

FILE

16-0253-GA-BTX

To build a large high-pressure gas pipeline Duke Energy has proposed three possible routes through the northern suburbs of Cincinnati, passing by hundreds of homes and businesses, as well as many schools, parks, public buildings, religious centers and hospitals, even Kenwood Towne Center.

There are great concerns because of huge accidents and deaths with similar pipelines through other areas of the US. In San Bruno, California, a pipeline of this size exploded in 2010. Caused by faulty seams, the blast and ensuing fire killed eight people, injured 50 and destroyed many homes. Then, just this past April, a pipeline exploded in a rural part of Salem Township, Pennsylvania. Witnesses a half a mile away from the fireball that scorched 40 acres said they could feel heat on their faces from the inferno. Please note, the above mentioned accidents did not happen in as a highly populated area as the proposed pipeline through Hamilton County where the damage to property, the deaths and injuries would be much more numerous. **Additionally, it appears that DUKE would be held harmless if any of those pipelines would explode and kill or harm people and properties. Ask yourselves who would pay for the lost lives, properties and incomes? Who would be responsible to compensate persons who are permanently injured or have lengthy hospitalizations, and recoveries? Who would take care of orphaned children?**

Explanations by Duke Spokeswoman Sally Thelen such as "This is about us being able to reliably meet the needs of our gas customers in Southwest Ohio," and that "Duke has plenty of experience building and operating large diameter pipelines, including 50 miles of 24- to 26-inch lines that are pressurized up to 720 pounds per square inch" do neither sound believable nor reassuring. **For one, this appears to be a Transmission pipeline which is not delivering anything to individual households in Southwest OH, rather it appears to deliver the gas product across the US states to the South. Also, if DUKE has a high pressure large pipeline in a similarly populated area it shows that they really do not care for human life and safety because they do not have to. Why not take a short cut through less populated spaces maybe even through Indian Hill? Is this a preposterous suggestion because we tend to assign value according to bank accounts and lobby power and the little villages on the pipeline list simply do not have such value and power?**

Am I the only person amazed that a panel of 7 members of the Ohio Power Siting Board (most of which live far enough away from the proposed pipeline) has the authority to simply vote yes or no on this huge and risky proposition?


Please heed the warning of level headed clear thinking citizens and abandon this risky outrageous scheme of building a gas pipeline through such densely populated neighborhoods!

Respectfully submitted by

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2016 JUN 29 AM 9:29

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Technician  Date Processed **JUN 29 2016**