

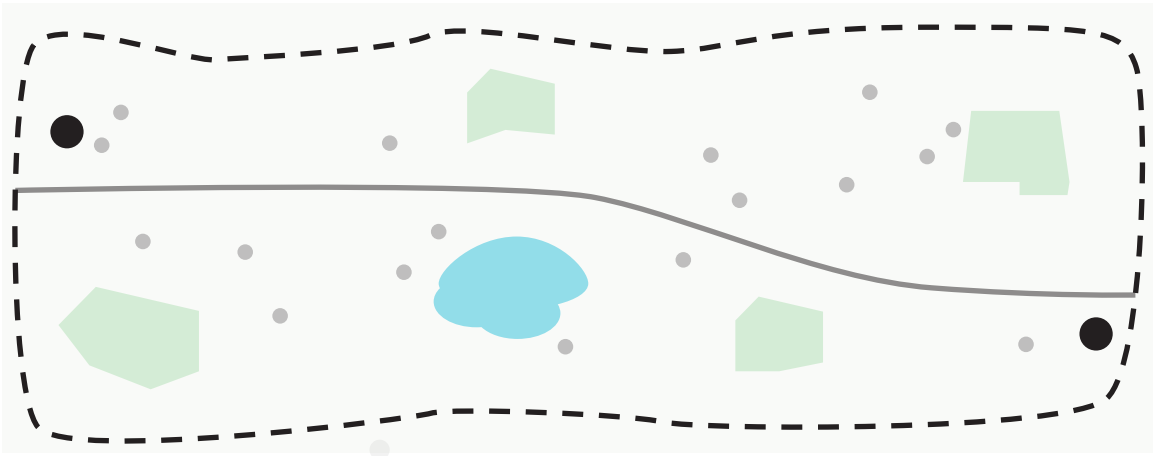
AES Ohio Transmission Line Siting Methodology

AES Ohio utilizes a robust siting process to study various route alternatives before selecting a proposed route centerline. This process is led by a siting team of subject matter experts and incorporates data gathering, stakeholder input, landowner input, and field reconnaissance and surveys. Approval from the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) is obtained for projects falling under OPSB jurisdiction. Detailed steps of this process are outlined below. *

*Projects that are short in length, rebuilt entirely on existing transmission centerlines, or where only one viable route exist may not require all steps below.

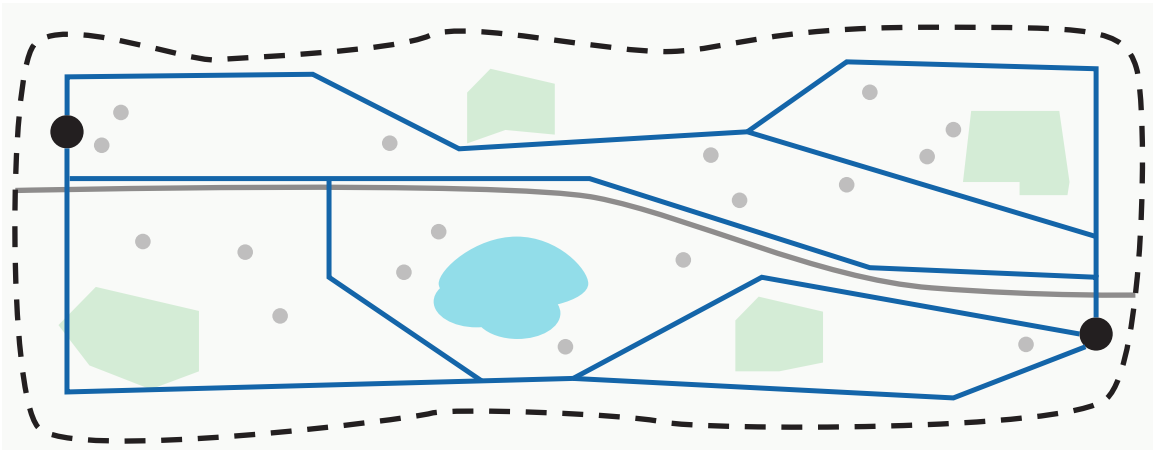
1. Data Gathering and Study Area Development

AES Ohio gathers publicly available environmental, cultural, land use, socioeconomic, and technical constraints and opportunity data in a Geographic Information System (GIS). Constraints and opportunity data is then utilized to define a study area in which route segments are developed between project start and end points. For rebuild projects, study areas are developed around constrained areas in which reroutes are being considered.



2. Preliminary Route Segment Network Development

Preliminary routes are developed within the study area between project start and end points with the goal of minimizing siting impacts to the extent practical. The network is continually updated throughout the siting process as new information becomes available.



3. Field Reconnaissance of Preliminary Route Network

The study area and preliminary route segments are then reviewed from public roads and access points where possible to confirm aerial imagery observations and publicly available GIS data.



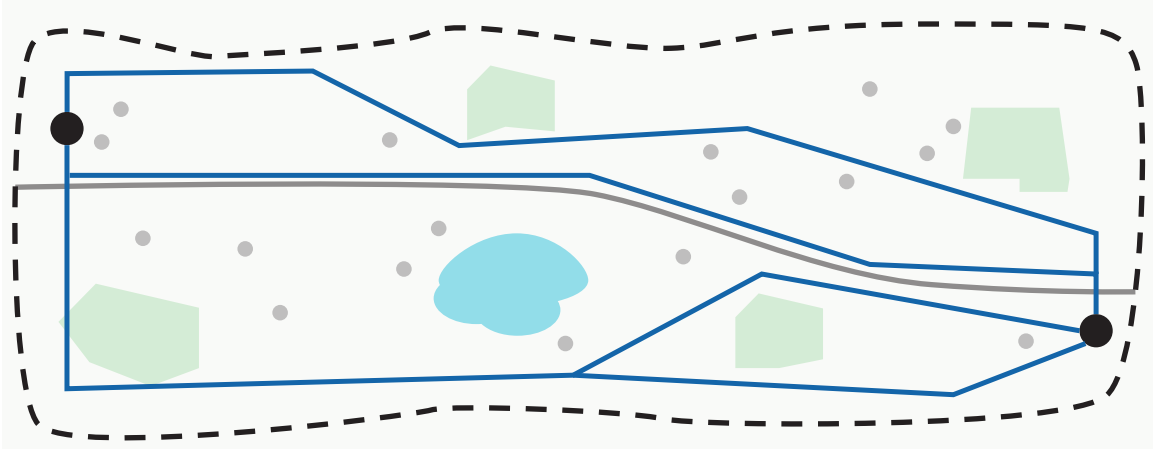
4. Landowner and Stakeholder Input

AES Ohio seeks input through various outreach methods from potentially affected landowners and community stakeholders along the preliminary route segment network.



5. Route Segment Network Refinement

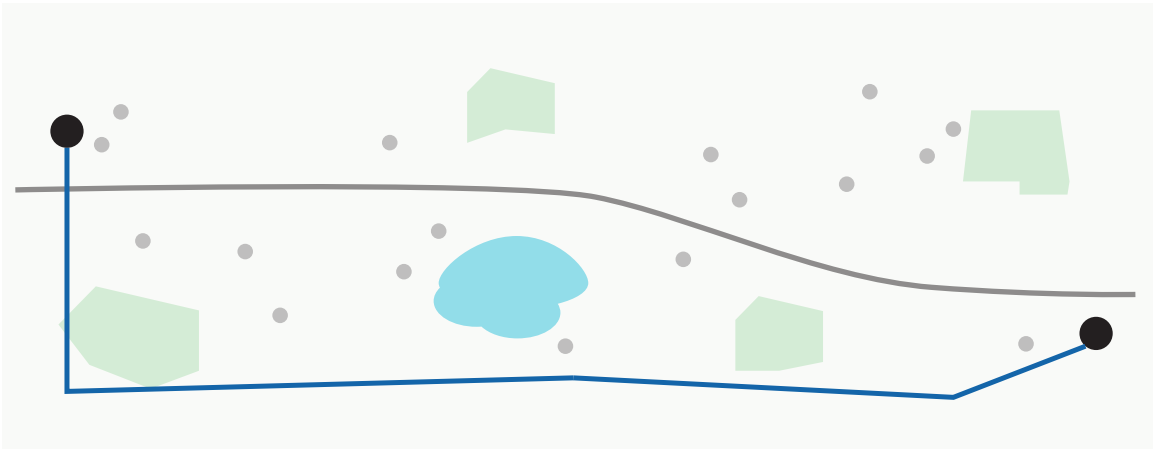
After landowner and stakeholder input is received, the preliminary route segment network is refined to incorporate route adjustments where practical. Remaining route segments are then combined into full length route alternatives that are evaluated and compared against each other.



6. Selection of the Proposed Route*

The results of the quantitative and qualitative siting study are reviewed by a project siting team with the common goal of choosing a proposed route that minimizes siting impacts to the extent practical.

*More than one proposed route may be chosen when required by the OPSB.



7. Detailed Engineering, ROW Discussions, and Field Surveys

The proposed route is further studied and refined through detailed engineering design and surveys, additional ROW discussions with impacted landowners, environmental field surveys, and cultural resources studies.



8. Siting Board Approval

If applicable, a siting board application is submitted to the OPSB to obtain a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need for the project. For more information, visit: opsb.ohio.gov

