

ACME TOWNSHIP
Zoning Board of Appeals
November 13, 2008

Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
Acme, Michigan

Meeting called to Order at 7:35 p.m.

Members present: L. Belcher, B. Hopkins, D. Krause, D. Smith (7:40)

Members excused: J. Kuncaitis (Chair)

Staff present: J. Hull, Zoning Administrator
N. Edwardson/Recording Secretary

1. **Review and approval of the agenda, inquiry as to conflicts of interest:** None

2. **Correspondence:**

3. **Reports:** None

4. **Hearings:**

a) **Application # 2008-05Z for Consumers Energy Company, One Energy Plaza, Jackson, MI, for Essential Services, Under Section 5.4 to allow for the Construction of a new/expanded bulk-power electric substation at 6161 Bates Road, Williamsburg, MI.**

Belcher read into the record Application #2008-05Z for Consumers Energy Company.

Robert P. Gluszewski, Area Manager, for Consumers Energy, introduced himself and Jeannie King, from the Real Estate offices and Don Lynd from Planning and Engineering department. King and Lynd are here to present application to the Zoning Board for the construction of a new substation. Gluszewski said Consumers historically has a very reliable reputation for providing service now and in the future. King said this substation will be constructed on 20 acres at the Northwest corner of Bates Road and M-72 that Consumers owns.

Lynd said that basically we are purposing to construct a new expanded bulk-power electric substation. This substation will allow for more reliable electric service throughout the area, and will not support additional load growth in the future. There will be no employees stationed at the site. Routine maintenance and inspection will be performed on a monthly basis. The building will be constructed out of steel.

Joe Pennington, 7070 Crisp Road, asked if this substation would be north of the existing station. Lynd said yes and Pennington replied you are not going towards M72 but to the north. Lynd said yes about 100' feet away.

Belcher asked if the existing station would stay and how big the building would be. Lynd said the new building is 20x40 and will be assembled on the property. Hopkins asked if there would be new high tension wires to the station. Lynd said there will be a 138 kb line coming from the SW corner up to the Tribe and turn Easterly 33 feet thereof. We are still waiting for approval from the tribe, Lynd said.

Chuck Walter, 6584 Bates Road, asked would this be part of a trade off for access on the North side of Bates. Lynd replied yes. Walter also asked what will be happening to the rest of the property. Lynd said that Consumers is open to discussion. He also said there will be a surplus of land left over and there is a possibility of selling some.

Hull commented that he had been part of meetings with Bates Crossing developers, MDOT, Road Commission, Consumers and the Tribe. Matt Skeels from County Planning facilitated. There was a preliminary discussion of four different possible roads location.

Bill Westfall, 6190 Bates Road, asked how far North from the existing building will this new substation go? Lynd said about 400 ft.

Walter asked if there were plans for landscaping. Lynd replied no. King said that based on the companies security policy that they try not to have shrubs as they can serve as a screen for theft or vandalism to happen.

Belcher closed public comment. He asked the Board to deliberate, is this an essential services.

**MOTION BY KRAUSE TO GRANT APPROVAL OF APPLICATION # 2008-5Z ,
FOR CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY PROJECT UNDER SECTION 5.4
OF THE ACME TOWNSHIP ZONING. SECONDED BY HOPKINS. MOTION
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. **Approval of minutes from the October 16, 2008, meeting**

Hull presented a letter from Ed and Sheila Eilers asking for a correction to the minutes from the October 16, 2008, meeting.

**MOTION BY KRAUSE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 16,
2008, MEETING AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY HOPKINS. MOTION CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNED AT 8:08 pm