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PUCO

16-253-GA BTX

Thomas A Davis
6541 Ridge Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45213

Email: Sivad1104@aol.com

► **Chairman Asim Z. Haque**
Ohio Power Siting Board

PUCO
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Haque

We are writing you with regards to Duke Energy's proposal to construct a high pressure natural gas pipe line through the heart of Hamilton County. This proposed pipeline will run through some of the most heavily populated and residential parts of the Cincinnati area.

While at first we assumed this was an ordinary gas line, we were unconcerned and expected that its potential route through our neighborhood (planned less than 150 feet from my front door) was appropriate and part of needed infrastructure. However, after learning the true nature of this pipeline and the amount of natural gas this it will carry, our concern has certainly increased.

The magnitude of this project and the significant pressure that this pipeline must contain is unprecedented in the state of Ohio and represents a massive safety hazard. It is disruptive to the environment and landscape, a massive safety concern to the county's citizens and is more appropriate in a rural location. As we've investigated this project further and attended neighborhood meetings, we've learned that similar, yet less pressurized pipelines, have exploded with catastrophic consequences.

In San Bruno, California a pipeline of this nature that ran through a residential neighborhood exploded killing 8 and severely injuring hundreds more. The explosion caused a wall of fire over 1000 feet high and it took Pacific Gas and Electric up to 90 minutes to stop the flow of gas. The explosion destroyed many of the water lines in the area and the fire departments had to lay hoses nearly 4000 feet to get to the epicenter. Another similar incident happened just this year in Pennsylvania. Fortunately, this explosion occurred in a remote, rural location. A quick search of Google reveals many other incidents of this type and the unsafe nature of these high pressured pipelines.

We are told that if a high pressured pipeline, like they propose to install in the most heavily populated parts of Hamilton county, were to fail the blast zone could be 1000 to 2000 feet diameter. In short it is a massive safety hazard, is disruptive to the environment and natural beauty of the residential areas it is proposed for and will result in lower home values. Your vote to deny Duke this request is the right thing

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to do for the county and its citizens as well as the homes, schools and businesses in the direct path of their three proposed routes. Please use your position to deny Duke Energy's request to construct this pipeline in any of the most heavily populated parts of the county. The gas line extension project OPSB case number is 16-0253-GA-BTX.

Thank you for your help

Sincerely,

Tom and Julie Davis