

FILE

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From: Albert Bobst [mailto:bobstam@ucmail.uc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 12:01 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: PLEASE STOP the plan of building a large high pressure pipeline through Hamilton County!

To the panel of 7 members of the Ohio Power Siting Board:

As a scientist who has been teaching Chemistry to undergraduates and graduates at the University of Cincinnati for over 4 decades I am very concerned about Duke's plan of building a large high-pressure gas pipeline through populated areas in the northern suburbs of Cincinnati. So far all proposed routes will pass by hundreds of homes, businesses, many schools, parks, public buildings, religious centers, and hospitals, even the Kenwood Town Center.

The probability of an explosion due to different causes (such as bad workmanship, earthquake, accidental puncture) is relatively high over a period of years. Similar pipelines have been found not be safe and explosions (gas is a dangerous chemical that is readily involved in exothermic processes) have happened, but usually in rural areas. Imagine the headlines should such a pipeline explode in Blue Ash! What I find interesting is that DUKE would be held harmless, because the accident would be considered an act of god! Never underestimate the power of lawyers.

I am not against progress, and I agree pipelines are a great way to move energy from point A to point B, but the routes should be carefully selected to minimize catastrophic events.

I don't doubt that DUKE employs smart engineers, and I am sure they are familiar with Murphy's law!

Let's build the pipeline through areas that are farmland even if it means less profit for DUKE. At present such land still exists!

Respectfully,
Albert M Bobst
Professor of Chemistry

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