

FILE

16-253-GA-BTX

1



2017 JAN 31 PM 2:24

## District Offices

PUCO

Frank A. Forsthoefel, Superintendent  
Karen B. Naber, Assistant Superintendent  
Beth A. Weber, Treasurer

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

February 1, 2017

Dear Members of the Board:

As Superintendent of Sycamore Community Schools, a public school district located in north central Cincinnati; specifically serving students in the cities of Blue Ash, Montgomery and Symmes Township, I feel obligated to express my concerns on the proposed Duke Central Corridor (Case Number 16-0253-GA-BTX) Extension Gas Pipeline.

Sycamore Community Schools serves approximately 5,400 students in grades PK - 12 in seven schools. As the state designated authority charged with reviewing, and ultimately ruling on, the coming permit from Duke Energy for the proposed natural gas lines, it is important for you to understand and carefully consider my reservations regarding the locations of these proposed natural gas pipelines. I respectfully offer these below.

As you may recall and certainly have in your files, I submitted a letter in May of 2016 expressing my concern at the proximity of at least two of the proposed routes to several of our schools. Through a series of public meetings, I was gratified that you listened to community members and made alterations to the proposed routes. However after reviewing the details of these revisions, I am still concerned by the distance of your preferred route to two of our schools; namely, Sycamore High School and Edwin H. Greene Intermediate School.

As currently proposed, the preferred route will pass within approximately 1,000 feet of both the schools mentioned above. Sycamore High School and E.H. Greene Intermediate serve approximate 2,500 students. It continues to be my opinion that the placement of this pipeline, designed to pump natural gas at high pressure, in an area so close to a school, poses potential danger to our students.

As a resident of Sycamore Community Schools myself, and a parent who has a student at Sycamore High School, I fully understand the need to provide the region with an ample supply of natural gas. However, placing a natural gas line in close proximity to any one of our schools, poses a daily safety concern for my students. As a result, I am respectfully requesting that when the proposals for the Central Corridor Gas Pipeline are before you, as the authorizing board, you will thoughtfully consider alternatives not in close proximity to schools within the Sycamore District.

Respectfully,

Frank A. Forsthoefel  
Superintendent

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business  
Technician TM Date Processed JAN 31 2017

C: Sycamore Board of Education