



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
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Arkansas Public Service Commission  
Secretary of Commission  
P.O. Box 400  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0400

Dear Secretary of Commission:

Please reference a letter dated March 26, 2013, regarding Southwestern Electric Power Company's (SWEPCO) proposed transmission line routes, specifically referred to as Docket No. 13-041-U.

After reviewing the proposal and proposed routes, the Corps of Engineers is providing our comments and concerns regarding SWEPCO's proposed actions. All of the proposed routes cross Corps of Engineers property. Our preference is that impacts to Corps property be completely avoided, but understand these impacts may in fact be unavoidable. The Corps of Engineers prefers Routes 33, 108, or 109 as opposed to the other alternate routes. Routes 33 and 109 have the least significant environmental impacts to Corps property, avoiding it entirely with the exception of one perpendicular, spanned crossing of the White River, at the headwaters of Table Rock Lake. Proposed Route 108 crosses a portion of Beaver Lake, parallel to Highway 412. The crossing for Route 108 is located primarily in a previously disturbed corridor and would have less impact to Government property.

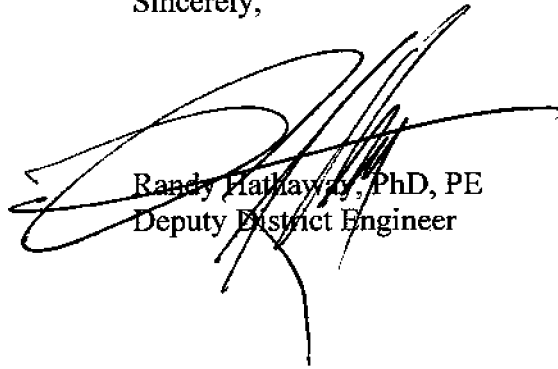
Proposed Routes 62, 86, and 91 cross Corps of Engineers property in the Indian Creek area of Beaver Lake. The proposed crossing is in an undisturbed area of the lake and does not follow any existing corridors across Government property. The potential impacts from Routes 62 and 86, specifically Path #12, are of greater concern because of the close proximity of the right-of-way to the White River. The path is proposed to run parallel for approximately a mile. The Corps will not, nor is able to make the land available for the crossings at these locations because other practical alternatives are available. Please be advised eminent domain is not applicable to federal property.

Our concerns for all of the routes include erosion and sedimentation issues stemming from potential loss of vegetation; loss of Bald Eagle roosting habitat; impacts to cultural resources; and the aesthetic impacts from a 150 ft right-of-way through generally undisturbed areas.

Any impacts to Corps of Engineers property associated with crossing Beaver Lake, Table Rock Lake, or the White River will require a review for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, a Real Estate instrument, a Regulatory Section 10 Permit, and non-statutory mitigation. The SWEPCO Environmental Impact Statement dated March 2013 associated with this project does not fully address all potential impacts to Corps of Engineers property.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and I look forward to working with you to reach a satisfactory agreement. I am forwarding a copy of this letter to SWEPCO for their records. If you need additional information, please contact Jason Gramlich in the Little Rock District Office at (501) 324-5119 or [Jason.V.Gramlich@usace.army.mil](mailto:Jason.V.Gramlich@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Hathaway", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible due to overlapping strokes.

Randy Hathaway, PhD, PE  
Deputy District Engineer