

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

CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

WEST FREMONT SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT

OPSB CASE NO.: 17-1904-EL-BNR

September 20, 2017

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

**CONSTRUCTION NOTICE
WEST FREMONT SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT**

The following information is being provided in accordance with the procedures in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Chapter 4906-6 for the application and review of Accelerated Certificate Applications. Based upon the requirements found in Appendix A to OAC Rule 4906-1-01, this Project qualifies for submittal to the Ohio Power Siting Board (“Board”) as a Construction Notice application.

4906-6-05: ACCELERATED APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

4906-6-05: Name

Name of Project: West Fremont Substation Expansion Project (“Project”).

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

In this Project, American Transmission Systems, Incorporated (“ATSI”), a FirstEnergy company, is proposing to expand the existing West Fremont Substation fenced area by 19.8% (approximately 18,632 square feet) to allow for the addition of new breakers and buses to support the new Groton-West Fremont & Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Lines, which were previously approved by the Board in Cases 12-1636-EL-BTX and 16-1593-EL-BTA.

The general location of the Project is shown in Exhibit 1, a partial copy of the United States Geologic Survey, Sandusky County OH, Quad Map, ID number o41083d2. Exhibit 2 is a partial copy of Bing aerial imagery. The Project is located at 1275 Miarer Rd., Fremont, OH 43420. The general layout is shown in Exhibit 3. The Project will be located in the City of Fremont, Sandusky County Ohio.

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 Item (4)(a) of the Application Requirement Matrix

for Electric Power Transmission Lines, Appendix A of OAC Rule 4906-1-01. This item states:

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

(a) There is a twenty percent or less expansion of the fenced area.

The proposed Project is within the requirements of Item (4)(a) as it involves expanding the fenced in area by approximately 18,632 square feet (19.8%), which is less than 20% of the existing fenced in area of 93,708 square feet.

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

The Project is needed to accommodate the installation of the new Groton-West Fremont & Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Lines which were previously approved by the Board in Cases 12-1636-EL-BTX and 16-1593-EL-BTA.

Specially, the Groton-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Line, approved by the Board in Case 12-1636-EL-BTX, addresses thermal overloads on the Lakeview-Ottawa and Greenfield-Lakeview 138 kV Transmission Lines. The project was also needed to address retirement of coal generation plants around Lake Erie in 2012-2015 and the addition of the 799 MW Clean Energy Oregon natural gas generator in 2016. PJM Interconnection Inc. (“PJM”) has assigned this project the RTEP #b1959. For further details on this project see Case 12-1636-EL-BTX.

Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Line, approved by the Board in Case 16-1593-EL-BTA, addresses thermal overloads on the Lakeview-Ottawa and Greenfield-Lakeview 138 kV Transmission Lines. PJM has assigned this project the RTEP #b2560. For further details on this project see Case 16-1593-EL-BTA.

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. 2017 Long-Term Forecast Report. This map was submitted to the PUCO in Case No. 17-0913-EL-FOR under Rule 4901:5-5:04 (C)(2)(b) of the Ohio Administrative Code. The map is incorporated by reference only. This map shows ATSI's 345 kV and 138 kV transmission lines and transmission substations including the West Fremont Substation. The project area is located approximately 4 ⁴/₁₀ inches (11" x 17" printed version) from the left edge of the map and 2 ½ inches (11" x 17" printed version) from the top of the map. The general location and layout of the project area is shown in Exhibit 1 and 2.

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

The general area of the Project was carefully considered to identify potential alternatives for the Project that are constructible, minimize potential impacts to the extent practical, and meet the needs of the Project. No alternatives to the Project were identified that had fewer impacts than the expansion of the existing substation.

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 Transmission Line Project as necessary. ATSI will maintain a copy of this Construction Notice on FirstEnergy's website. Letters will be sent to affected property owners at least 7 days before construction begins on the project informing them of the Project's start and a proposed timeframe of construction and restoration activities.

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

The construction schedule for this Project is expected to begin as early as January 4, 2018 and completed by May 29, 2018.

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 Geological Survey, Sandusky County OH, quadrangle map (Quad Order ID o41083d2). Exhibit 2 provides a partial copy of Bing aerial imagery of the Project area.

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

The Project is located on new and existing property and new property is required for the Project. Table 1 contains a list of property owners effected by the project.

Table 1: Property Owner List

Parcel Number	Property Owner	Property Address	Ownership Status
346000042201	ATSI	Miarer Rd., Fremont, OH 43420	Owned in Fee
346000042200	American Municipal Power Inc. & Michigan Public Power Agency	1275 Miarer Rd., Fremont. OH 43420	Part of the Property Will Be Purchased

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
Bus Conductor:	4" AL Bus/336.4 KCMIL ACSR 795 KCMIL AAC
Insulators:	Porcelain
Breakers:	Three (3) 145 kV 3000 A 40 kA Siemens SPS2S Breaker.
Switches:	Three (3) 115 kV 2000 A Manual V-Type Switches.
CVT's:	Six (6) 138 kV Single Phase Capacitor Voltage Transformers.
Arresters:	Six (6) 108 kV Arresters
Structures:	Six (6) 138 kV Bus Support Structures Two (2) 138 kV Take-off Structures

Fence: Approximately 410 feet (0.08 miles) of new fence.
Land Requirements: 21,712 square feet of additional property is needed including area outside of the fenceline for grading.

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

The closest occupied residence or institution is approximately 160 feet from the proposed substation fenceline and therefore no Electric and Magnetic Field (“EMF”) calculations are required.

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

The estimated capital cost for the proposed project is approximately \$1,689,300.

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 Fremont, Sandusky County Ohio. The main land use around the Project is zoned as industrial. The main industrial use around the Project area is natural gas electric generation and transmission.

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

Agricultural land does not exist within the Project’s disturbance area.

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

As part of the investigation, a search of Ohio Historic Preservation Office (“OHPO”) online database was conducted to identify the existence of any significant archeological or cultural resource sites within 0.5 miles of the Project Area. The results of the search are shown in Exhibit 4. The specific location of any archeological resources are excluded from the map and are instead listed in Table 2.

The OHPO database includes all Ohio listings on 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 no listed NRHP sites and no NRHP eligible sites were identified within 0.5 miles of the Project 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 resource has been previously inventoried within 0.5 miles of the Project area and is shown in Table 2. No listed structural resource is located within 0.5 miles of the Project area. Six (6) previous historical cultural resource surveys was conducted within 0.5 miles of the Project area and is provided in Table 3. No OSG cemeteries are located within 0.5 miles of the Project area.

Table 2. List of OAI Listed Archeological Resources

OAI Number	Affiliation	Description	County	Quad Name
SA0388	Prehistoric	Unknown Prehistoric	Sandusky	Lindsey
SA0389	Prehistoric	Unknown Prehistoric	Sandusky	Lindsey

Table 3. List of Previous Cultural & Historic Resource Survey

Year	Name	County	Municipality
2000	A Phase I Archaeological Survey of Two Proposed Alternatives for the Fremont Energy Project, Sandusky County, Ohio	Sandusky	City of Fremont/ Fremont Township
2000	A Phase I Archaeological Survey of a 60-acre Tract within the Preferred Site for the Fremont Energy Center Project, Sandusky County, Ohio	Sandusky	City of Fremont/ Fremont Township
2001	A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for Fremont Energy Gas Pipeline, Sandusky Township, Sandusky County, Ohio	Sandusky	City of Fremont/ Fremont Township

2001	A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for the Fremont Energy Center Electrical Interconnect, Sandusky Township, Sandusky County, Ohio	Sandusky	City of Fremont/ Fremont Township
2016	Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for the Proposed Hayes-West Fremont 29.2-Mile (47.0-Kilometer) FirstEnergy Transmission Line Corridor in Erie and Sandusky Counties, Ohio	Sandusky	City of Fremont/ Fremont Township
2001	A Reconnaissance-Level Historic Structures Survey of the Preferred Site for the Fremont Energy Center Project, Sandusky County, Ohio	Sandusky	City of Fremont/ Fremont Township

Based upon the results of the OHPO online database search the closest OAI listed archeological resource is approximately 0.43 miles from the Project Area. Additionally, five (5) Phase I archeological resource surveys and one (1) historical resource survey was conducted within the Project area without finding any archeological or historic resources that could be impacted. Therefore, the Project is not anticipated to have any impacts to any archeological or historic resources

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

There are no other government agency requirements for this Project that had been identified at the time of filing.

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

The Project lies within the Project area that was covered by the projects previously approved by the Board in Cases 12-1636-EL-BTX and 16-1593-EL-BTA. As such, the Project area was extensively evaluated during the preparation and review of those applications by both the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (“ODNR”) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (“USFWS”) for the presence of any endangered, threatened, or rare species within one (1) mile of the Project area. Based on this review, the Groton-West Fremont & Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Lines Project area was found to be in the range of twenty-three (23) species as either state or federally listed as rare, threatened, or endangered.

Of the twenty-three (23) species identified, the state and federally listed species identified by ODNR and the USFWS comments for the Groton-West Fremont & Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Lines projects, nine (9) were potentially affected. Additionally, the Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) has since been listed as threatened by the USFWS with a range that includes Sandusky County. These ten (10) species as well as their current protective status and habitat requirements are listed in Table 5.

Table 5. Federal and State Listed Species Impacted by Groton-West Fremont & Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Line Project (Cases 12-1636-EL-BTX and 16-1593-EL-BTA)

Common Name	Species	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat Requirements
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	N/A*	N/A	Water and large trees
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	N/A	Endangered	Water
Northern long-eared bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Threatened	Threatened	Trees
Indiana Bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Endangered	Endangered	Trees
King Rail	<i>Rallus elegans</i>	N/A	Endangered	Wetlands
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	N/A	Endangered	Wetlands and grasslands
American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	N/A	Endangered	Wetlands
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	N/A	Threatened	Wetlands and ponds
Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid	<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>	Threatened	Threatened	Prairie and wetlands
Eastern Massasauga	<i>Sistrurus catenatus catenatus</i>	Threatened	Endangered	Wetlands

*Although no longer listed as endangered or threatened, the Bald Eagle is protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

Habitat requirements for these species include either trees, prairies, wetlands, bodies of water, or large open areas. The Project Area consists of exclusively a mowed grassy area devoid of wetlands, open water, and woody vegetation. Therefore, no impacts are expected to any of these species.

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

The Project lies within the Groton-West Fremont & Hayes-West Fremont 138 kV Transmission Lines Project area, which was previously considered for projects approved by the Board in Cases 12-1636-EL-BTX and 16-1593-EL-BTA. As such, the Project area was surveyed for wetlands and stream by CH2M Hill during the preparation and review of the applications in those cases. No wetlands, streams, or other areas of ecological concern were found within the work limits of the Project area for this Project, therefore no impacts to any areas of ecological concern are expected.

The Project work limits do not encroach on any regulated flood plains based on a review of online FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Mapping.

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 Electric 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 is being provided concurrently with its docketing with the Board to the following officials in City of Fremont, Sandusky County, Ohio.

Sandusky County

Commissioner Charles Schwochow
Sandusky County Commissioner
622 Croghan St.
Fremont, OH 43420

Commissioner Kay E Reiter
Sandusky County Commissioner
622 Croghan St.
Fremont, OH 43420

Commissioner Scott Miller
Sandusky County Commissioner
622 Croghan St.
Fremont, OH 43420

Mr. James Moyer, P.E., P.S.
Sandusky County Engineer
2500 W. State St.
Fremont, OH 43420

Ms. Beth Hannam, Executive
Director
Economic Development
2511 Countryside Dr.
Fremont, OH 43420

Mr. Peter Miller, Chairman
Sandusky County Soil & Water
2000 Countryside Drive, Suite A
Fremont, OH 43420

Mr. Dave Warner, Vice Chairman
Sandusky County Soil & Water
2000 Countryside Drive, Suite A
Fremont, OH 43420

City of Fremont

The Honorable Daniel Sanchez
Mayor, City of Fremont
323 S. Front St.
Fremont, OH 43420

Mr. Tucker Fredericksen
City of Fremont Engineering Dept.
323 S. Front St.
Fremont, OH 43420

Ms. Jamie Hafford, President
Fremont City Council
323 S. Front St.
Fremont, OH 43420

Mr. Roy E. Yeager, Chair
City of Fremont Zoning Board
323 S. Front St.
Fremont, OH 43420

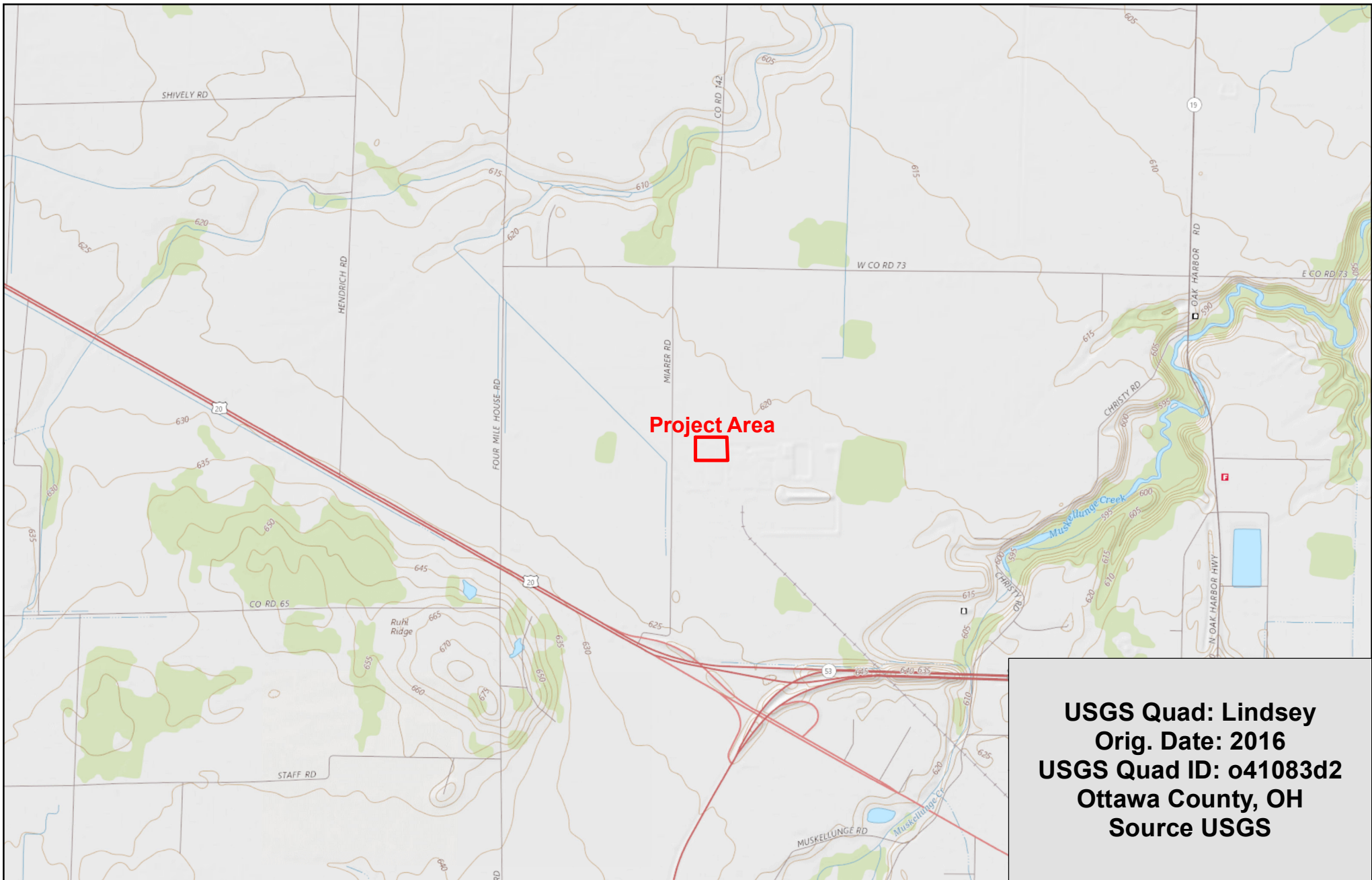
Library

Ms. Pam Hoesman
Director, Birchard Public Library
423 Croghan Street
Fremont, OH 43420

Copies of the transmittal letters to these officials have been included with this application as proof of compliance under OAC Rule 4906-6-07 (B) to provide the Board with proof

of notice to local officials as required by OAC Rule 4906-6-07 (A)(1) and to libraries per OAC Rule 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 Construction Notice application. The link to this website is being provided to meet the requirements of OAC Rule 4906-6-07 (B) and to provide the Board with proof of compliance with the notice requirements in OAC Rule 4906-6-07 (A)(3).



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West Fremont Substation Expansion Project Exhibit 1



FirstEnergy

Created on 8/31/2017



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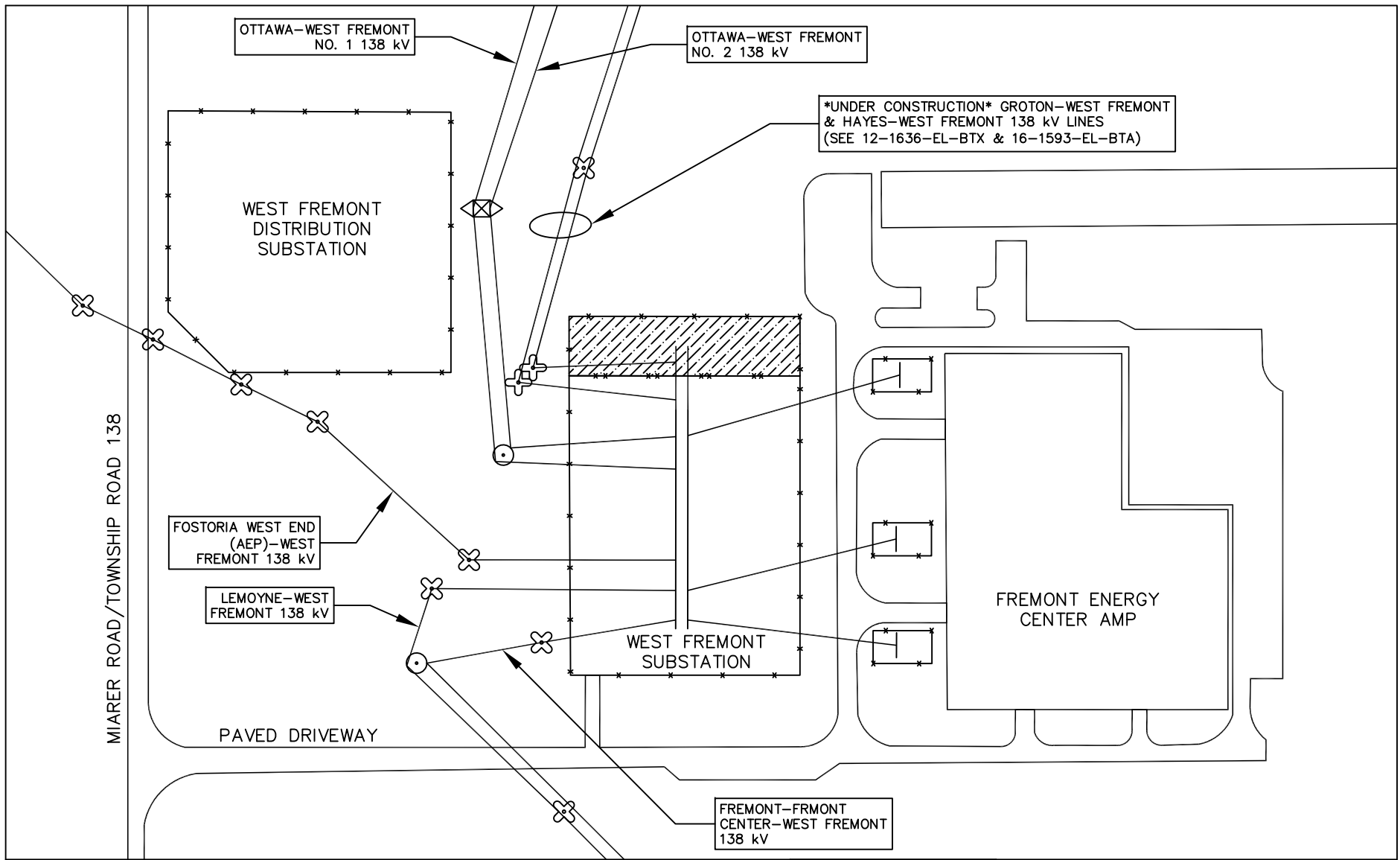
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West Fremont Substation Expansion Project Exhibit 2

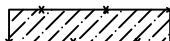


FirstEnergy

Created on 8/31/2017



LEGEND

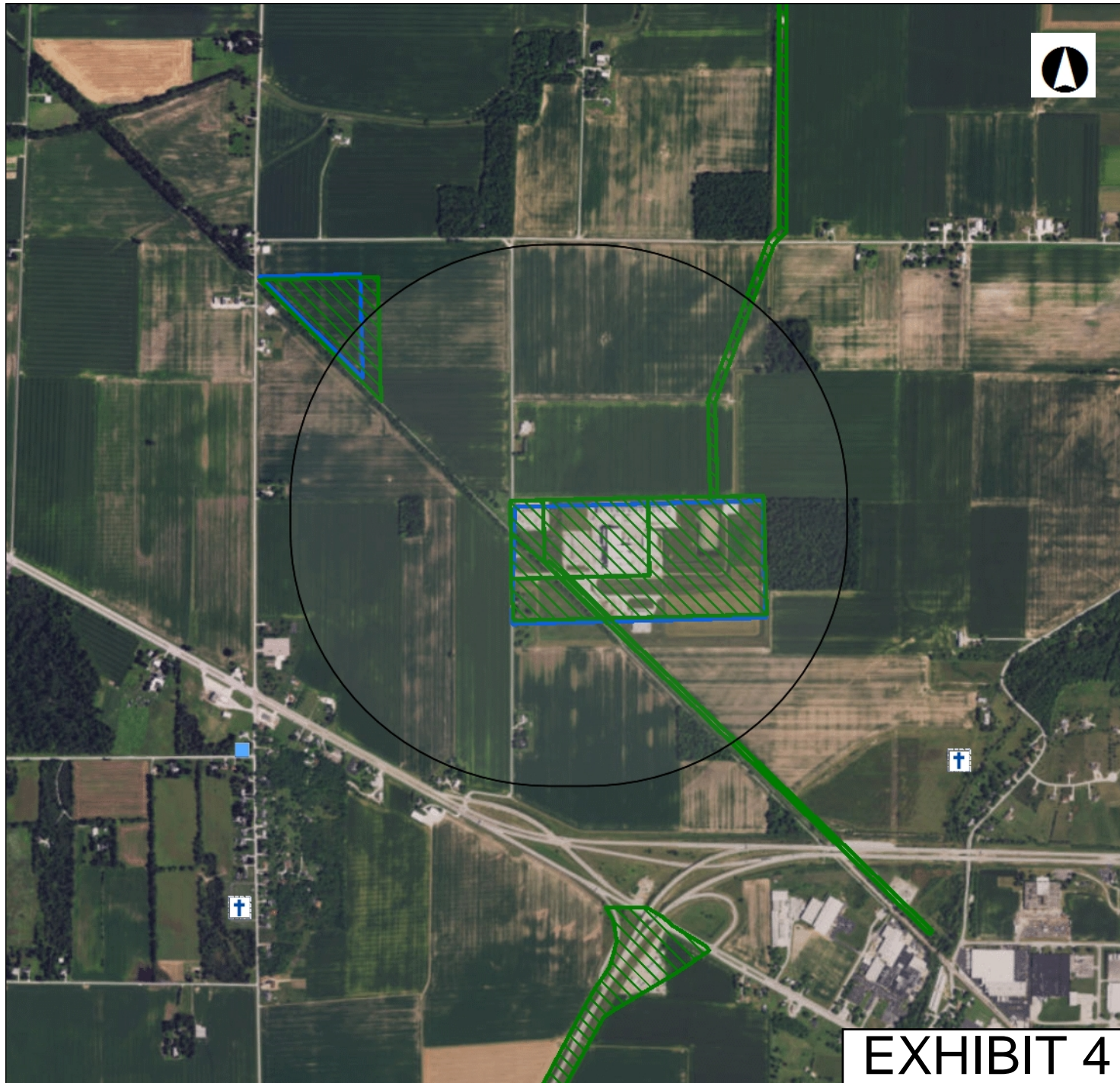
- * — * — SUBSTATION FENCE LINE
-  SUBSTATION EXPANSION AREA



WEST FREMONT SUBSTATION
EXPANSION PROJECT

GENERAL LAYOUT

EXHIBIT 3



Ohio Historic
Preservation Office

Legend

NR Listings

- ★ Listed
- ⊙ National Historic Landmark
- ✖ Delisted

- ◆ NR Determinations of Eligibi
- Historic Structures
- Historic Bridges
- Historic Tax Credit Projects

OGS Cemeteries

- † Confident
- † Not Confident

- Dams
- UTM Zone Split
- ▨ NR Boundaries
- OAI Site Boundaries
- ▨ Phase1
- ▨ Phase2
- ▨ Phase3

0 0.30 0.61 Miles

1: 24,000

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Datum: [Datum]

Projection: WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere



EXHIBIT 4