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May 16, 2017

Ohio Power Siting Board  
Docketing Division  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Re: Case No. 16-253-GA-BTX

Dear Ohio Power Siting Board,

The Ohio Gas Association is a natural gas trade organization which represents more than 30 local distribution companies and cooperatives, many other affiliated members, and the vast majority of intra and inter-state gas transmission companies in Ohio. Collectively, OGA members serve more than 3.6 million Ohio customers and maintain and manage over 50,000 miles of distribution and transmission pipeline throughout the state. We believe natural gas is the energy of the future, but our nation currently lacks the infrastructure necessary to take full advantage of the abundant supplies of gas.

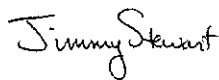
It is with this belief that the OGA supports Duke Energy's Central Corridor Pipeline Project. In 2015, Duke Energy completed an extensive study of their gas supply system that serves over 500,000 customer accounts in Ohio and Kentucky. The focus of this study was the array of high-pressure steel pipelines that have been installed over the past half-century or more to move gas through the distribution system for their customers.

The proposed pipeline would have a 20-inch diameter and operate at approximately 400 pounds per square inch (psi), compared with the original design, which called for a 30-inch pipe with an operating pressure of approximately 600 psi. This newly proposed pipeline would still enable Duke Energy to retire aging propane peaking plants. It will also moderately decrease reliance on natural gas from a single source in the southern part of the company's system that has reached its maximum capacity. Longer-term system needs will be addressed through other modernization programs to be implemented in the future.

Construction is expected to begin in the late winter/spring of 2018 and be complete by the fall of 2019. Although construction over the length of the route will take several months, pipeline construction on each property should take approximately three to six weeks. Timing may vary depending on the size of the property.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you wish to discuss our support for the Central Corridor Project in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Stewart  
President  
Ohio Gas Association

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