

GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP

Fairfield County, Ohio

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-1014-02

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED GRID GROWTH 765-KILOVOLT TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT WITHIN GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP AND FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OHIO; DIRECTING THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE TRANSMITTED TO PROJECT DEVELOPERS, THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD, AND ELECTED OFFICIALS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The Board of Trustees of Greenfield Township, Fairfield County, Ohio (the “Board”), met in regular session on the 14th day of October 2026, at 6:30 p.m., at the Greenfield Township Fire Department, 3245 Havensport Road, Carroll, Ohio 43112, with the following members present:

Jennifer Sitterley, Chair

David Cotner

Lonnie Kosch, Sr.

WHEREAS, Greenfield Township is one of the thirteen townships of Fairfield County, Ohio, established in 1805, comprising approximately 31.5 square miles of predominantly rural, agricultural, and rural-residential land, and is home to more than 5,700 residents who have consistently expressed a desire to preserve the Township’s rural character, productive farmland, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Township Trustees is charged under Chapter 505 and Chapter 519 of the Ohio Revised Code with the care of township roads, the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare, and the regulation of land use in the unincorporated territory of the Township, and further has a duty to represent the interests of Township landowners and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Grid Growth Ventures (“Grid Growth”), a joint venture of Transource Energy LLC (jointly owned by American Electric Power and Evergy) and FirstEnergy Transmission LLC, was selected by PJM Interconnection in February 2026 to develop approximately 220 miles of new extra-high-voltage transmission infrastructure across Ohio, consisting of four new 765-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines and one new 345-kV transmission line extending from the Indiana–Ohio border in Darke County to Guernsey County; and

WHEREAS, the eastern segment of said project, commonly identified as “Grid Growth East,” is proposed to include two new 765-kV electric transmission lines traversing Pickaway, Fairfield, Coshocton, Muskingum, and Guernsey Counties, thereby placing Greenfield Township and Fairfield County within the project’s study area and potential routing corridor; and

WHEREAS, no final route has been selected; Grid Growth has announced a first round of community open houses beginning September 21, 2026, a second round of open houses in early 2027, and an anticipated application to the Ohio Power Siting Board (“OPSB”) in the spring of 2027; and

WHEREAS, a 765-kV transmission line typically requires steel lattice or monopole structures approaching 150 to 175 feet in height, together with a permanent right-of-way commonly 150 to 200 feet or more in width, the clearing of vegetation, restrictions on farming and building within the easement, and the potential use of eminent domain if negotiated easements cannot be obtained; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that routing such infrastructure through Greenfield Township would inflict lasting harm upon the Township and its residents, including without limitation:

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- (a) the permanent conversion and fragmentation of productive agricultural land, interference with field drainage tile systems, restrictions on aerial application and farm equipment movement, and impairment of the agricultural economy that remains a foundation of the Township;
- (b) a substantial and irreversible visual intrusion upon the rural landscape, residential neighborhoods, and the U.S. Route 33 corridor that forms the economic and geographic spine of the Township;
- (c) diminution of real property values for homes, farms, and developable tracts burdened by or adjoining extra-high-voltage easements, together with uncertainty that chills private investment while routing remains unresolved;
- (d) conflict with the Township's long-standing land-use objectives and with Fairfield County's adopted Comprehensive Plan, which seek to manage growth, protect farmland and rural character, and concentrate infrastructure in a manner that does not sacrifice existing communities;
- (e) the imposition of construction traffic, road damage, and public-safety burdens upon Township roads and emergency services during a multi-year construction period, without commensurate local benefit; and
- (f) the risk that private property rights will be taken or permanently encumbered for a regional project driven in large measure by electricity demand from large-load customers, including data centers, located outside Greenfield Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges that Ohio and the PJM region face growing electricity demand, but finds that such demand does not require, and does not justify, the sacrifice of Greenfield Township's farmland, homes, and rural character when existing utility corridors, previously disturbed lands, and locations nearer to the loads being served have not been demonstrated to be unavailable or infeasible; and

WHEREAS, other Ohio counties already identified in the Grid Growth study area, including Miami, Shelby, Champaign, and Darke Counties, have publicly opposed routing of the project through their communities on similar grounds of farmland protection, property-owner impact, and incompatibility with local growth; and

WHEREAS, the Board deems it necessary and proper to state its opposition now, while study areas are still being reviewed and before preliminary routes harden into an OPSB application, so that Grid Growth, the OPSB, PJM Interconnection, and the Township's state and federal representatives have unmistakable notice of the Township's position; and

WHEREAS, this Board further finds that immediate action is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Township residents and to preserve the Township's ability to participate effectively in the siting process, and that this Resolution should therefore be declared an emergency measure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Greenfield Township, Fairfield County, Ohio, that:

Section 1. Opposition Declared. The Board of Trustees of Greenfield Township hereby formally and unequivocally opposes the siting, routing, construction, and operation of the Grid Growth 765-kV Transmission Line Project, including Grid Growth East and any associated substations, switching stations, or related facilities, within the unincorporated territory of Greenfield Township and, to the extent the project would burden Township residents, landowners, roads, or the Township's rural character, within Fairfield County, Ohio.

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Section 2. Findings. The Board finds and determines that routing the Project through Greenfield Township is contrary to the public interest of the Township; is incompatible with the Township's agricultural and rural-residential character; threatens property values, farm operations, and planned orderly growth along the U.S. Route 33 corridor; and would impose costs and burdens on Township residents that are not offset by local reliability or economic benefits sufficient to justify those harms.

Section 3. Request to Developer. The Board respectfully but firmly requests that Grid Growth Ventures, Transource Energy LLC, FirstEnergy Transmission LLC, and their agents, consultants, and contractors:

- (a) exclude Greenfield Township from all preliminary and final route alternatives;
- (b) give first preference to existing transmission corridors, previously disturbed industrial lands, and alignments nearer to the large loads said to justify the Project;
- (c) refrain from contacting Township landowners for survey access, easement negotiation, or right-of-way acquisition except as required by law and after written notice to this Board; and
- (d) provide this Board, contemporaneously with any public release, copies of study-area maps, preliminary route options, environmental and agricultural-impact analyses, and any materials filed with the OPSB that concern Fairfield County or Greenfield Township.

Section 4. Request to the Ohio Power Siting Board. The Board respectfully requests that the Ohio Power Siting Board, in any future certificate proceeding concerning the Project:

- (a) give substantial weight to this Resolution and to the land-use policies of Greenfield Township and Fairfield County;
- (b) require a complete alternatives analysis demonstrating why existing corridors and non-Township alignments cannot meet the identified need;
- (c) evaluate fully the Project's effects on agriculture, drainage, property values, visual character, local roads, and emergency response; and
- (d) deny any route that would place 765-kV structures or rights-of-way within Greenfield Township unless the applicant proves, by clear and convincing evidence, that no reasonable alternative exists.

Section 5. Participation Authorized. The Board, the Township Fiscal Officer, the Township Zoning Inspector, Township legal counsel, and such other officers or consultants as the Board may designate are hereby authorized and directed to:

- (a) monitor the Project, attend open houses and public hearings, and submit written comments on behalf of the Township;
- (b) seek intervention or otherwise participate in any OPSB proceeding involving the Project;
- (c) coordinate with the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners, adjoining townships, the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission, school districts, farm organizations, and similarly situated local governments;
- (d) request the assistance of State Representative Jeff LaRe (Ohio House District 73), State Senator Tim Schaffer (Ohio Senate District 20), members of Ohio's congressional delegation, the Ohio Township Association, and the County Prosecuting Attorney; and
- (e) inform Township residents of opportunities to review maps, submit comments, and protect their property rights.

B O A R D O F T R U S T E E S

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Section 6. Transmission of Certified Copies. The Township Fiscal Officer is directed to certify a copy of this Resolution and to transmit the same, promptly upon adoption, to each of the following:

Grid Growth Ventures / GridGrowthVentures.com project team;
Transource Energy LLC and FirstEnergy Transmission LLC;
The Ohio Power Siting Board, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215;
PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.;
The Fairfield County Board of Commissioners;
The Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission;
The Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney;
The Honorable Jeff LaRe, Ohio House of Representatives, District 73;
The Honorable Tim Schaffer, Ohio Senate, District 20;
The members of the United States House and Senate representing Fairfield County; and
Such other officials or agencies as the Board or Fiscal Officer may determine to be appropriate.

Section 7. Public Notice. The Fiscal Officer is authorized to post this Resolution on the Township website, to make copies available at the Township offices, and to provide copies to local news media so that residents may be informed of the Board's position and of forthcoming open houses and comment opportunities.

Section 8. No Waiver. Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed as consent to survey, entry, easement, construction, or the exercise of eminent domain within the Township, or as a waiver of any right, claim, or defense available to the Township or its residents under Ohio or federal law.

Section 9. Severability. If any section, clause, or provision of this Resolution is held invalid, the remainder shall not be affected thereby and shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 10. Emergency and Effective Date. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of Greenfield Township, for the reason that Grid Growth open houses and route-development work are already underway and delay would impair the Township's ability to protect its residents and land. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption.

Moved by: David Cotner

Seconded by: Lonnie Kosch, Sr.

Upon roll call, the vote resulted as follows:

Trustee	Yes	No
Jennifer Sitterley, Chair	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
David Cotner	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
Lonnie Kosch, Sr.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>

Motion carried. Resolution adopted this 14th October ~~23rd day of September~~, 2026.

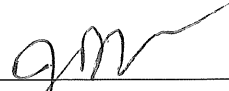
B O A R D O F T R U S T E E S

GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OHIO



Jennifer Sitterley

Chair, Board of Trustees



David Cotner

Trustee



Lonnie Kosch, Sr.

Trustee

Attest:



Angela Bichard

Township Fiscal Officer

CERTIFICATION

THE STATE OF OHIO, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, ss:

I, Angela Bichard, Fiscal Officer of the Board of Trustees of Greenfield Township, Fairfield County, Ohio, and in whose custody the files, journals, and records of said Board are required by the laws of the State of Ohio to be kept, do hereby certify that the foregoing is taken and copied from the original Resolution now on file with said Board; that the foregoing has been compared by me with said original Resolution; and that the same is a true and correct copy thereof.

WITNESS my signature this 14 day of ~~September~~ , 2026.



Angela Bichard

Township Fiscal Officer

Draft for consideration by the Greenfield Township Board of Trustees. Meeting date, mover, seconder, and roll-call votes to be completed upon adoption. Resolution number may be adjusted to conform to the Fiscal Officer's numbering sequence.