

FILE

August 3, 2017

Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

2017 AUG -9 AM 11:41

PUCO

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

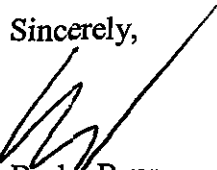
As the owner of a fourth-generation family owned and operated business with over 100 years' experience in the steel industry, I am writing to express my support for Duke Energy Ohio's proposed Central Corridor Pipeline.

It is my understanding that Duke Energy Ohio is proposing this pipeline in order to improve the reliability of natural gas delivery throughout the region, as the Company would then be able to deliver gas into Hamilton County with an improved balance of supply sources. This is extremely important to us because without a consistent and reliable source of natural gas, Byer Steel will be challenged to obtain alternative cost-effective sources of energy. Being the top provider of rebar to hundreds of customers throughout Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Pennsylvania is critical to sustaining our business, upon which more than 100 employees and their families have depended for their livelihood. Our profits are already being significantly eroded by imported rebar product, which has a direct impact on every one of our employees. We absolutely cannot afford to lose any more business.

I understand that another goal of the pipeline is to allow Duke Energy Ohio to replace old infrastructure and modernize the overall distribution system, including the future retirement of propane peaking stations. Safety is of vital importance, especially when we are talking about natural gas. We are strongly in favor of moving from decades-old pipes and peaking facilities to new pipes – ones that are built with modern technology and that can be inspected periodically from the inside, by remotely operated devices. We understand that the new pipeline will be far safer than the old facilities currently serving our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. We recommend you approve the project being proposed by Duke Energy Ohio.

Sincerely,


Burke Byer
President and CEO
bbyer@byersteel.com
513-679-4488

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Technician SMO Date Processed AUG 09 2017

Byer Steel »