

PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA. 17105-3265

Public Meeting held August 23, 2018

Commissioners Present:

Gladys M. Brown, Chairman
Andrew G. Place, Vice Chairman
Norman J. Kennard
David W. Sweet
John F. Coleman, Jr.

Letter of Notification of Duquesne Light
Company, for Approval to Relocate and
Construct a Section of 138 kV Transmission Line
in Brighton, Potter, and Vanport Townships,
Beaver County, Pennsylvania

Docket Number:
A-2018-3002418

ORDER

PUBLIC VERSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 31, 2018, Duquesne Light Company (Duquesne Light), Utility Code 110150, filed a Letter of Notification (LON) pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(1)(vi) of the Commission's transmission line siting regulation. Section 57.72 authorizes the abbreviated LON siting application process in lieu of an application for the following:

- (i) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely on an existing

Transmission line right-of-way, so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.

- (ii) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely within a public road.
- (iii) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely within applicant's existing transmission line right-of-way and the property of the sole customer to be served by the line, so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (iv) A line for which the voltage is proposed to be increased above its present levels so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (v) An HV line which is to be reconductored or reconstructed so long as the size, character, design or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (vi) An HV line having a proposed route of 2 miles or less.

Copies of the LON were served in accordance with Section 57.72(d)(3), and as set forth in 52 Pa. Code § 57.74(b)(c), on the PA Department of Transportation, PA Department of Environmental Protection, PA Historical and Museum Commission, Beaver County Commissioners, and Potter, Brighton, and Vanport Townships, *et al.* No protests were filed. No hearings were held.

Duquesne Light requests approval to relocate and construct a section of a 138 kV transmission line in Brighton, Potter, and Vanport Townships, Beaver County, Pennsylvania. Duquesne Light states that the relocated section of double-circuit 138 kV transmission line is part of the Potter-Valley 138 kV Transmission Line (Potter-Valley) and will extend approximately 0.91 miles from Tower 6782 on the south shore of the Ohio River to Tower 4068 on the north shore of the Ohio River.

Duquesne Light states that the relocation and construction of the 138 kV transmission line is needed to mitigate reliability concerns associated with the location of the existing 138 kV Ohio River crossing. Existing facilities along the south side of the Ohio River require a reliable permanent connection to facilities on the north side of the river to maintain reliability. Duquesne Light further states that without a reliable river crossing, the only 138 kV source in Potter Township is the double-circuit Raccoon-Potter 138 kV Transmission Line (Raccoon-Potter) and that certain maintenance activities could require both circuits of the Raccoon-Potter to be de-energized to safely perform the required work.

Duquesne Light states that the relocation and construction of 138 kV transmission line is part of a larger project which includes the replacement of existing 69 kV and 23 kV facilities. These facilities, and a portion of the 138 kV facilities to be relocated, were installed or relocated in 2014 to provide service to an ethane plant constructed by Shell Chemical Appalachia, LLC (Shell) Duquesne Light states that upon completion of the project a reliable 138 kV connection will be established between the north and south banks of the Ohio River at Potter Township.

A-2014-2451433; *Letter of Notification of Pennsylvania Electric Company, filed pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §57.72 Chapter 57 Subchapter G with respect to the Relocation of Approximately 1.6 Miles of Double-Circuit 138 kV Transmission Line in Potter and Center Townships, Beaver County, Pennsylvania*; Order entered January 15, 2015.

[BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL]

[END CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL]

Duquesne Light states that the proposed project (Proposed Project) consists of the installation of approximately 0.91 miles of 138 kV transmission line and six new steel monopole structures and the removal of approximately one-mile of existing 138 kV transmission line and four associated transmission line structures. Duquesne Light further states that the new structures range from approximately 115 to 186 feet in height and that the existing transmission line structures to be removed range from approximately 51 feet to 190 feet in height.

Duquesne Light states that the Proposed Project will be designed and installed on existing and new ROW and that all of the necessary ROW has been obtained. The ROW will range from 480 to 520 feet in width and will accommodate the 138 kV circuits as well as parallel 69 kV and 23 kV circuits. Duquesne Light further states that it will obtain a submerged land lease or license agreement from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for the crossing of the Ohio River.

Duquesne Light maintains the Proposed Project will be designed, constructed, operated and maintained in a manner that meets or exceeds the requirements specified in the National Electrical Safety Code, OSHA safety standards, and all applicable legal requirements.

Duquesne states that the total estimated cost for the Proposed Project is approximately \$5,170,000 and that all costs will be paid for by Duquesne Light. **[BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL]**

[END

CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL]

Construction of the Proposed Project is anticipated to commence in August 2018 with a proposed in-service date of February 2019.

The formal Duquesne Light Letter of Notification and manner in which it was filed conforms to the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(1)(vi) because the proposed project will relocate and construct a section of 138 kV transmission line which is less than 2 miles in length. Moreover, the Commission has reviewed the filing and does not find it to be inconsistent with the applicable law or Commission policy regarding transmission line siting and, therefore, to be in the public interest.

We also note that our approval of the Letter of Notification does not address the issues of accounting treatment, and cost recovery; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the Letter of Notification filed by Duquesne Light Company, for approval to relocate and construct a section of 138 kV transmission line in Potter, Brighton, and Vanport Townships, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, is hereby approved.
2. That upon completion of the subject project, Duquesne Light Company shall file the final project cost with the Commission.

3. That upon completion of Ordering Paragraph 2, this proceeding at Docket No. A-2018-3002418 be closed.

BY THE COMMISSION,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosemary Chiavetta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

ORDER ADOPTED: August 23, 2018

ORDER ENTERED: August 23, 2018