## Susan C. de Roos

3738 Monet's Lane

Evendale, Ohio 45241

T 513-505-8901

Email: scderoos@gmail.com

March 14, 2019

Mary Mertz

Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Mary.Mertz@DNR.state.oh.us

Reference OPSB case number 16-0253-GA-BTX

Dear Ms. Mertz,

My name is Susan de Roos and I am a resident of Evendale, Ohio. My home is located on 3738 Monet's Lane within 1000 feet of the proposed Green pipeline route for Duke's Central Corridor Pipeline.

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and member of the Ohio Power Siting Board. As a member of the Ohio Power Siting Board, <u>you are in a position</u> to assure that Duke's application (Ref# 16-0253-GA\_BTX) is critically and carefully reviewed.

I will highlight some of the key points regarding Duke's application and why I request the Ohio Power Siting Board to reject <u>BOTH Duke's proposed routes</u>.

My first point is regarding the seemingly lack of discipline to the OPSB process. The lack of full disclosure to the public and the <u>poor level of due diligence by Duke, the OPSB staff and the OPSB</u>. I have spent significant amount of time reviewing Duke's pipeline application and in documents sent to both the OPSB and to Duke have pointed out numerous errors and omissions in the application. The OPSB staff has not conducted a thorough, independent investigation of assertions and information included in Duke's application. We cannot rely of the accuracy and completeness of Duke's application to investigate and evaluate the proposed need and routes. Duke quite naturally is putting worth only data that supports their efforts and interests. Please encourage the OPSB staff to seek additional data and information from sources outside of Duke's application.

On June 15, 2017, the OPSB held a Public Hearing. I testified at that hearing as did numerous others. Unfortunately there was <u>not even one member of the OPSB</u> at that public hearing. Did you or any of your members watch the hours worth of testimony objecting to Duke's Central Corridor Pipeline? If you have not watched the testimony, I encourage you to do so and also to attend the next Public Hearing scheduled for March 21, 2019. It is critical that we all use data and inputs from all sources!

My second point addresses the need for a new route and right of way. Duke has clearly stated the need and plan to replace/upgrade Line A in the near future. <u>Since they already have a right-of-way along Line A and will be incurring the expense of construction along Line A, why not install parallel lines to reduce construction cost, reduce impact to the environment and communities. Decreased demand and decreased population in the area served by this proposed pipeline do not support the need for the proposed Central Corridor Pipeline.</u>

My third point addresses the <u>probable environmental impact</u>. Throughout the Duke documents and the OPSB staff report there are numerous inconsistencies, errors and omissions regarding environmental impact. Duke has not addressed the risk to the Mill Creek watershed, the risk associated with the proposed line intersecting the Line A pipeline or the risk associated with close proximity to numerous gas station underground tanks.

My fourth point is regarding the overall community impact of the proposed pipeline routes. The citizens, taxpayers, Duke Customers and communities along these routes have NOT been convinced of the need, benefit, environmental impact or the safety of these pipeline routes. We believe Duke's 30 foot wide permanent right-of-ways and construction workspace of up to 80 feet wide will have significant environmental impact. Duke, the OPSB and the OPSB staff have <u>not considered public</u> <u>safety</u> in the evaluation of the proposed pipeline. We have walked these routes, and observed the number of homes, businesses, parks, churches, medical facilities and schools that would be impacted and put at risk due to the proposed pipeline. The OPSB Staff report clearly states that "The project would result in both temporary and permanent impacts to the project area.". Yet the OPSB Staff reports seems to find it acceptable to choose what is in their minds the lesser of the two evils.

In summary, there are numerous areas of this project that require deeper due diligence and better understanding of the impact on our communities. We ask that the OPSB reject BOTH pipeline routes as submitted in the application documents.

Sincerely yours,

Susan C. de Roos

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ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0Fnfdd:ref

From:	Ohio Power Siting Board
To:	Puco Docketing
Subject:	public comment 16-0253 [ ref:_00Dt0GzXt500t0FniAa:ref ]
Date:	Wednesday, March 20, 2019 2:39:57 PM

I am against the proposed pipeline because it is too close to residential areas, schools and shopping areas. I also do not think the pipeline, or the gas, is needed here as Duke states. If they want the gas for other areas-like in North Carolina, they need to reroute it in less dense neighborhoods. I own Duke stock and am against their action.

Rita Lambers

ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0FniAa:ref

Dear Ms. Mertz,

I am writing to inform you that as a newly appointed member of the OPSB, a very important case is coming before the board for your vote in the next few weeks. This case (OPSB Case # 16-0253-GA-BTX) has been ongoing for the past 3 years. The board will be tasked with voting on this case which citizens have been fighting against since they first heard about it. The case is regarding Duke Energy's proposed Central Corridor Pipeline, which they desire to site in densely populated Hamilton County. The pipeline is a 20"/500 psi line that Duke is calling a distribution line in order to use lower safety measures in the pipe's construction, but it is actually a high capacity transmission line that has no taps coming off of it to provide gas to the area through which it will run.

Thousands of citizens have filed comments stating their opposition to this project. Since your appointment to the board is so recent, I assume it's possible you are not even aware of the case. I believe it's in your best interest to make yourself familiar with this case and educate yourself about the issues at hand to the fullest extent possible. It is the mission of the OPSB to support sound energy policies "for the benefit of Ohio citizens," and to "protect the environment and land use." The pipeline will not benefit Ohio's citizens since it is simply running gas through the area, not providing gas to the area. It causes a huge safety risk to the citizens (one back hoe away from an explosive disaster), which doesn't benefit them in any way! The process of siting this pipeline was brought to a halt earlier because Duke overlooked that the chosen route went right through a superfund site. This hardly shows that Duke is looking out for the environment or even considering proper land use.

Duke claims they "need" this pipeline. The need for it has not been adequately shown. An independent agency even questioned the statistics they used to state the need.

In June of 2017 there was a public hearing about this issue. None of the members of the OPSB showed up to the hearing to listen to the citizens' concerns about this project. The community found their absence appalling and felt like they had been slapped in the face.

Another public hearing is scheduled for March 21, from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Blue Ash campus of UC. If you want to make an informed decision on the siting of this pipeline "for the benefit of the Ohio citizens," as your mission statement requires of you as a member of the OPBS, I strongly suggest that you attend this hearing.

Although I live outside of the impacted community, I did live and work in Blue Ash and Amberley Village for many years and have strong ties to the community. My only son and two granddaughters currently live in the area that will be impacted by the proposed pipeline, so my interest in this issue is quite personal.

Charlene Schneider

Maineville, OH

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Dear members of the Ohio Power Siting Board, Congratulations on your appointment to this important position.

In this position you are responsible for the public utilities in the state as well as the safety of the individuals in the state of Ohio.

I am writing to you to share my concern over the implementation of the Central Corridor Pipeline Extension-OPSB Case # 16-253 - BTX proposed by Duke Energy.

Both proposed routes go directly in from of an elementary school in the Princeton School District. One goes by another elementary school in the same district. As either route travels to the end of the pipeline, human beings in schools, homes, hospitals, houses of worship, and businesses will have their safety compromised by this high volume, high pressure pipeline.

Please note, I have little faith in the ability of Duke to build such a pipeline that will be safe and explosion free. This company seems unable to manage the electrical unit of their operation.

It is not usual to see out of state repair trucks instead of local Duke Workers when there is an incident requiring electrical restoration.

Maintenance does not appear to be a priority of the company. Lines are not maintained as they were by the previous company. It appears that Duke is more interested in profit than taking care of their equipment and their customers.

Therefore, I have little faith that interest in public safety in relationship to this pipeline is a priority.

Also, has there been research done that proves need? And if yes, has a study of this research been made? Have the results been scrutinized?

Please consider the safety of people as you make your decision. Say no to the proposed routes of this pipeline. No one deserves to have a time bomb installed in his/her back or front yard!

Sincerely,

Rebecca S. Brown

2862 Losantiridge Ave.

Cincinnati, Ohio 45213

rbrown@cinci.rr.com

513-254-8309



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To Ohio DNR Director Mertz:

Public safety should be of paramount concern in OPSB board's decision to approve or reject Duke Energy's application for the Central Corridor Pipeline Extension. Choosing to build a maximum-load natural gas pipeline amongst residences, businesses, schools and hospitals is as absurd as building an automobile gas station in the middle of Greater Cincinnati CVG airport. It not only makes no sense, but also is blatantly irresponsible and legally liable. Other routes are feasible, and safety standards are imperative. The fact that PUCO and OPSB have no safety standards for selecting a site or maintaining a gas line is exactly the reason why board members and legislators should buck current criteria and stand up for community safety, environmentalism and quality of life. I urge you to oppose Case # 16-253-GA-BTX.

Linnea Lose

6530 Bracken Ridge Ave.

Cincinnati OH 45213 H 513-351-6530 linnealose@gmail.com

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Dear Ms. Metz,

I'm writing to you regarding my opposition to Duke's Central Corridor Extension Gas Pipeline.

This proposed natural gas pipeline far exceeds what's necessary to supply greater Cincinnati and Hamilton County. Duke already has viable ways to serve the area's energy needs, and the area's population is declining with stagnant projections for natural gas use. Even Duke's own model for how much gas we need is excessive according to third-party analysis.

If approved, Duke will require up to 80 feet be cleared to build their pipeline. Many mature trees would be destroyed, not to mention the damage to folk's yards. Mature trees help clean the air, and provide habitat for many creatures. If the construction isn't bad enough, then Duke requires 30 feet of permanent clearance. Duke will not allow trees to be replanted within those 30 feet. Our area will be permanently scarred.

This pipeline might great for Duke, but not for its customers who will be paying for it. We already pay the highest rates in the state for natural gas. Also, the construction process will disrupt local businesses and may affect home values. The local municipalities may even have to increase spending to prepare their police and fire departments for a pipeline emergency.

The proposed natural gas transmission pipeline is 500 psi. Duke would like to run it through densely populated areas. This pipeline, if approved, will go through folk's yards and near schools, daycares, places of worship, gas stations, businesses, a Super Fund site (green route), Jewish Hospital (orange route), and Kenwood Towne Centre (orange route). In the event of a gas line breach, Duke has asked citizens to refrain from using the normal modes of communication. Use of those modes of communication could create a spark which would ignition the natural gas. Accidents do happen, think about all the lives endangered by Duke's unprecedented high-pressure pipeline in a densely populated area.

Please do approve Duke's Central Corridor Extension Gas Pipeline.

Sincerely,

Patricia Kreitinger



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From:	Ohio Power Siting Board
To:	Puco Docketing
Subject:	Case #16-253-GA-BTX [ ref:_00Dt0GzXt500t0Fnfcp:ref ]
Date:	Wednesday, March 20, 2019 2:26:07 PM
Attachments:	image001.png

M. Beth Trombold, PUCO Chair Lydia Milhalik, Director OH Developmental Services Amy Acton, MD, Interim Director OH Dept of Health Dorothy Pelanda, Director OH Dept of Agriculture Laurie Stevenson, Director OH EPA Mary Mertz, Director OH DNR

Attn members of the OPSB; ref. Case #16-253-GA-BTX

I am a member of NOPE and a long time resident of Blue Ash. I have read Duke Energy's new proposal for the high pressure gas line, which will go on Glendale-Milford Rd to Reading Rd. Blue Ash Summit Park, which is a cultural and recreational center for Blue Ash and the surrounding areas, is

in the DANGER ZONE if a pipeline failure occurs. This is not a good plan or location for the pipeline. The alternate route of Blue Ash Rd, Kenwood and Montgomery area, is an even worse area for a high pressure pipeline. Kenwood Towne Center, several medical offices, and the Mercy Jewish Hospital are located along the route.

There have been multiple nationwide failures of this type of pipeline. It has been proven that the local areas in Hamilton County do not need the natural gas this pipeline would supply.

1. **Need not proven** - Duke has not provided sufficient evidence that a massive new pipeline is necessary to meet the needs of customers. Additionally, the Central Corridor Pipeline does not address Duke's stated need of "system balance".

 Inadequate investigation - The recently released OPSB Staff Report was not an independent, in-depth evaluation of Duke's application, did not include an assessment of available alternatives for addressing Duke's "need", and failed to consider human safety as part of "public convenience" and "environment"...
Safety not addressed - Those who live or spend time near the pipeline routes have very valid concerns about the safety of Duke's transmission line through these High Consequence Areas. Pipelines fail all of the time and safety precautions are inadequate and unreliable, particularly in the context of this project. Finally, people are frustrated and angry that Duke and OPSB have trivialized concerns rather than addressing them.

I AM URGING YOU TO DENY THE CURRENT PERMIT FOR DUKE ENERGY TO BUILD THIS PIPELINE. IT WILL PUT ANYONE USING THIS PARK, AND THE HOMES ON GLENDALE-MILFORD RD IN SERIOUS DANGER. THESE AREAS ARE IN THE BLAST ZONE. I realize all of you are newly appointed members, and could be influenced by the power of Duke Energy. I would suggest that each one of you, take a look at the area for the proposed pipeline. Drive by the schools, parks, hospitals, community centers, and homes along the route.

PLEASE, PLEASE DO YOUR JOB AS AN APPOINTED MEMBER OF THE OPSB AND A HUMAN, AND REJECT DUKE ENERGY PROPOSAL.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. ALVIN DENENBERG

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Re: Case No.16-0253-GA-BTX

I live at 6625 Hudson Parkway, Cincinnati, OH. While it looks like our property would not be directly impacted by the Central Corridor Pipeline

## Re: Case No.16-0253-GA-BTX

I live at 6625 Hudson Parkway, Cincinnati, OH. While it looks like our property would not be directly impacted by the Central Corridor Pipeline Expansion Project, I am adamantly opposed to the pipeline project anywhere in the greater Cincinnati area due to significant safety, environmental, and economic concerns. It is woefully irresponsible to propose a 20" 500 psi pipeline through existing densely populated areas. It is unprecedented to even consider such a pipeline adjacent to schools, places of worship, hospitals, day care centers, a nursing home, civic centers, a retail mall, parks, apartment complexes, etc. There are no examples of pipelines of this magnitude being installed in existing residential areas.

From a safety perspective, there are examples of catastrophic failure in San Bruno, near Pittsburgh, and in West Virginia. The West Virginia failure occurred within one year of installation, so it is not just old or outdated pipes that fail. There are about 1,800 reports of leaks since 2003. Any one of those could have been a disaster. Two independent studies have shown that a catastrophic failure or explosion of the proposed pipe would cause significant loss of life, severe burns, and property damage of up to 2,000 feet away. That is a % mile wide damage zone. It would cut off evacuation routes and access for first responders.

There would be substantial environmental impact with extensive loss of mature trees, changes to water run-off, loss of green space, and impact to wildlife with any of the three proposed routes.

The pipeline would create a negative economic impact to anyone living or owning a business near the pipeline with increased insurance costs, loss of home and property values, loss of tax revenue for the municipalities involved, reduced opportunity for growth, increased cost for emergency planning and emergency response, etc.

I am asking for an investigation of need for this pipeline taking into consideration public safety in the decision. I am also asking for the presence of the OPSB at the public hearing on Thursday, March 21 at UC Blue Ash. No one from the board was present at the last hearing.

Strong opposition to the pipeline has been voiced by constituents in several communities in the greater Cincinnati area, at least a dozen of which I am aware. As noted previously, it is irresponsible that Duke proposed the pipeline through densely populated areas. I strongly appeal to the Ohio Power Siting Board to take a responsible position on the pipeline and stop the proposed extension through densely populated areas of greater Cincinnati.

Thank you,

Anne Robinson

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Dear OPSB member: (Re: Case # 16-253-GA-BTX Central Corridor Gas Pipeline)

We write to express our deep concern about Duke Energy's plans to build and bury a large, high-pressure gas pipeline through our community.

Gas pipeline explosions are not uncommon, having occurred recently in suburban Madison, Wisconsin (Sun Prairie), in the Boston area, in Asheville, NC, Marshall County, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere. *Please google "gas pipeline explosions"* and see for yourself. In Sun Prairie, buildings were destroyed, at least one person was killed.

These explosions were all accidents. Accidents happen.

Further, the pipeline routes are clearly marked by posts every so many feet. An earlier possible route in Cincinnati passed a row of synagogues and a Jewish Community Center. A representative from that community (Amberley Village, Ohio) spoke to another threat--that of of sabotage--noting that the markers almost painted a "target" for would-be seekers of causing havoc.

The route was eliminated from consideration.

One of the remaining routes hugs a major city park (Summit Park) in Blue Ash,

which has tens of thousands of people on festival days, like July 4<sup>th</sup>. An explosion would cause untold tragedy and chaos. Pipelines like this should traverse rural areas.

Building this pipeline through our area heavily populated with homes, businesses, restaurants, offices, schools and parks seems incredibly reckless, and appallingly dangerous to our city.

Please do not approve this plan.

Dr. and Mrs. Michael Rapp 4138 Fox Hollow Drive Blue Ash, OH 45241

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Ohio Power Siting Board:

It may be very easy for a Ohio Power SIting Board to listen to the powerful and rich Duke Energy and think them "knowledgeable" while dismissing local residents, businesses, schools, churches, and medical facilities of our communities. Some of the Board members have only been on the job for about 2 months, so are novices to the issues. Residents have studied, pushed back, and resisted this pipeline for 2 years. They have learned a lot in this time that should be considered. It's a matter public safety and community ugliness to us. It's a convenient way to increase profits to Duke Energy.

I ask you to REALLY LISTEN to the many citizens - not just to the industry. Listen as if this were YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD. The pipeline could go through less populated areas - but Duke has deemed it more expensive. It could be built with less pressure, making any leaks less dangerous, but have chosen a 500 PSI Central Corridor Pipeline. Please verify this is really the safe, prudent, and cost-effective choice they say it is. Duke says they know how to build safe pipelines, but pipelines do leak and explode. The damage of each one is great, especially in a populated area vs. the countryside. A pipeline of this size means a swath of 25 feet land all along its route cannot be landscaped. This will mar many neighborhoods, cutting down existing trees, and needing continual maintenance.

When you get an answer, please ask yourself if you would say the same thing if it were going past your families' homes, schools, and places of worship?

Sincerely,

Nancy Dawley

7497 Hosbrook Rd.

Cincinnati, OH 45243

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From:	Ohio Power Siting Board
To:	Puco Docketing
Subject:	public comment 16-0253 [ ref:_00Dt0GzXt500t0Fnfbr:ref ]
Date:	Wednesday, March 20, 2019 1:53:39 PM

Subject: Duke Energy's Central Corridor Pipeline, Reference case number 16-0253-GA-BTX

My name is Denise Conroy and I am a resident of Cincinnati, Ohio. My home is located off Glendale Milford Road, which is a proposed Green pipeline route for Duke's Central Corridor Pipeline. As a member of the Ohio Power Siting Board, you are in a position to assure that Duke's application (Ref# 16-0253-GA-BTX) is critically and carefully reviewed. I am requesting that the Ohio Power Siting Board reject BOTH Duke's proposed pipeline routes. There has been a lack of discipline to the OPSB process, resulting in the lack of full disclosure to the public and the poor level of due diligence by Duke, the OPSB staff and the OPSB.. The OPSB staff failed to conduct a thorough, independent investigation of assertions and information included in Duke's application. We cannot rely of the accuracy and completeness of Duke's application to investigate and evaluate the proposed need and routes. Duke has provided data that supports their efforts and interests. Please encourage the OPSB staff to seek additional data and information from sources outside of Duke's application. Duke already has a right-of-way along Line A and will be incurring the expense of construction along Line A. Why not install parallel lines to reduce construction cost, reduce impact to the environment and communities. Decreased demand and decreased population in the area served by this proposed pipeline do not support the need for the proposed Central Corridor Pipeline Throughout the Duke documents and the OPSB staff report there are numerous inconsistencies, errors and omissions regarding environmental impact. Duke has not addressed the risk to the Mill Creek watershed, the risk associated with the proposed line intersecting the Line A pipeline or the risk associated with close proximity to numerous gas station underground tanks. There will be an permanent economic and environmental impact for property owners. Residents will loose mature trees and foliage during the construction of the pipeline, as Duke requires up to 80 feet of tree and foliage clearance to construct the pipeline. In addition, Duke will require 30 feet of permanent clearance once the pipeline is installed. The citizens, taxpayers, Duke Customers and communities along these routes have NOT been convinced of the need, benefit, environmental and economic impact or the safety of these pipeline routes. Duke, the OPSB and the OPSB staff have not considered public safety in the evaluation of the proposed pipeline. We have walked these routes, and observed the number of homes, businesses, parks, churches, medical facilities and schools that would be impacted and put at risk due to the proposed pipeline. The OPSB Staff report clearly states that "The project would result in both temporary and permanent impacts to the project area.". Yet the OPSB Staff reports seems to find it acceptable to choose what is in their minds the lesser of the two evils. On June 15, 2017, the OPSB held a Public Hearing. No members of the OPSB were present at that public hearing. We hope to see members of the OPSB present at the next Public Hearing scheduled for March 21, 2019. In summary, there are numerous areas of this project that require deeper due diligence and better understanding of the impact on our communities. We ask that the OPSB reject BOTH pipeline routes as submitted in the application documents.

Sincerely yours,

Denise Conroy 3810 Sherbrooke Drive Cincinnati, OH 45241 ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_500t0Fnfbr:ref

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Case No(s). 16-0253-GA-BTX

Summary: Public Comment (11) received via website electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing.