

FILE

16-253-GA-BTX

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St. Vincent Ferrer Church

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July 18, 2016

Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus OH 43215

RE: Case 16-253-GA-BTX

Dear Members of the Ohio Power Siting Board,

The Pastor, members of Parish Pastoral Council, and members of the Building & Finance Commission at St. Vincent Ferrer Parish have serious concerns about the Orange Route of the proposed Duke Energy Central Corridor Gas Pipeline Project.

The proposed route will cause major disruptions and damage to several aspects of the parish campus:

- The main entrance to the parish complex, which is off American Way;
- Our soccer and baseball fields;
- And a buffer area between our campus and the BRG office building behind us, which consists of numerous large, mature trees.

Construction will cause major disruptions in the traffic pattern that we experience on Sundays and other worship days. The loss of the American Way entrance, and most likely access to our parking areas, will make it difficult for the parish to operate normally.

In particular, we are extremely concerned about the safety aspects of this project, both during construction and afterward. Construction will come very close to our school building, main parking lot and playground. Our students are dropped off and picked up each day in this area. They play on the parking lot and nearby playground areas during recess and lunch periods. Our soccer and baseball fields get significant use during spring and fall months. The Orange Route appears to cut directly through at least one of these fields, which would cause us to lose their use for an extended period of time. And it will take a long time to return the fields to their original condition.

Overall, a major construction project like this one, using large digging equipment to create a deep trench for the pipeline, would be a dangerous situation for our elementary school students and their parents. Noise and debris will create a very distracting, disruptive environment. And parents and school bus drivers will have tremendous difficulty trying to drop off and pick up school children.

The tree line which separates our property from the office complex behind it serves as a very effective visual buffer, and helps to deflect noise from the I-71 corridor. While the exact details of the project are still uncertain, it seems very likely that these trees will be uprooted and/or destroyed. It would take years to return the buffer to its current state.

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case document delivered in the regular course of business.

Living Church in Our Community

Date Processed JUL 27 2016



In addition to the potential damage to our property during construction, we are also concerned about the safety of an active, pressurized pipeline positioned so close to a church and school. Pipelines in other parts of the country have failed and caused significant damage. Any repair work would require additional damages to our property, and additional disruption to our church and school activities.

We urge the Power Siting Board to reconsider the proposed route, and recognize the negative effect it will have on St. Vincent Ferrer Church and School. The damage, disruption, and potential safety issues are significant, and we ask that this pipeline not be constructed on our property.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our Business Manager, Kathy Abele, at (513) 791-9030.

Sincerely,

Fr. J. Dennis Jaspers, Pastor

Alice Schneider, Parish Pastoral Council President



Fr. Jerome Bishop, Parochial Vicar



Kathy Abele, Building & Finance Commission