

FILE

Tom McGrath

9464 Bluewing Terrace

Cincinnati, OH 45241

tmcgrathnd@aol.com

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The Ohio Power Siting Board

180 East Broad Street

Columbus, OH 43215

I am writing to express strong opposition to the Duke Energy plan for the Central Corridor Pipeline (case 16-253-GA-BTX)- through any residential area- but especially on the "Pink Route". As my neighbors and I have researched this potential pipeline it has become clear that a huge 30-inch diameter pipeline through residential property is a very new, and highly risky, endeavor for Duke. If such a pipeline is approved at all, it should choose a route that stays as far away from developed, residential areas as possible- not going through back yards where children are playing. The concerns are many:

- 1) **Safety**- via online searches it is apparent that pipeline accidents are fairly common, with the San Bruno blast being the most horrendous. The fact that Duke has never installed such a large pipeline through residential areas before magnifies this concern. While Duke may prefer using public domain to gain full control of private land to run the line through, wouldn't maximizing use of public land further away from residences be a far safer approach?
- 2) **Quality of Residential Life**- The "Pink Route" of the Central Corridor runs through a beautiful, wooded residential neighborhood. When my wife and I bought our home here the #1 reason was the beauty and privacy that the wooded back yard provided. We were told (and went on to confirm), that there was a "Green Belt" that would protect the area just beyond our property line from development. However, if the Pink Route was chosen, that Green Belt would be violated and the thin line of woods that add so much value to our neighborhood would be destroyed. In fact, what would remain would be a "view" of U.C. Blue Ash's parking lot, directly beyond our back yard. Oh, and that is the long term view- the short term of having noisy heavy equipment, fumes, and debris in our back yard as work crews construct the line would be miserable.
- 3) **Property Values**- There is no doubt that property values for all those located along this line would drop dramatically. Going from a gorgeous, wooded back yard to one that is wide open, overlooking a parking lot, would be disastrous for future attempts to sell our homes. Not to mention the fear that potential residents would have of having a huge, potentially dangerous pipeline abutting their property.
- 4) **Lack of Transparency in the Process**- Frankly, Duke has done a horrible job in communication to those potentially affected by this pipeline. If there was notice of the public meetings that apparently were held in March, we didn't see it. In fact, if a very alert neighbor hadn't recently

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told us of this plan we would still be unaware of it. Also, the maps used to communicate the potential routes are virtually impossible to decipher at a street-by-street level. In their apparent zeal to hurry this process along, I highly question whether Duke has fulfilled its legal obligations to properly notify residents and businesses. As a result, we have been unable to fully do our own research and express our views to the Siting Board.

Frankly, running this pipeline through a residential area, especially the "Pink Route", would ruin the homes of scores of families along the way. Even worse, it could potentially be very hazardous to those residents' health. I strongly urge you to consider very carefully the wisdom of this pipeline plan in total. If you choose to go ahead with it, please take the utmost care to choose a route that may not be the cheapest or easiest for Duke, but the one that affects the absolute fewest number of residential lives.

Thanks you very much for your consideration of this input.

Tom McGrath