FILE

16-0253-GA-BTX

The Ohio Power Siting Board

180 East Broad Street

Columbus, Ohio 43215

2016 JUN 29 AM 9:29
PUCO

Dear Sirs:

As a resident of Blue Ash, Ohio I am writing to strongly oppose the Duke Energy plans for its Central Corridor Pipeline, case 16-253-GA-BTX, through any suburban and residential area, and especially the "pink route" that is proposed to run right past the Blue Ash Elementary School. My concerns are:

Environmental -- I moved to Blue Ash in 1986, attracted by the beauty of the mature trees and landscaping throughout Blue Ash. How many mature trees will be felled to create the at least 30 foot wide corridor for the pipeline? How many streams, waterbodies, and wetlands will be breached? How will Duke prevent erosion from the loss of tree roots of mature trees? How will Duke prevent flooding when wetlands are disturbed?

Need -- At the Duke open house held in Blue Ash on June 15, 2016, Duke representatives stated the proposed 30 inch, 720 psi pipeline would serve up to 2 million homes. Why does Duke need such a large pipeline when approximately 400,000 homes in Cincinnati use natural gas? Why would they need a pipeline for 5x the amount unless it is to send gas south of the greater Cincinnati area for their profit?

Route choice, Safety, and Construction -- I was dismayed to learn at the Duke open house that Duke only considered routes inside of Hamilton county. Other states run these large transmission pipelines in rural areas, away from potential loss of life and property. A Duke engineer at the open house shared that Duke's phase two would be outside of Hamilton County in rural areas, so why not go straight to the rural phase two? Why must Duke run their 30 inch, 720 psi pipeline in suburban areas and place so many homes, schools, and businesses at risk of an explosion?

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Pipelines of this magnitude have exploded in the past few years, with flames reaching 100's of feet in the air and creating a blast zone of as much as a half mile away. Radiant heat from these explosions has burned homes up to a half mile away from the blast site. **The "pink route", proposed by Duke, runs less than 200 feet of Blue Ash Elementary school with its more than 500 students, and less than 60 feet from an nearby daycare. Also along the "pink route" is University of Cincinnati -- Blue Ash with its thousands of students.** In addition to those locations, the "pink route" runs right by well established subdivisions, condominium complexes, apartment buildings, shopping centers, city parks, gas stations, and other businesses. A route fraught with risk!

One only has to look back two months ago for evidence of a large natural gas pipeline exploding: in Pennsylvania in April 2016. And just last year, another large natural gas pipeline exploded in West Virginia after being in the ground only one year. These two horrific pipeline explosions were in rural areas. **Just imagine the Duke pipeline exploding by the Blue Ash day care, the elementary school, the University.** Duke's Safety representatives stated at the open house that it would take one to two hours for the natural gas to be turned off in the event of an explosion. The pipeline fire from the explosion would burn like a blow torch sending flames several hundred feet high. By the time the pipeline gas would be shut down, buildings and houses would be reduced to ash and fatalities would have mounded up, with no way to evacuate with the explosion so close to thousands of people. No one at the open house could make an assurance that the pipeline would never explode.

Duke representatives from construction stated the pipeline would be buried four feet underground. Even the dead are buried six feet under! Why would four feet underground be enough for such a large transmission pipeline in such a populated suburban area? The construction crew could not state how far under a stream or water body the pipeline would be buried, implying it could be less than the four feet than the pipeline would be buried on land.

Please vote no on Duke's Central Corridor Pipeline plan and ask that Duke route the 30 inch, 720 psi pipeline in a rural area and not a High Consequence Area like Blue Ash. Thank you for your consideration and support in this matter.

Sincerely,

Wendy Schuler 9578 Benchmark Lane, Blue Ash, Ohio 45242 schulerwo@cs.com

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail