



## Ohio Sunset Review Committee

### *Agency Questionnaire*

Agency Name: Ohio Power Siting Board

Point of Contact: Michael Williams, Executive Director

Agency's primary purpose and its various goals and objectives:

Per the statutory guidance granted by the Ohio General Assembly found in Ohio Revised Code Section 4906, the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) is responsible for reviewing requests for certificates and is the sole entity entitled by statute to issue certificates of environmental compatibility and public need for certain major utility facilities, including certain types of electric generation facilities, electric transmission lines, and natural gas pipelines. In addition, the board ensures compliance with the terms and conditions of approved certificates for major utility facilities.

Agency's past and anticipated workload, number of staff required to complete workload, and total number of staff:

OPSB has 16-18 staff which can vary based on application volume. This count has increased by approximately 6 since our last report due to increased application volume and the establishment of a compliance division in FY 2023 that oversees the installation of certificated projects. In general, compliance efforts target education as to construction and operation best management practices that balance public protection with the rights of energy developers. Over the past 18 months, the OPSB's compliance efforts have resulted in over 400 inspections and over 200 combined interactions with developers and the public as to project-specific concerns raised by either OPSB Staff or the public.

2020-2023 OPSB Applications Filed:

2020: 105

2021: 123

2022: 114

2023: 119

Agency workload is largely dependent on the number and complexity of incoming applications. Large volumes of applications can also necessitate an increase in the number of dedicated staff.

Agency's past and anticipated budgets and its sources of funding:

Staff time dedicated to each project is tracked and billed to the project. Additional expenses may be assessed to the project developer on an ongoing basis. The OPSB's formula for project rates is set forth in the Ohio Administrative Code and is authorized by the Ohio General Assembly.

Revenues are received from application fees and from amounts billed to applicants for OPSB expenses incurred during staff's evaluation. Application fees are based on the nature of the project.

Appropriations:

FY20: \$1,095,185

FY21: \$1,095,185

FY22: \$1,238,751

FY 23: \$2,388,606

Number of members of its governing board or other governing entity and their compensation, if any:

The OPSB is made up of 11 members, seven voting members and four non-voting members.

Voting members include: PUCO Chairperson, the directors, or designees, of the Ohio Department of Development, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Agriculture, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and a member of the public who is an engineer and appointed by the governor.

Non-voting members include: two Ohio House of Representative members appointed by the speaker of the House and minority leader; two Ohio Senate members appointed by the president of the Senate and minority leader.

Agency directors serving as OPSB members receive no compensation. The public member and members of the General Assembly receive a per diem rate established by statute.

Per diem expense:

FY20: \$3,339.14

FY21: \$1,521.52

FY22: \$7,197.29

FY23: \$6,886.65

Additional notes: