

NOTICE OF PROPOSED MAJOR UTILITY FACILITY

Filed as New Liberty – East Leipsic 138-kV Upgrade Project

AEP Ohio representatives plan to improve the power grid in Putnam and Hancock counties. The New Liberty – East Leipsic 138-kV Upgrade project includes:

- Upgrading about 20 miles of 34.5-kilovolt (kV) transmission line to 138-kV standards.
- Replacing aging wooden poles with single steel poles and new wire.
- Retiring McComb Substation and building Rader Road Substation on the same property.
- Expanding East Leipsic Substation. Benefits include replacing existing, aging equipment with new equipment to address deteriorating infrastructure.

AEP Ohio representatives filed an application with the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) as the as the New Liberty – East Leipsic 138-kV Upgrade Project, Case No. 22-0856-EL-BTX. The application to construct, operate and maintain this facility awaits OPSB review. If approved, construction begins spring 2024 and concludes summer 2026.

The public hearing process in this case shall consist of two parts, a local public hearing and an adjudicatory hearing. The local public hearing will be held at the McComb Library and the adjudicatory hearing will be held at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. The public will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed project.

(1) A local public hearing, where the Board shall accept written or oral testimony from any person on July 11, 2023, at 5 p.m., at the McComb Library, 113 S. Todd St., McComb, Ohio 45858.

(2) An adjudicatory hearing commencing on July 25, 2023, at 10 a.m., at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Floor, Hearing Room 11-C, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

The accompanying map shows the project area. Please use this map only as a general guide due to its reduced scale and limited detail.

This is the second notice regarding the hearing dates for this project. The first notice was mailed to residents, landowners and public officials on May 8, 2023.

Copies of the application, including specific details about the location and construction, are available for public inspection at the following locations:

- Putnam County District Library, 305 W. Main St., Leipsic, Ohio 45856.
- Findlay-Hancock County Public Library, 206 Broadway St., Findlay, Ohio, 45840.
- Ohio Power Siting Board, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio, 43215-3793, (866) 270-6772, contactopsb@puc.state.oh.us. OPSB's website at <http://opsb.ohio.gov>. Search under current cases for Case No. 22-0856-EL-BTX. Instructions for electronic or hard copy versions of the application are available at AEPOhio.com/NewLiberty-EastLeipsic.

The following local city and county government officials have been served with a copy of the application as required by OPSB regulations:

- Putnam and Hancock County Board of Commissioners.
- Putnam and Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation Districts.
- Leipsic and McComb City Councils.
- Putnam and Hancock County Engineers.
- Mayors of Leipsic and McComb Villages.
- Van Buren, Porter and Liberty Township Officials.

If you are a local city or county government official and would like an electronic or hard copy of the application, please contact Maggie Beggs at the information listed below.

To ask a question or make a comment about the project, please call (380) 205-5178 or send an email inquiry to mrbeggs@aep.com. Send mail inquiries to the following address:

AEP Ohio
Attention: Maggie Beggs
8500 Smiths Mill Road
New Albany, Ohio 43054

