

## MEMORANDUM

To: Commissioners Wefald, Clark and Cramer  
Fr: Jerry Lein  
Da: April 3, 2008  
Re: 4/4/08 Special Meeting - Agenda Item SW-1  
Case No. PU-08-32: Ashtabula Wind Energy Center  
Case No. PU-08-73: Ashtabula 230 kV Transmission Line

Staff review of Ashtabula Wind's applications for a certificate of site compatibility, waiver, corridor certificate and route permit indicates that all of the requirements in the Commission's application guidelines have been addressed. Additionally, the Commission determined in admin that transmission line structure locations should be filed by April 25<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, staff recommends the application be deemed complete conditioned on receiving those final structure locations by April 25<sup>th</sup>. However, there are some additional studies and permitting activities still underway:

1. Micro-siting: The company has provided preliminary turbine and transmission line structure locations in its applications and is further evaluating and refining those locations in order to provide final proposed and alternate turbine sites prior to the hearing and transmission structure locations prior to April 25<sup>th</sup>.
2. Avian Studies: Results from avian studies completed last fall are included in the applications. Additional spring raptor nest and avian surveys are ongoing.
3. Wetlands Delineation: Wetland delineation is expected to be completed in early April depending on weather conditions.
4. Cultural Resources: A class I file search has been completed and SHPO is recommending class II/III pedestrian surveys, which are expected to begin during early April depending on weather conditions..

JRL