

FILE



16-253-GA-BTX

June 14, 2016

Asim Z. Hague
Chairman, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

The Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Duke Energy Ohio 16-0253-GA-BTX

Dear Chairman Hague and Members of the Board:

I am writing to express our strong opposition to the Duke Energy proposals for a new 30" natural gas transmission line that would potentially run through the City of Blue Ash and many neighboring communities. Each of the proposed routes will have a devastating impact on existing properties and future development in areas adjacent to this transmission line.


Our Company is leading the development of 108 acres of the former Blue Ash airport, directly adjacent to Summit Park. Our vision for the development includes Class A office, retail, restaurants, and entertainment, as well as multiple residential living options in a dense, mixed-use, walkable community. Over the next 10-15 years, the estimated value of this planned development, upon full build out, is in excess of \$250 million, with a much greater economic impact to Blue Ash and surrounding areas as a result of residents, businesses and visitors to the development and the adjacent park.

The pink route as proposed runs along the southeastern property line of this planned development, directly adjacent to an area within the development that is planned to include 90-100 new high-end residential homes. In addition, with construction starting potentially in 2017 and continuing for three to five years, there will be ongoing construction activity including grading, installation of necessary utilities, infrastructure and roadways in the specific areas of the proposed pink and green lines. This creates a hazardous scenario for everyone involved.

We certainly understand the need for Duke Energy to be able to safely transmit natural gas to the region. However, placing a large, high pressure natural gas main in such close proximity to highly populated areas including existing homes, businesses and schools and the potential negative economic impact on future development to the region, must be reconsidered under the best interests for the well-being and safety of those communities and the people that Duke Energy serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Molly North
President & CEO Technician _____ Date Processed JUN 30 2016

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