

FILE

Case 16-0253-GA-BTX

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Dear Public Utilities Commission of Ohio,

I'm writing you today as a concerned citizen of Cincinnati. I am in opposition of Duke Energy's proposed 30-inch gas line which will run through densely populated Hamilton County. At the forefront of my concern is human life. Each proposed route that Duke Energy will present to the Ohio Power Siting Board includes homes, schools, churches, shopping and community areas. This is NOT acceptable.

As a Cincinnati Public School teacher, we go through drills each year with our students to prepare them for tornados, fire drills, chemical leaks and intruders. An explosion from a pipeline of this size is not something we can protect our children from. We cannot predict if the gas line will explode and evacuate, we won't have time. It will mean the instant loss of hundreds of lives.

This school year, I received a call from a student's mother explaining that her son would be absent from school for the week due to a family emergency. She explained that it was her brother who was burned alive in the gas explosion in Pennsylvania. I was unaware of the catastrophe so I quickly got to Google to seek more information.

WTAE reported: A fire chief from the area described the scene: "It looked like you were looking down into hell. As far across my windshield as I could see was just a massive fireball," said Forbes Road Fire Chief Bob Rosatti, describing his arrival at the blast scene near Route 22 and Route 819. The victim "told us that he heard a loud noise and compared it to a tornado. All he saw was fire and started running up the roadway and a passerby picked him up," Rosatti said. "The heat was so intense that it was burning him as he was running," he said. (Source: <http://www.wtae.com/news/reports-gas-well-on-fire-in-salem-township/39279470>). A video of the damage can be viewed by following this link.

Can you imagine running for your life from a gas explosion and being burnt alive as you are running? What would the death toll be if this pipeline is put through densely populated Hamilton County? Will Duke Energy call the hundreds of parents to apologize when a school is engulfed in flames?

I hope that you value the life of all Ohioans and stand in opposition of the proposal to put this gas pipeline in Hamilton County. I appreciate the service you provide to the residents of Ohio through holding a government office. Thank you in advance for your time and support of the safety of the citizens of Hamilton County.

Sincerely,

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