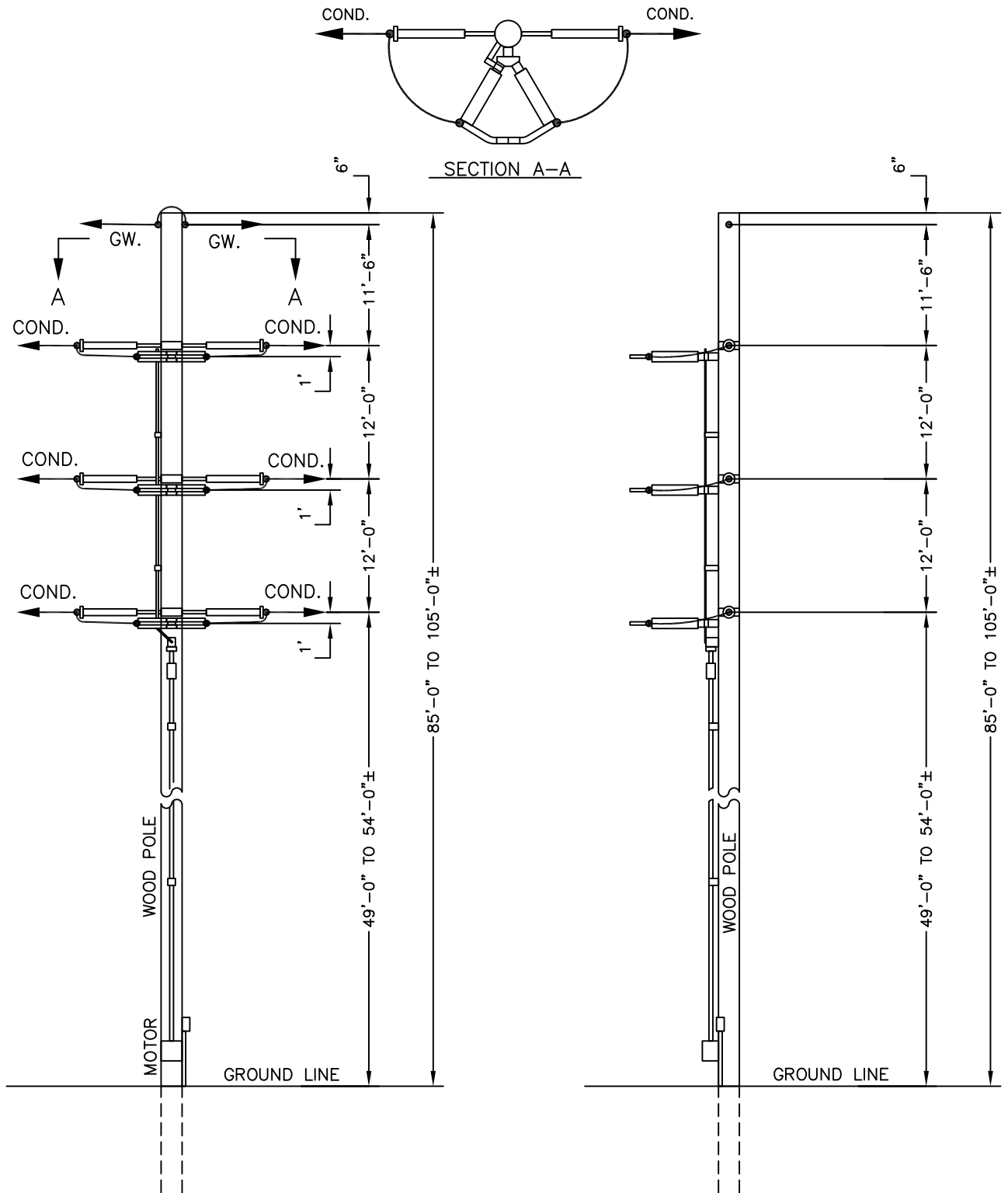
BAYSHORE-JEEP No. 2 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE
TAP TO CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES SUBSTATION
PROJECT

LEGEND

<p> NEW CONDUCTOR</p> <p> NEW SINGLE WOOD POLE STRUCTURE</p> <p> NEW SINGLE STEEL POLE STRUCTURE</p> <p> NEW SINGLE WOOD POLE SWITCH STRUCTURE</p> <p> EXISTING STEEL LATTICE TOWER</p> <p> EXISTING STEEL/WOOD STRUCTURE</p>	<p> EXISTING CONDUCTOR</p> <p> EXISTING ROADS</p> <p> RAILROAD</p> <p> EXISTING SUBSTATION</p> <p> PROPOSED CUSTOMER SUBSTATION</p> <p> SUBSTATION FENCE LINE</p> <p> EXISTING STREAM</p>
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GENERAL LAYOUT

EXHIBIT 3



**NOT TO SCALE

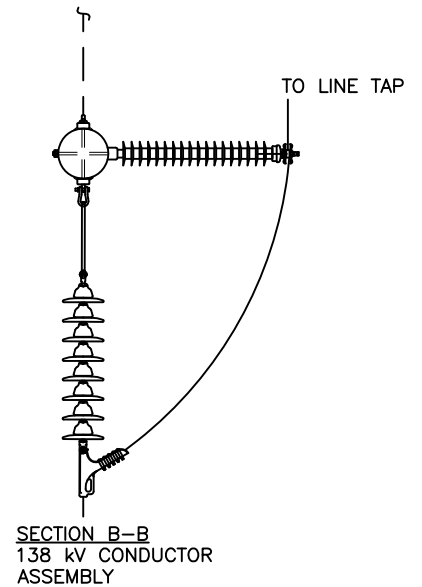
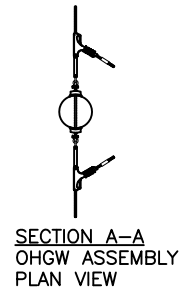
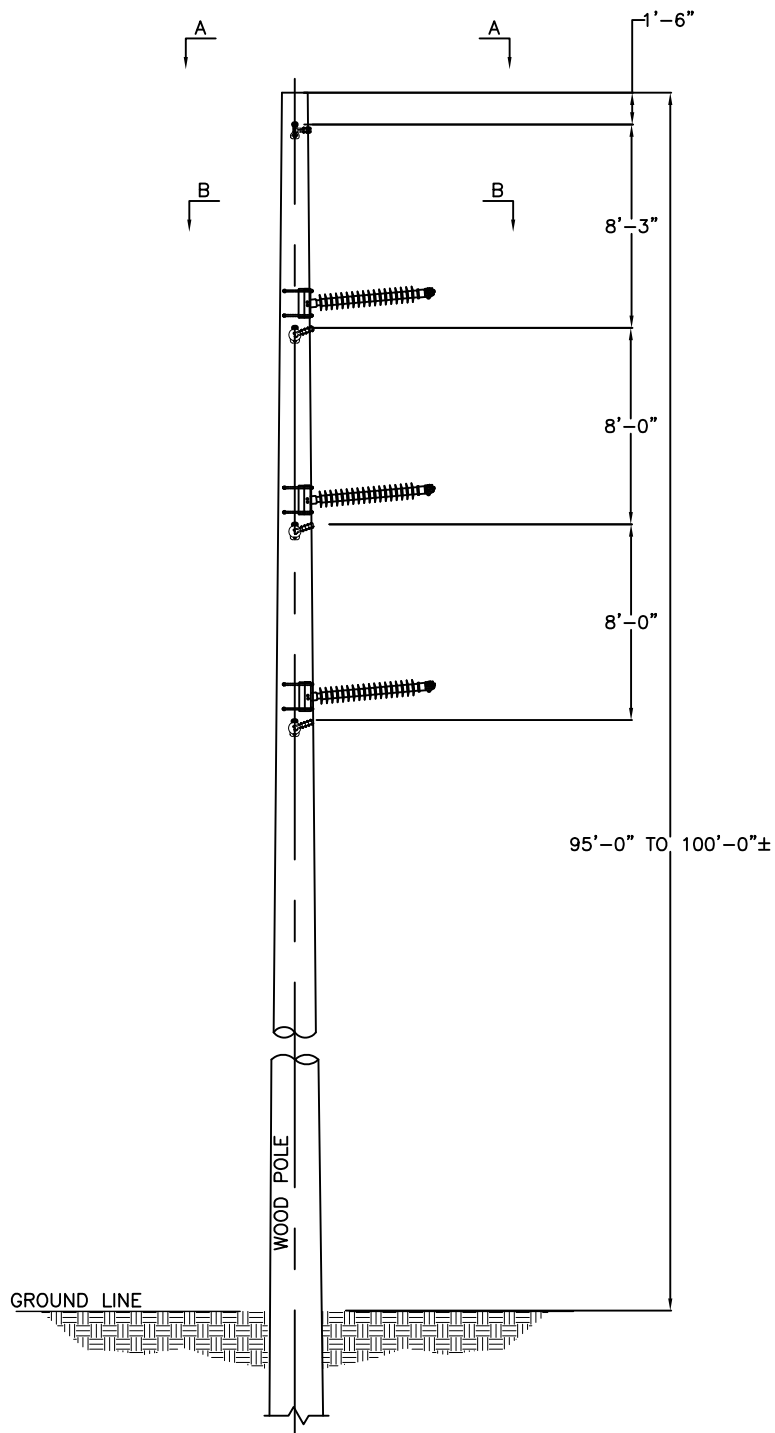
ATSI[®]

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BAYSHORE-JEEP #2 138 kV TAP
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138 kV SINGLE CIRCUIT SWITCH
WOOD POLE STRUCTURE

EXHIBIT 4



**NOT TO SCALE

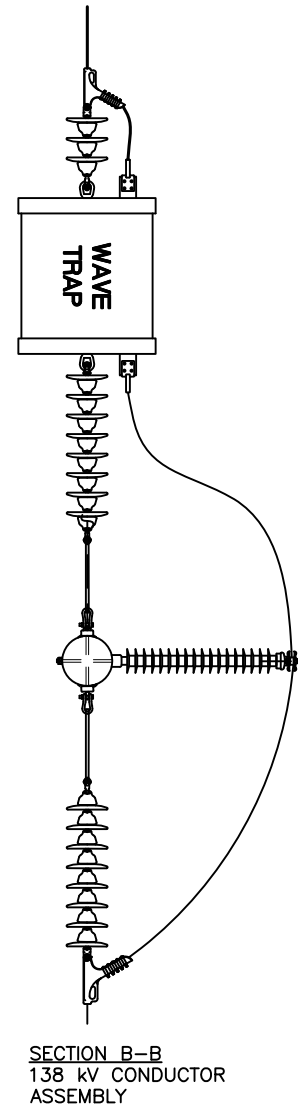
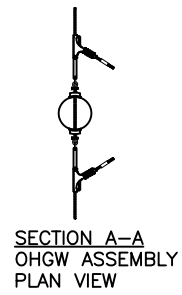
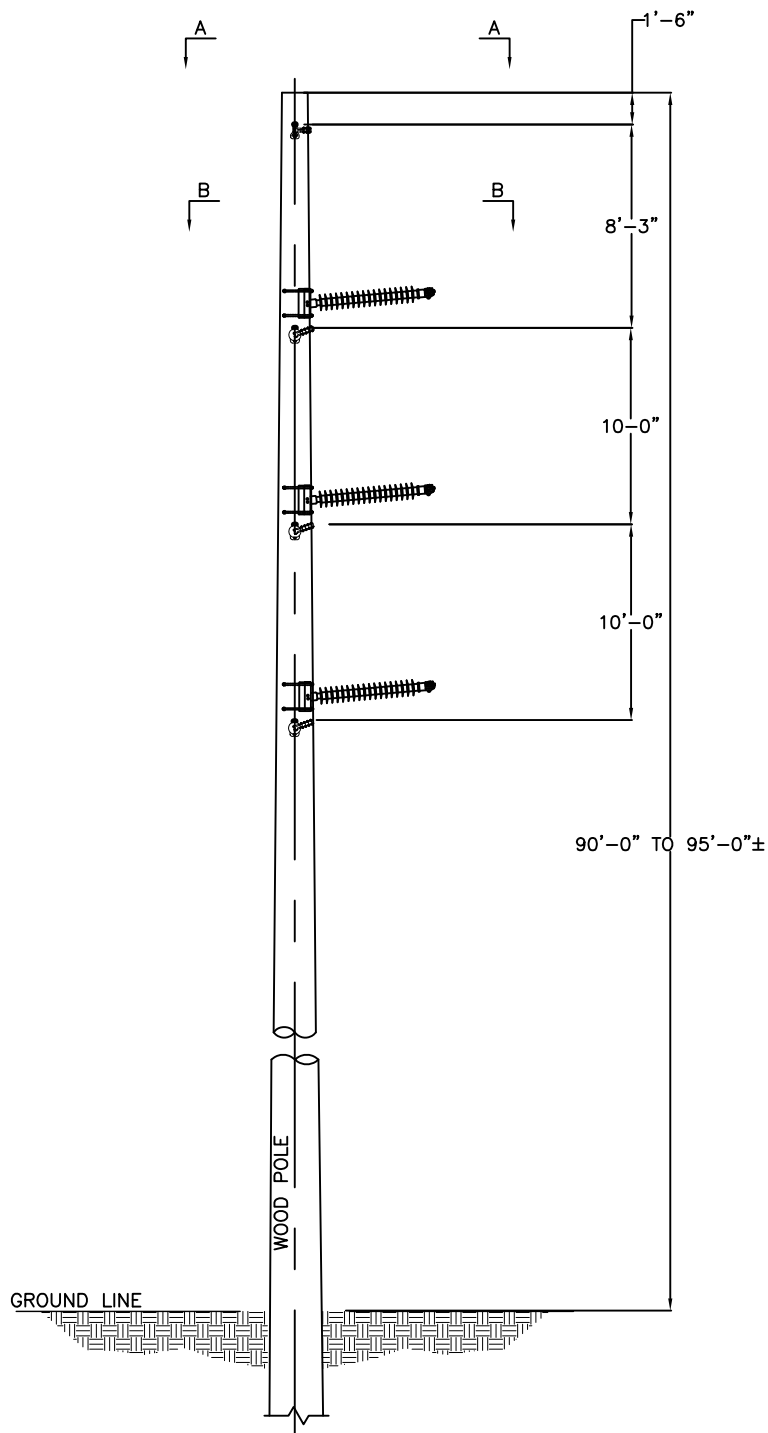
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BAYSHORE-JEEP #2 138 kV TAP
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138 kV SINGLE CIRCUIT SLACK SPAN
STRAIN WOOD POLE STRUCTURE

EXHIBIT 5



**NOT TO SCALE

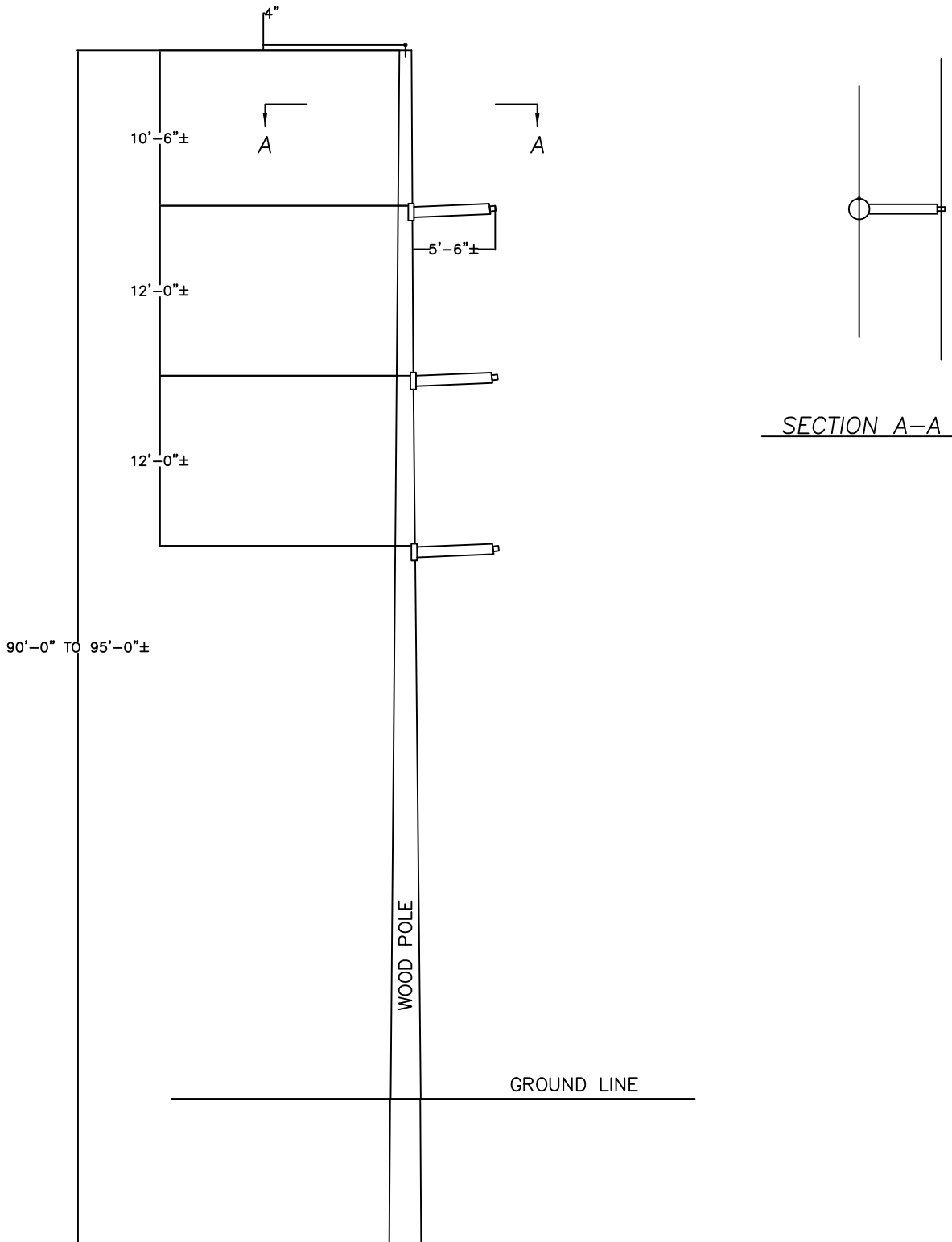
ATSI[®]

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

BAYSHORE-JEEP #2 138 kV TAP
TO CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBSTATION PROJECT

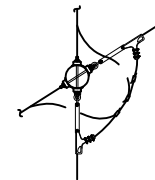
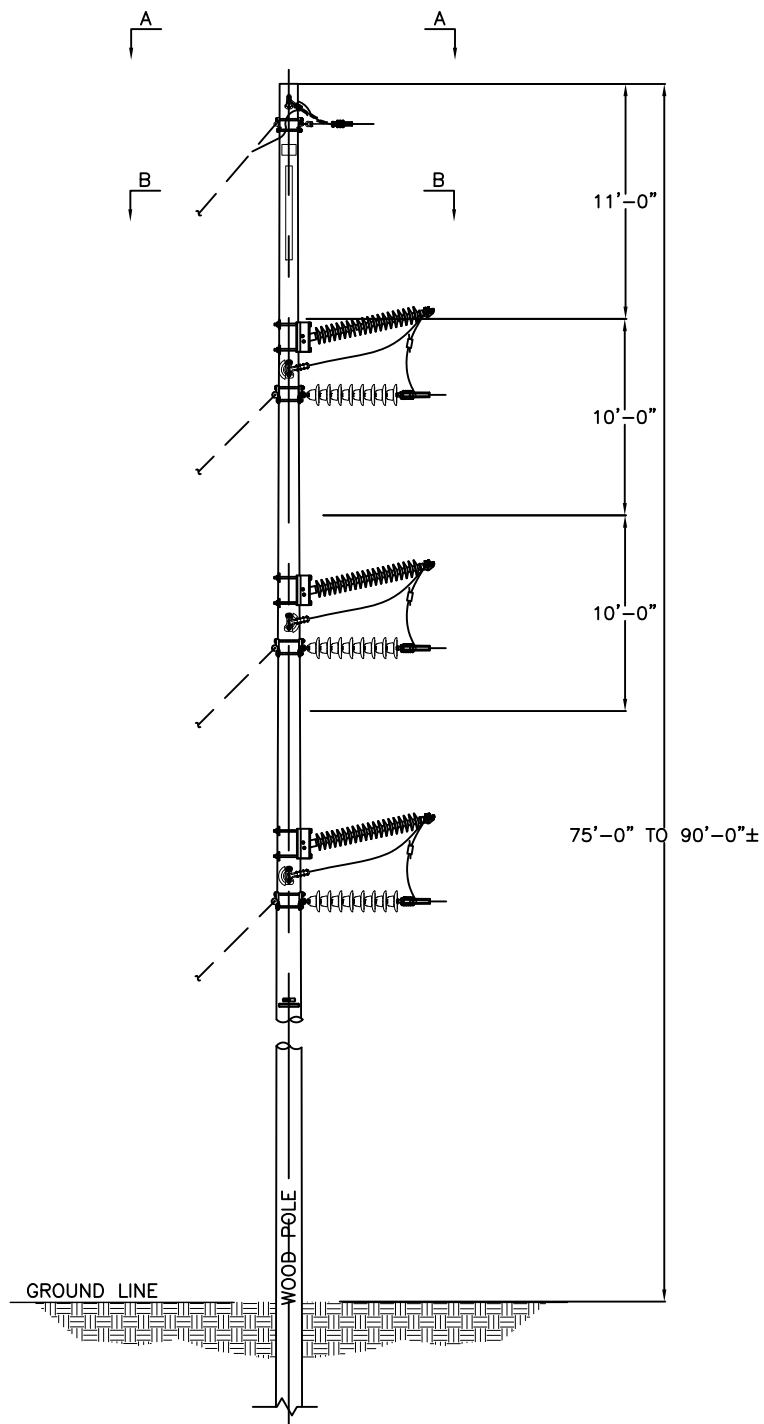
138 kV SINGLE CIRCUIT IN-LINE STRAIN
W/WAVE TRAP WOOD POLE STRUCTURE

EXHIBIT 6

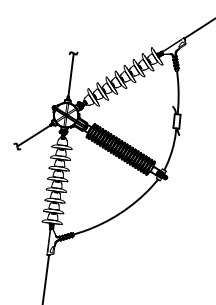


**NOT TO SCALE

ATSI [®] <small>American Transmission Systems, Inc. a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.</small>	BAYSHORE-JEEP #2 138 kV TAP TO CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES SUBSTATION PROJECT
138 kV SINGLE CIRCUIT LIGHT ANGLE WOOD POLE STRUCTURE	
EXHIBIT 7	



SECTION A-A
OHGW ASSEMBLY
PLAN VIEW



SECTION B-B
138 kV CONDUCTOR
ASSEMBLY

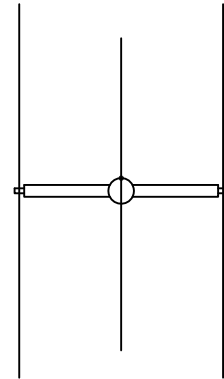
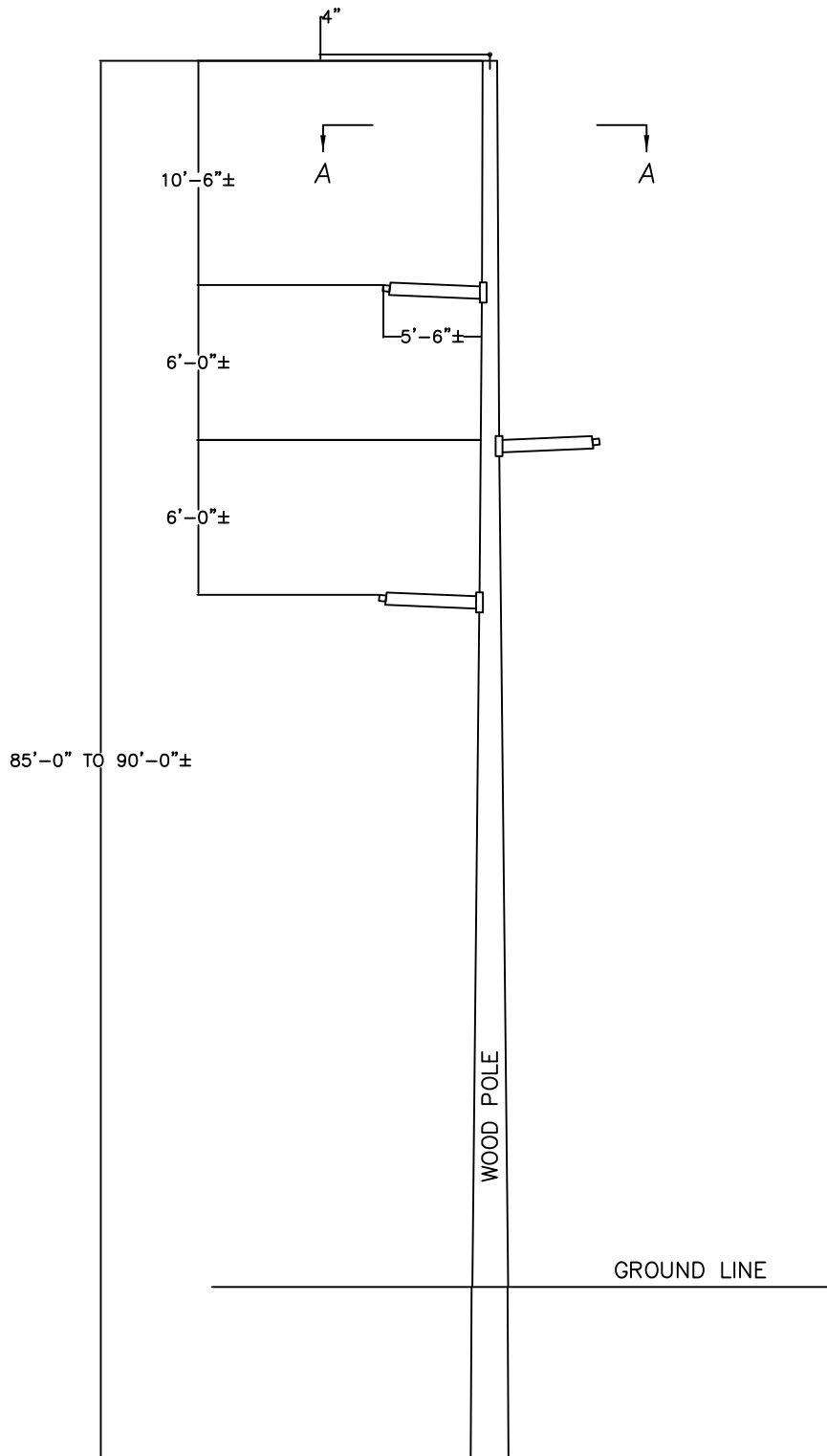
**NOT TO SCALE

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BAYSHORE-JEEP #2 138 kV TAP
TO CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBSTATION PROJECT

138 kV SINGLE CIRCUIT DEADEND WOOD
POLE STRUCTURE

EXHIBIT 8



SECTION A-A

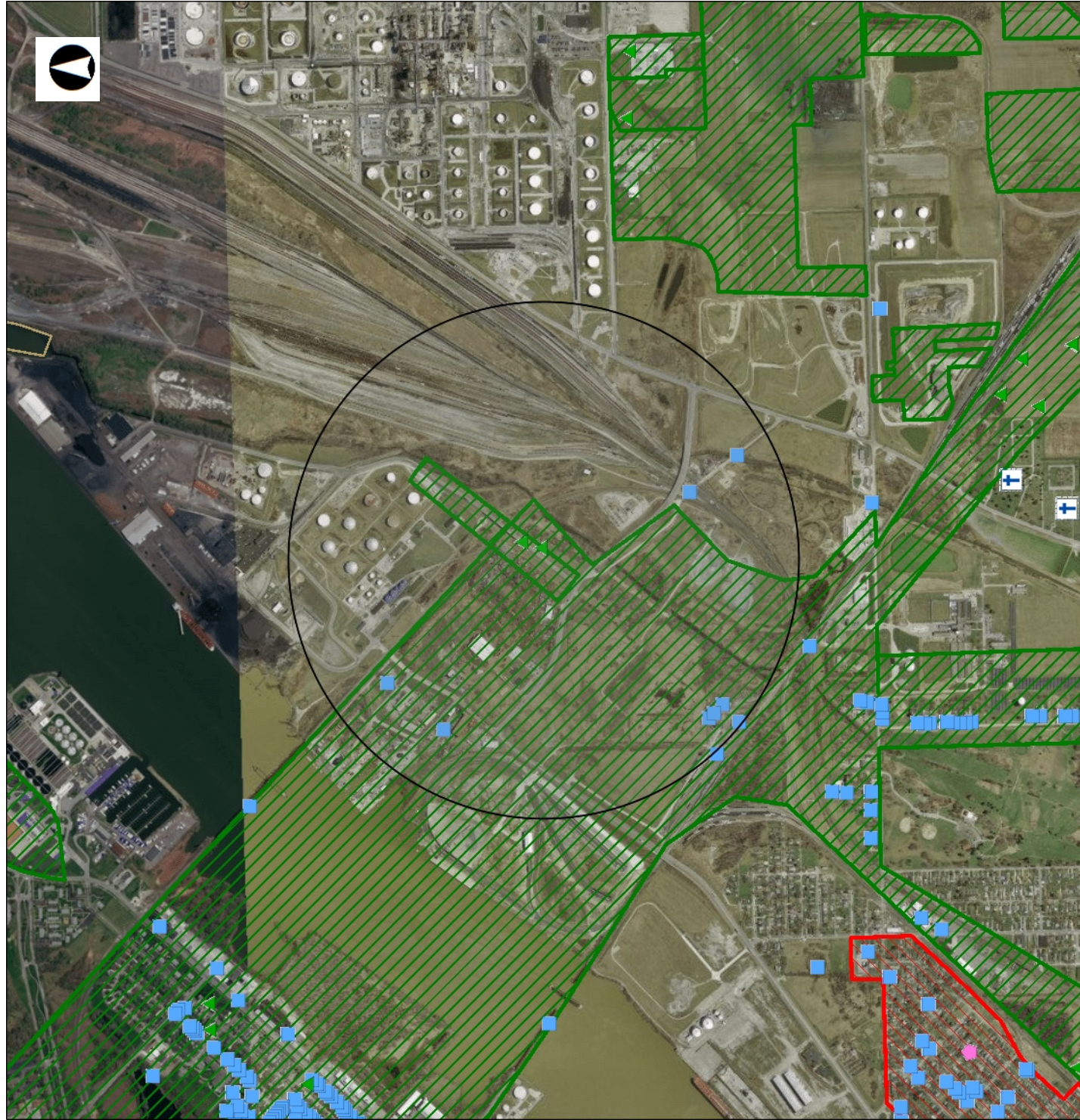
**NOT TO SCALE



BAYSHORE-JEEP #2 138 kV TAP
TO CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBSTATION PROJECT

138 kV SINGLE CIRCUIT TANGENT
WOOD POLE STRUCTURE

EXHIBIT 9



Legend

- NR Listings
- Listed
 - National Historic Landmark
 - Delisted
- NR Determinations of Eligibility
- Archaeological Sites
 - Historic Structures
 - Historic Bridges
 - Historic Tax Credit Projects
 - OGS Cemeteries
- Confident
- Not Confident
- Dams
- UTM Zone Split
 - NR Boundaries
 - OAI Site Boundaries
 - Phase1
 - Phase2
- 0 0.30 0.61 Miles
- 1: 24,000

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

Datum: [Datum]
Projection: WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere





Ohio Department of Natural Resources

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR

JAMES ZEHRINGER, DIRECTOR

Office of Real Estate
Paul R. Baldrige, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6649
Fax: (614) 267-4764

August 16, 2018

Jason Whittle
TRC
1382 West Ninth Street, Suite 400
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Re: 18-784; Bayshore-Jeep #2 Transmission Lines Tap to Cliffs Natural Resources Substation Project

Project: The proposed project involves system and functional upgrades of existing transmission line towers.

Location: The proposed project is located in the City of Toledo, Lucas 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 record at or within a one-mile radius of the project area:

Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), State threatened, federal species of concern

The review was performed on the project area you specified in your request as well as an additional one-mile radius. Records searched date from 1980. This information is provided to inform you of features present within your project area and vicinity. Additional comments on some of the features may be found in pertinent sections below.

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. Although all types of plant communities have been surveyed, we only maintain records on the highest quality areas.

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

The DOW recommends that impacts to 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 project is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species. The following species of trees have relatively high value as potential Indiana bat roost trees to include: shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), shellbark hickory (*Carya laciniosa*), bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), shingle oak (*Quercus imbricaria*), northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*), sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), post oak (*Quercus stellata*), and white oak (*Quercus alba*). Indiana bat roost trees consists of trees that include dead and dying trees with exfoliating bark, crevices, or cavities in upland areas or riparian corridors and living trees with exfoliating bark, cavities, or hollow areas formed from broken branches or tops. However, Indiana bats are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If suitable habitat occurs within the project area, the DOW recommends trees be conserved. If suitable habitat occurs within the project area and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting occur between October 1 and March 31. If suitable trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a net survey be conducted between May 15 and August 15, prior to any cutting. Net surveys should incorporate either nine net nights per square 0.5 kilometer of project area, or four net nights per kilometer for linear projects. If no tree removal is proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*), a state endangered and federally endangered mussel, the eastern pondmussel (*Ligumia nasuta*), a state endangered mussel, the range of the rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered mussel, the pondhorn (*Unio merus tetralasmus*), a state threatened mussel, the black sandshell (*Ligumia recta*), a state threatened mussel, the fawnsfoot (*Truncilla donaciformis*), a state threatened mussel, and the threehorn wartyback (*Obliquaria reflexa*), a state threatened mussel. 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 western banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus menona*), a state endangered fish, the lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*), a state endangered fish, the channel darter (*Percina copelandi*), a state threatened fish, the American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*), a state threatened fish, and the greater redhorse (*Moxostoma valenciennesi*), a state threatened fish. 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 Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), a state threatened species. This species inhabits marshes, ponds, lakes, streams, wet meadows, and swampy forests. Although essentially aquatic, the Blanding's turtle will travel over land as it moves from one wetland to the next. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site and within the vicinity of 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 at the project site and within the vicinity of 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 Kirtland's snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*), a state threatened species. This secretive species prefers wet fields and meadows. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site and within the vicinity of 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 blue-spotted salamander (*Ambystoma laterale*), a state endangered species. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site and within the vicinity of 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 Kirtland's warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*), a state endangered and federally endangered bird. This species migrates through Ohio in the spring and fall, traveling between its breeding grounds in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Ontario and its wintering grounds in the Bahamas. While migration occurs in a broad front across the entire state, approximately half of all observations in Ohio have occurred within 3 miles of the Lake Erie shoreline. Migrating birds usually forage in forested or shrub/scrub habitat and may stay in one area for several days. Because so much of the southern Lake Erie shoreline is already developed, and stopover habitat is already so fragmented, the DOW recommends that this stopover habitat, (i.e. forested or shrub/scrub area), within three miles of the shoreline be preserved whenever possible. If clearing of suitable habitat cannot be avoided, to preclude adverse effects to Kirtland's warblers, clearing within 3 miles of the Lake Erie shoreline should be avoided from April 22nd through June 1st, and from August 15th through October 15th.

The project is within the range of the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), a state endangered and federally endangered bird. This species does not nest in the state but does utilize stopover habitat as it migrates through the region. Due to the location, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*), a state endangered bird. Nesting bitterns prefer large undisturbed wetlands that have scattered small pools amongst dense vegetation. They occasionally occupy bogs, large wet meadows, and dense shrubby swamps. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the black tern (*Chlidonias niger*), a state endangered bird. The black tern prefers large, undisturbed inland marshes with fairly dense vegetation and pockets of open water. They nest in various kinds of marsh vegetation but cattail marshes are generally favored. Nests are built on top of muskrat houses or on top of floating vegetation. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the common tern (*Sterna hirundo*), a state endangered bird. The preferred nesting sites of common terns are natural or man-made islands that are free of mammalian predators and human disturbance. They will also utilize mainland beaches and dredge disposal areas but only when islands are unavailable. The common tern nests in colonies. Their eggs are laid in a grass-lined depression in the sand. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the king rail (*Rallus elegans*), a state endangered bird. Nests for this species are deep bowls constructed out of grass and usually hidden very well in marsh vegetation. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the cattle egret (*Bubulcus ibis*), a state endangered bird. Cattle egrets are not strictly wetland birds. They often forage in dry pastures and fields. Egrets nest in colonies and will build a nest out of sticks and other materials wherever it can be supported. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the lark sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*), a state endangered bird. This sparrow nests in grassland habitats with scattered shrub layers, disturbed open areas, as well as patches of bare soil. In the Oak Openings area west of Toledo, lark sparrows occupy open grass and shrubby fields along sandy beach ridges. These summer residents normally migrate out of Ohio shortly after their young fledge or leave the nest. Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*), a state endangered bird. Nesting upland sandpipers utilize dry grasslands including native grasslands, seeded grasslands, grazed and ungrazed pasture, hayfields, and grasslands established through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Due to the location, the type of habitat at the project site, 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 U.S. 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. Your local floodplain administrator contact information can be found at the website below.

http://water.ohiodnr.gov/portals/soilwater/pdf/floodplain/Floodplain%20Manager%20Community%20Contact%20List_8_16.pdf

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact John Kessler at (614) 265-6621 if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

John Kessler
ODNR Office of Real Estate
2045 Morse Road, Building E-2
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693
John.Kessler@dnr.state.oh.us

Bryksenkova, Nataliya

From: Ruggiero, Augustine (Jirousek, Michael J.)
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 8:38 AM
To: Bryksenkova, Nataliya
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Bayshore-Jeep Transmission Line upgrade, Tiffin Street, Lucas County

Nataliya,
 USFWS response for Bayshore Jeep #2 below. Let me know if you have any questions.
 Thanks
 Auggie

From: susan_zimmermann@fws.gov <susan_zimmermann@fws.gov> **On Behalf Of** Ohio, FW3
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 3:02 PM
To: jwhittle@trcsolutions.com; Ruggiero, Augustine (Jirousek, Michael J.) <aruggiero@firstenergycorp.com>
Cc: nathan.reardon@dnr.state.oh.us; kate.parsons@dnr.state.oh.us
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bayshore-Jeep Transmission Line upgrade, Tiffin Street, Lucas County



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Ecological Services Office
 4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
 Columbus, Ohio 43230
 (614) 416-8993 / Fax (614) 416-8994



TAILS #03E15000-2018-TA-1585

Dear Mr. Whittle,

We have received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. There are no federal wilderness areas, wildlife refuges or designated critical habitat within the vicinity of the project area. The following comments and recommendations will assist you in fulfilling the requirements for consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) recommends that proposed developments avoid and minimize water quality impacts and impacts to high quality fish and wildlife habitat (e.g., forests, streams, wetlands). Additionally, natural buffers around streams and wetlands should be preserved to enhance beneficial functions. If streams or wetlands will be impacted, the 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. All disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant species. Prevention of non-native, invasive plant establishment is critical in maintaining high quality habitats.

FEDERALLY LISTED SPECIES COMMENTS: All projects in the State of Ohio lie within the range of the federally endangered **Indiana bat** (*Myotis sodalis*) and the federally threatened **northern long-eared bat** (*Myotis septentrionalis*). In Ohio, presence of the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat is assumed 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 travel and may also include some adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, old fields and pastures. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) that have any exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, hollows and/or cavities), as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. These wooded areas may be dense or loose aggregates of trees with variable amounts of canopy closure. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) 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 and abandoned mines.

Should the proposed site contain trees ≥ 3 inches dbh, we recommend that trees be saved 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 that removal of any trees ≥ 3 inches dbh only occur

between October 1 and March 31. Seasonal clearing is being recommended to avoid adverse effects to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. While incidental take of northern long-eared bats from most tree clearing is exempted by a 4(d) rule (see <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/index.html>), incidental take of Indiana bats is still prohibited without a project-specific exemption. Thus, seasonal clearing is recommended where Indiana bats are assumed present.

If implementation of this seasonal tree cutting recommendation is not possible, summer surveys may be conducted to document the presence or probable absence of Indiana bats within the project area during the summer. If a summer survey documents probable absence of Indiana bats, the 4(d) rule for the northern long-eared bat could be applied. Surveys must be conducted by an approved surveyor and be designed and conducted in coordination with the Endangered Species Coordinator for this office. Surveyors must have a valid federal permit. Please note that summer surveys may only be conducted between June 1 and August 15.

If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), 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 that 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.

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

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 ESA, and are consistent with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Service's Mitigation Policy. This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document. We recommend that the project be coordinated with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact John Kessler, Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6621 or at john.kessler@dnr.state.oh.us.

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,



Scott Pruitt
Acting Field Office Supervisor

cc: Nathan Reardon, ODNR-DOW
Kate Parsons, ODNR-DOW