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File #: 217490

March 3, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

**Re: Letter of Notification of Keystone Appalachian Transmission Company For Approval Of The Harrison City-Hempfield-Luxor 138 Kilovolt Transmission Line Reconfiguration Project In Hempfield And Salem Townships, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania
Docket No. A-2026-3060612**

Dear Secretary Homsher:

Enclosed please find the responses of Keystone Appalachian Transmission Company (“KATCo”) to the Data Requests issued by the Bureau of Technical Utility Services (“TUS”) Sets I and II, on February 25 and 26, 2026, respectively, in the above-referenced matter.

If you have any questions pertaining to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



Garrett P. Lent
GPL/dmc
Attachments

cc: Deb Backer, Bureau of Technical Utility Services (*via email; w/attachments*)
Jordan Van Order, Bureau of Technical Utility Services (*via email; w/attachments*)
Certificate of Service

Bureau of Technical Utility Services – Data Requests

Docket No. A-2026-3060612

Letter of Notification of Keystone Appalachian Transmission Company to Reconfigure the Harrison City – Hempfield – Luxor 138 kV Transmission Line in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

March 3, 2026

QUESTION A-1

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 13. Please explain whether load growth in the area has led to any change in circumstances as it relates to the need for the proposed project. If so, quantify these load growth impacts.

Response:

No, this Project driver is not load growth driven but was developed to address reliability issues.

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QUESTION A-2

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 16. Please state the approximate cost to construct the Stony Springs Substation and state the name of the individual or entity that will pay for construction of the substation.

Response:

The approximate cost for the construction of the substation is \$27,905,000. KATCo will pay for the entirety of the substation.

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QUESTION A-3

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 16. Please provide a complete breakdown of the cost associated with construction of Stony Springs Substation.

Response:

The breakdown of the costs referenced in the response to A-2 for the Stoney Spring Substation includes \$2,747,200 for engineering, \$4,558,300 for materials, and \$20,599,500 for construction.

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March 3, 2026

QUESTION A-5

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 26. Please state the name of the individual or entity that is paying for the subject project.

Response:

KATCo is paying for the entirety of the subject project.

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QUESTION A-6

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 27. Please confirm the total number of existing transmission structures to be removed or replaced is four.

Response:

The total number of existing transmission structures to be removed or replaced is four.

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March 3, 2026

QUESTION A-7

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 27. Please state the age and anticipated service life and describe the overall health of the transmission line facilities to be replaced.

Response:

The table below summarizes the age and expected service life of the four structures proposed to be replaced. The current condition/overall health of the structures is not readily available, however the reason for the structures being replaced is not conditioned-based. The structures are being replaced because the existing structure design or configuration does not meet the needs of the proposed Project.

Structure	Install Date	Service Life
Str 142A	12/18/1995	50 years
Str 142	8/16/1919	100 years
Str 144	8/16/1919	100 years
Str 148	8/16/1919	100 years

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QUESTION A-8

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 34. Please provide a detailed explanation as to how the installation of a new structure 4B outside the existing right-of-way does not substantially alter the right-of-way.

Response:

New structure 4B is being placed on KATCo-owned property. It does not alter the existing right-of-way.

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QUESTION A-9

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 7. Please provide a detailed explanation as to why the proposed Stoney Springs Substation is needed.

Response:

The Project is needed to: (i) reduce the number of power disruptions to residential and commercial customers due to transmission line outages, and (ii) improve the reliability of the transmission network and the local distribution system by adding a three-breaker ring bus switching station.

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QUESTION A-10

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 14. Please state the rating of the subject transmission line before and after completion of the subject project.

Response:

The PJM Slides provided as Exhibit 3 depict the line ratings before and after the completion of the Project:

Existing Line Ratings:

Need #	Transmission Line / Substation Locations	Existing Line Rating MVA (SN / SE / WN / WE)	Existing Conductor Rating MVA (SN / SE / WN / WE)
APS-2023-022	Harrison City – Penn 138 kV Line	242 / 297 / 310 / 351	308 / 376 / 349 / 445
	Penn – North Oakford Tap 138 kV Line	296 / 302 / 332 / 332	296 / 302 / 332 / 332
	North Oakford Tap – South Oakford Tap 138 kV Line	296 / 302 / 332 / 332	296 / 302 / 332 / 332
	North Oakford Tap – Delmont 138 kV Line	221 / 268 / 250 / 317	221 / 268 / 250 / 317
	South Oakford Tap – Stony Springs Junction 138 kV Line	296 / 302 / 332 / 322	296 / 302 / 332 / 322
	Stony Springs Junction – North Greensburg 138 kV Line	308 / 376 / 349 / 445	308 / 376 / 349 / 445
	North Greensburg – Hempfield 138 kV Line	294 / 350 / 349 / 401	308 / 376 / 349 / 445
	Stony Springs Junction – Luxor 138 kV Line	296 / 302 / 332 / 332	296 / 302 / 332 / 332

Proposed Line Ratings:

Need #	Transmission Line / Substation Locations	New MVA Line Rating (SN / SE / WN / WE)
APS-2023-022	Harrison City – Penn 138 kV Line	308 / 376 / 349 / 445
	Penn – North Oakford Tap 138 kV Line	296 / 302 / 332 / 332
	North Oakford Tap – South Oakford Tap 138 kV Line	296 / 302 / 322 / 332
	North Oakford – Delmont 138 kV Line	221 / 268 / 250 / 317
	South Oakford Tap – Stony Springs Junction 138 kV Line	296 / 302 / 332 / 322
	Stony Springs Junction – North Greensburg 138 kV Line	308 / 376 / 349 / 445
	North Greensburg – Hempfield 138 kV Line	308 / 376 / 349 / 445
	Stony Springs Junction – Luxor 138 kV Line	296 / 302 / 332 / 367

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QUESTION A-11

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 16. Please provide a detailed explanation as to how the Stoney Springs Substation will resolve the problem.

Response:

The proposed Project will construct a new three-breaker ring bus switching station to meet the current minimum FirstEnergy design standard for new stations or substations to provide an additional sectionalizing point on the transmission system to improve reliability. The Project will also reduce the line exposure of each station connected to the transmission line and the risks to reliability as discussed in the Letter of Notification, Paragraphs 13-19.

Reconfiguring the 138 kV junction to a three-breaker ring bus switching station will provide redundancy and eliminate the outage of all the tapped substation loads due to a single line fault on any part of the existing three-point transmission line by creating three independent transmission lines.

The Project will make the transmission system in the area more resilient and reliable, as well as provide increased operational flexibility. The new ring bus at the Stoney Springs Junction will greatly reduce the potential for widespread outages in the area.

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Question A-12

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 17. Please explain whether the subject project would mitigate the impact of these contingency scenarios.

Response:

Yes, the Stoney Springs Station will mitigate the impact of the contingency scenarios. Reconfiguring the 138 kV junction to a three-breaker ring bus switching station will provide redundancy and eliminate the outage of all the tapped substation loads due to a single line fault on any part of the existing three-point transmission line by creating three independent transmission lines.

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QUESTION A-13

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 17. Please provide a description of the applicable contingency scenarios and explain how they are relevant to the subject project.

Response:

Referencing the diagram on page 2 of Exhibit 3, a fault on any section of the transmission line shown will interrupt service to all the substations served from the line. For example, a fault on the section of line between Penn Substation and the tap to North Oakford Substation will interrupt the entire transmission line from Harrison City Substation to Luxor Substation and to Hempfield Substation. All the other substations on the line will be interrupted. By installing the Stoney Springs Substation, a fault on the section of line between Penn Substation and the tap to North Oakford Substation will only interrupt service to the stations between Harrison City Substation and Stoney Springs Substation. The transmission line from Luxor Substation to Stoney Springs Substation to Hempfield Substation will remain in service, keeping the transmission system connected and keeping service at North Greensburg Substation.

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QUESTION A-14

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 24. Please state the approximate cost of the alternative solution.

Response:

Costs were not developed for the alternative solution.

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QUESTION A-15

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 24. Please explain whether the alternative solution would alleviate the need for the Stoney Springs Substation.

Response:

Yes, the alternative could alleviate the need for the Stoney Springs Substation.

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QUESTION A-16

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 26. Please provide a detailed description of the subject project area, including the end points.

Response:

The project will take place in three non-contiguous “project areas” totaling approximately 2.2 miles of work.

- Area 1 includes the work between existing structure 138 to structure 136, and between existing structure 137 to existing structure 1. The approximate cumulative distance of this work area is 0.4 miles.
- Area 2 includes the work between existing structure 142A1 to new structure 142A, and between existing structure 141 to existing structure 149. The approximate cumulative distance of this work area is 1 mile.
- Area 3 includes the work between existing structure 1 to new structure 4D. The approximate cumulative distance of this work is 0.8 miles.

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QUESTION A-17

Reference the Letter of Notification, Paragraph 27. Please explain whether the additional set of conductors is still needed after the protective relaying is upgraded.

Response:

Yes, the additional set of conductors is still needed to create the three independent transmission circuits emanating from Stoney Springs Substation.

**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF
KEYSTONE APPALACHIAN
TRANSMISSION COMPANY FOR
APPROVAL OF THE HARRISON
CITY-HEMPFIELD-LUXOR 138
KILOVOLT TRANSMISSION LINE
RECONFIGURATION PROJECT IN
HEMPFIELD AND SALEM
TOWNSHIPS, WESTMORELAND
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

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: **Docket No. A-2026-3060612**
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VERIFICATION

I, Michael DeSarro, state that I am a Transmission Specialist for FirstEnergy Service Company; that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of Keystone Appalachian Transmission Company; and that the facts set forth in the Letter of Notification are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I understand that the statements herein are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).



Date: March 3, 2026

Michael DeSarro