

FILE

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October 22, 2011

Governor John Kasich, Governor  
Riffe Center, 30th Floor  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Office of the Governor  
**RECEIVED**

OCT 27 2011

**Governor John R. Kasich**

Re: *The Columbus Dispatch* article, "Pipeline Could Pass Under OSU Wetlands"

Dear Governor Kasich:

I am frankly exasperated by the recently reported proposed alignment of a Columbia Gas high pressure gas line under The Ohio State University Wetland Research Park. I have been around The Ohio State University for a very long time and cannot think of one other internationally acclaimed university facility. This is the type of positive recognition that officials say they want for OSU especially when there is so much negative publicity nationally concerning the football program.

Public utilities share a community responsibility to make decisions based on fact finding. If such due diligence had been done during the evaluation portion of the planning process, this letter would not have been required.

The facts are glaringly apparent that The Ohio State University Wetlands Research Park has earned numerous national and international awards, culminating in the most prestigious international award that is an honor to OSU, Columbus and Ohio. And now there is a proposal to jeopardize this treasure by running a high pressure gas line under it? What are university and utility officials thinking?

This facility is one of a kind for an academic campus and brings Ohio State positive international recognition. It should be a point of pride, not some cheap commodity that can be so easily endangered by such a poorly conceived plan.

The Columbia Gas system needs to be commended for its overall safety record and vilified when decisions such as this pipe line alignment endanger an outstanding academic achievement within the national and international scientific community.

Columbia Gas and OSU should be embarrassed and ashamed to even release their spin doctors' comments that, "We want to do this right and make sure there is no meaningful risk to the wetlands." Oh, really!

Do the right thing and remove from consideration a Columbia Gas high pressure gas line underneath OSU's research wetlands of international significance.

Sincerely,

  
Michael G. Peppe

PUCO

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Cc: OSU Board of Trustees  
G. Gordon Gee, OSU President

Archie Griffin, OSU Alumni Assn.  
Ohio Governor John Kasich

Ohio Power Siting Commission  
Jack Partridge, Columbia Gas

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