



Village of  
Glenwillow

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September 25, 2012

Mr. Anthony Alexander, CEO  
FirstEnergy Corporation  
341 White Pond Drive  
Akron, OH 44320

RE: Proposed substation in Glenwillow Ohio

Dear Mr. Alexander:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Village of Glenwillow, Council Members and residents. As you know, FirstEnergy is currently preparing an application to the Ohio Power Siting Board for a new Glenwillow Transmission Substation Project. We have met several times with representatives from your company and attended the informational meeting for this project held in June.

Our community has concerns relative to this project. Specifically,

- A project of this magnitude in a small community causes a huge negative impact to the quality of life of our residents and business community. We have worked hard over the last ten years to change the character and culture of our community with much success. However, we are afraid that this one project will erase all our gains.
- Initially, your representative stated that the proposed substation project would cost approximately \$37 million. However, they have revised the estimate to \$13 million. We are baffled by this change and why the initial estimate for this project, which was published in a flyer by your company, has been significantly reduced in value by 2/3 of the initial project cost. This reduction erases most of the tax benefit for both the schools and the community. It was our understanding that the original estimate included transformers, however, your representative has now stated that this is not the case. These two ambiguous items cause us to question other factual components of this project.
- At our last meeting with the company's representatives, they stated that transformers were not needed as part of this project. However, after review and analysis of the literature FirstEnergy provided in June, the details certainly lead us to believe that they will be included. (If not now, at some later date)
- Your representatives have informed us that the OPSB application will include both a primary and secondary location. Initially we were also told that the preferred location was in a residential area. You should know that the Village of Glenwillow has carefully planned and restricted commercial and industrial development to our eastern side, and residential development is on our western side. Any attempt to change this arrangement by including a substation on the western side would cause extreme disruption to our community and be resisted by our residents. Therefore, we urge you to confine your choice of primary and secondary locations on your OPSB application to the area of our Village that has been identified as available for commercial and industrial developments.
- We have also requested other specific details of the project prior to the application being filed. However, your representatives have not been forthcoming. We have requested information on the changes that will be made to Glenwillow's existing electric corridor, such as new poles that will be required and any expansion of the right-of-way. We have also asked the location to which power will be transferred once it leaves the proposed substation to be identified, but we have not been given an answer.



- In addition, details have also been requested about a landscape plan for the perimeter of the site selected. It is important for us that upon completion of the project, the site be aesthetically pleasing to our community as possible. The use of natural landscaping features is critical to achieving this. We have requested specific details about the landscape plans, but we have not been given any. Your representatives did say that they are looking at several items. We are concerned that once the application is filed, we will lose input on these types of items.

We understand that additional energy is needed in the region, and we are interested in cooperating with you. However, our community already bears other projects that benefit the public good, such as two landfills that have been in our community for many years. A small community cannot easily absorb such a negative impact. Our Preference is that you locate the substation in another community, but, if it must be in our Village, FirstEnergy should work with us to create a best case scenario for our community, your company and the demand for additional power.

In the last several weeks we met with your representatives to discuss some specific requests that will help us minimize the impact of this project. These discussions have been ineffective. Therefore, I am asking you to be certain that the staff that engages in future discussions with us has the facts and the authority to negotiate a win/win result for both First Energy and the Village of Glenwillow.

In closing, I would personally like to invite you to visit our Village. I am available the week of October 1<sup>st</sup> through October 5<sup>th</sup> to meet with you. You will experience firsthand, the unique quality and character the Village has to offer its residents and businesses.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Cegielka, Mayor

Cc: Village Council  
Ohio Siting Power Board  
Sen. Tom Patton  
Rep. Marlene Anielski  
Mia Moore, Director External Affairs