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To whom it may concern:

I am writing today to voice opposition to a recently proposed gas pipeline to be installed in Southwest Ohio by Duke Energy. I am hoping with your position on the Ohio Power Sitting Board, that you can help us fight this potentially dangerous and costly project.

I have recently learned that Duke Energy is planning to put a high capacity, high pressure natural gas transmission line through Hamilton County and one of the three proposed routes takes the pipeline through my community. This project was pushed forward by Duke Energy without input from local, city, or county officials. We believe that the purpose for this pipeline is mainly to transport natural gas from fracking fields to the Gulf of Mexico, so that it can be transported elsewhere for profit by Duke Energy.

The proposed pipeline is a 30", 720 psi line of compressed, highly combustible gas. This isn't safe for any densely populated area and is certainly not safe to run adjacent to schools, hospitals, and fire departments. When these lines fail, there is no warning system in place. There is no evacuating schools, homes, or businesses. Safety issues with these lines have been found at a rate of about 40 per year. A significant leak resulting in an explosion would be devastating to any community in which this pipeline occurs.

Apart from the safety concerns, this pipeline will also reduce property values by an estimated 15% of homes along the route, and it will be more costly for property owners to buy home insurance. Given that we do not expect to see any monetary benefit from the pipeline, this is also an undue financial burden.

Duke Energy did hold an informational Open House, which I attended on 6/15/2016. I took this opportunity to ask Duke specifically about the decision making models used to determine the proposed routes. When pushed, they admitted that there were no variables included in the model that took implicit risk into account. When asked if there were any variables related to loss of property values, I did not get a clear answer. Emails directly to Duke asking about these models and variables have not been answered as of today.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this issue that will adversely impact thousands of Ohioans.

Sincerely,

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PJCO

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