

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE



Gregory A. Simmons
Commissioner

Ted S. Mercer
Commissioner

Wade H. Westfall
Commissioner

September 24, 2026

Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

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RE: Objection to Applicant's Motion for a Waiver of the 10-Mile Visual Impact Study Requirement – OPSB Case No. 26-0809-EL-BTX

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners of Miami County, Ohio, we are writing to formally object to the Grid Growth Ohio EHV, LLC's recent motion requesting a waiver to reduce the required visual impact study radius from 10 miles to 5 miles.

Under Ohio Administrative Code Rule 4906-4-08(D)(6), the 10-mile standard exists for a critical reason: above-ground high-voltage transmission structures pose a massive, long-term disruption to our landscape. Shortening this study area silences the voices of hundreds of residents and property owners who live between the 5-mile and 10-mile markers. These individuals will be forced to look at this infrastructure every day, yet the developer is actively trying to exclude them from the formal "area of visual effect" analysis.

Furthermore, a full 10-mile radius is vital to accurately assess the cumulative aesthetic damage to our county's historic landmarks, public parks, and agricultural corridors. The developer's request to shrink this window is an attempt to bypass rigorous "bare earth" viewshed testing and hide the true visual footprint of their project.

The residents of Miami County deserve full transparency. We respectfully urge the Ohio Power Siting Board to protect our community's right to disclosure, uphold the rule of law, and deny this waiver request.

Sincerely,

Board of Miami County Commissioners

Wade Westfall, President

Greg Simmons, Vice President

Ted Mercer, Commissioner

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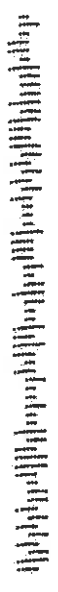


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