

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Cc: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
Subject: Case Number 16-0253-GA-BTX
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 3:47:15 PM

From: Ken Knollman [<mailto:ken@gara.us>]

Ms. Trombold,

As a home owner in the northern Cincinnati suburb of Evendale, Ohio I am deeply concerned about a proposal before the Ohio Power Siting Board, case number 16-0253-GA-BTX. Duke Energy of Ohio is proposing to install a high pressure natural gas transmission line through our community and requires OPSB approval to pursue this installation. The items below have come to my attention regarding this issue.

This transmission line, unlike the thousands of gas lines that already run under the streets and properties of our community, is pumped to an extremely high pressure. It is also buried only 3 feet below the surface of the ground. Should anything such as a landslide (not uncommon in our area of the state of Ohio) or an excavation or digging accident (also not uncommon) occur, the results, which have been studied by experts on this subject will be indescribably disastrous! My home is situated in an area where, should the pipeline be damaged, it, my neighborhood and the lives of my entire family would be wiped out within only a few moments! There would be no opportunity to flee to safety in this situation. We would have time for no more than a few breaths before we are dead!

In addition to my property, this transmission line will come within very close proximity to other densely packed neighborhoods, schools, major employers, large shopping malls and healthcare facilities. Remember – this gas is pressurized to extremely high levels. Even if this line is breached by the items listed above but the gas is not ignited, those who are enveloped in the gas cloud that results anywhere in the vicinity will be virtually unable to summon help without actually causing an explosion. Something as simple as picking up a telephone or turning on a light switch could cause that.

Duke Energy is proposing two alternative routes for this transmission line. Either route jeopardizes a significant portion of our community. I would hope that the Ohio Power Siting Board will consider their responsibility to be far more than an issue of either – or. I understand that human safety is not currently part of the criterion for making a judgement on the siting of major and dangerous infrastructure like this. How can this be? The lives of thousands of residents of the state of Ohio are at risk here – how can the siting of such infrastructure as this disregard their safety?

Please review this proposal very carefully. I could understand if the common good of the one million or so residents living in the southwestern part of Ohio were best served by this pipeline, like building a new highway or hospital. Duke's stated objective, however, does not mention anything but its

own needs. Jeopardizing the lives of us close to the site of this proposed pipeline appears totally unjustified.

Members of the Ohio Power Siting Board: I ask you, sincerely, to reject Dukes proposals for this Transmission line.

Thank You.

Ken Knollman

*9914 Winnebago Trail * Cincinnati Ohio 45241*

Voice: 513-549-1705 Fax: 513-549-2636

To the members of the OPSB:

This is my second letter to the OPSB. Last year I was very disappointed to find that none of the OPSB members showed up for the hearing on 6/15/2018 in Blue Ash. I am urging the members of the board to take the public's concerns about the Duke Pipeline seriously and please carefully consider Duke's application with the proper due diligence and not take Duke's claims about this proposal at face value. Like many other citizens who live near the proposed routes, I am alarmed at the prospect of this dangerous pipeline being routed so close to not only residential areas but also schools, businesses, stores, and hospitals. I understand that public safety is actually not on your list of criteria for the decision, so I will also speak to the other factors that you will be addressing.

Duke Energy is proposing a pipeline that is unnecessary, dangerous to the environment, and fiscally irresponsible. Economist Haynes Goddard, in an op ed piece in the Cincinnati Enquirer (9/7/2016), states, although Duke claims the pipeline is "needed in part to meet expected growth...that rationale is contradicted by its own forecast which projects no growth at all" and that due to an excess supply of natural gas in shale deposit regions in Ohio, "there is money to be made getting it to [other] markets".

Read the complete story

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fcin.ci%2F2c7VfiW&data=02%7C01%7Ccontactopsb%40puco.ohio.gov%7C5cde2f5324ac470854c508d6ae27ec14%7C50f8fcc494d84f0784eb36ed57c7c8a2%7C0%7C0%7C636887883819244319&sdata=zaC8HHcSSfq0iWP8mwL5EvMSrss0kAcIv%2FODJW1vfV4%3D&reserved=0>.

Duke's track record for safety violations is well documented. In North Carolina, Duke Energy was sued for over \$25M over toxic waste from coal ash that has contaminated groundwater. And yet, Duke's application for this pipeline in our state did not even address the blast zone! Another Duke Energy project in North Carolina - a planned pipeline co-owned by Duke and Dominion Energy - will route through 1,700 acres of woodland and several waterways in predominantly impoverished areas. Interestingly enough, one of the less populated routes in Hamilton County that runs through Indian Hill was deemed unworkable because of woodlands and waterways. Money talks!

In fact, Duke's reputation for shoddy safety practices is so well known that, after pleading guilty to systemic violations of the Clean Water Act, it lost two major shareholders over their "environment record and the likelihood of future wrongdoing" (The News & Observer, 11/28/2017).

As a ratepayer, I have to question why we would put ourselves in harm's way and still be left paying the inevitable rate hike based on the costs this pipeline would incur? And while we're on the subject of finances, why are we, a state that is an abysmal 42 out of 50 for business (USA Today, March 2018) getting behind a dinosaur of an industry? Fossil fuels are non-renewable and are responsible for climate change. States that are investing in renewable energy sources are attracting a young, mobile workforce and can look forward to a bright economic future.

According to Forbes in June 2016, "Ohio has...seen economic dividends from strong renewable and energy efficiency policies, but that momentum has slowed due to the state legislature's decision in 2014 to freeze the state's clean energy targets".

A more recent study by Deloitte Resources in 2018 concluded that the renewable energy sector "remained resilient in 2018 despite uncertainty about federal tax reform legislation", buoyed up by "declining costs of wind and solar energy, battery storage" - and the kicker, ROBUST DEMAND.

Even Duke understands the coming boom of solar energy (and is penalizing customers in North Carolina who rely on it for part of their energy needs) but that's another story. Or maybe part of the larger

picture of how Duke is simply looking to maintain its monopoly.

I urge the members of the siting board to reject Duke Energy's proposed pipeline. It is unnecessary, financially unviable, and most importantly, a threat to human life and the environment.

Thank you,

Nancy Egan

9847 Catalpa Woods Court

Blue Ash, OH 45242

Sent from my iPad

From: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Cc: [Puco ContactOPSB](#)
Subject: public comment 16-0253-GA-BTX
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 3:20:07 PM

I am opposed to the Central Corridor Pipeline Extension project in Hamilton County as proposed. The case number is 16-253-GA-BTX. I do not believe that Duke Energy has adequately shown that the new pipeline is needed. Could it be that they are really just trying to grow their business as a natural gas transmission company?

I am asking that you please closely review the proposal that Duke Energy has presented to see if they have demonstrated that their Hamilton County customers do indeed require the huge amounts of natural gas this pipeline will provide. It is my understanding that the additional supply is not necessary since the natural gas demands in the area are actually predicted to fall in the coming years.

There certainly are safety concerns too. According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (Division of Geological Survey), "[t]he Cincinnati area has one of the highest per-capita costs due to landslide damage of any city in the United States." Also, if you compare the diabolical plan to bomb the World Trade Center in New York City using our own commercial jets against us, a terrorist's gaining access to a backhoe or excavator to damage the huge pipeline to cause a catastrophic explosion seems relatively simple.

If you do eventually ascertain that the pipeline is needed, I request that you determine that the planned route(s) for that pipeline are the safest for people and the environment. It doesn't seem logical that the ideal route would pass through densely populated, established neighborhoods with numerous businesses, schools and even mature trees which can never be replaced. Perhaps there is a better course the pipeline could take -- it might be a longer path, but a more sensible one for the vast majority of people who are being affected by the current plan.

As a member of the Ohio Power Siting Board, I urge you to attend the public hearing so that you can listen to the concerns of the citizens. This will give you the opportunity to hear firsthand about the facts concerning why the Central Corridor Pipeline Extension is not needed as proposed. The hearing is Thursday, March 21, in Muntz Hall at the University of Cincinnati - Blue Ash.

Please give this case a thorough and objective evaluation. Ensure that a 20-inch, 500 psi pipeline is the most responsible, financially prudent and effective solution to address Duke Energy's stated claim.

Thank you,
Steve Frisby

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: Case Number 16-0253-GA-BTX [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0FnmOL:ref]
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 4:29:46 PM

Ms. Trombold,

As a home owner in the northern Cincinnati suburb of Evendale, Ohio I am deeply concerned about a proposal before the Ohio Power Siting Board, case number 16-0253-GA-BTX. Duke Energy of Ohio is proposing to install a high pressure natural gas transmission line through our community and requires OPSB approval to pursue this installation. The items below have come to my attention regarding this issue.

This transmission line, unlike the thousands of gas lines that already run under the streets and properties of our community, is pumped to an extremely high pressure. It is also buried only 3 feet below the surface of the ground. Should anything such as a landslide (not uncommon in our area of the state of Ohio) or an excavation or digging accident (also not uncommon) occur, the results, which have been studied by experts on this subject will be indescribably disastrous! My home is situated in an area where, should the pipeline be damaged, it, my neighborhood and the lives of my entire family would be wiped out within only a few moments! There would be no opportunity to flee to safety in this situation. We would have time for no more than a few breaths before we are dead!

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Please review this proposal very carefully. I could understand if the common good of the one million or so residents living in the southwestern part of Ohio were best served by this pipeline, like building a new highway or hospital. Duke's stated objective, however, does not mention anything but its own needs. Jeopardizing the lives of us close to the site of this proposed pipeline appears totally unjustified.

Members of the Ohio Power Siting Board: I ask you, sincerely, to reject Dukes proposals for this Transmission line.

Thank You.

Ken Knollman

*9914 Winnebago Trail * Cincinnati Ohio 45241*

Voice: 513-549-1705 Fax: 513-549-2636



ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0FnmOL:ref

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: OPSB Case 16-253-GA-BTX [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0Fnmpy:ref]
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 4:36:03 PM

Dear Director Mertz:

I oppose Duke Energy's current proposal for the natural gas transmission line (Case No. 16-0253-GA-BTX). One of the proposed routes for this pipeline would run through Blue Ash, Ohio, very near my home. It would destroy trees that add tremendously to the value of my property and generally would decrease my home's value. Duke Energy has not shown the need for this high-pressure, high-capacity pipeline, given Cincinnati's decreasing population. Even if they could demonstrate that such a pipeline was necessary, they should not run it through a densely populated urban area, close to homes, day care centers, places of worship, schools, hospitals, and businesses, and expose so many to the risk of leaks or explosion.

Duke Energy's proposal (Case No. 16-0253-GA-BTX) should not be approved.

Sincerely,

Mary Vaz



ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0Fnmpy:ref

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [PucO Docketing](#)
Subject: 16-0253 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt_500t0FnmxL:ref]
Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 11:18:36 AM

I am opposed to the Central Corridor Pipeline Extension project in Hamilton County as proposed. The case number is 16-253-GA-BTX. I do not believe that Duke Energy has adequately shown that the new pipeline is needed. Could it be that they are really just trying to grow their business as a natural gas transmission company?

I am asking that you please closely review the proposal that Duke Energy has presented to see if they have demonstrated that their Hamilton County customers do indeed require the huge amounts of natural gas this pipeline will provide. It is my understanding that the additional supply is not necessary since the natural gas demands in the area are actually predicted to fall in the coming years.

There certainly are safety concerns too. According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (Division of Geological Survey), "[t]he Cincinnati area has one of the highest per-capita costs due to landslide damage of any city in the United States." Also, if you compare the diabolical plan to bomb the World Trade Center in New York City using our own commercial jets against us, a terrorist's gaining access to a backhoe or excavator to damage the huge pipeline to cause a catastrophic explosion seems relatively simple.

If you do eventually ascertain that the pipeline is needed, I request that you determine that the planned route(s) for that pipeline are the safest for people and the environment. It doesn't seem logical that the ideal route would pass through densely populated, established neighborhoods with numerous businesses, schools and even mature trees which can never be replaced. Perhaps there is a better course the pipeline could take -- it might be a longer path, but a more sensible one for the vast majority of people who are being affected by the current plan.

As a member of the Ohio Power Siting Board, I urge you to attend the public hearing so that you can listen to the concerns of the citizens. This will give you the opportunity to hear firsthand about the facts concerning why the Central Corridor Pipeline Extension is not needed as proposed. The hearing is Thursday, March 21, in Muntz Hall at the University of Cincinnati - Blue Ash.

Please give this case a thorough and objective evaluation. Ensure that a 20-inch, 500 psi pipeline is the most responsible, financially prudent and effective solution to address Duke Energy's stated claim.

Thank you,

Steve Frisby



ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0FnmXL:ref

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: 16-0253 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHL0u:ref]
Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 11:25:58 AM

I oppose Duke Energy's current proposal for the natural gas transmission line (Case No. 16-0253-GA-BTX). One of the proposed routes for this pipeline would run through Blue Ash, Ohio, very near my home. It would destroy trees that add tremendously to the value of my property and generally would decrease my home's value. Duke Energy has not shown the need for this high-pressure, high-capacity pipeline, given Cincinnati's decreasing population. Even if they could demonstrate that such a pipeline was necessary, they should not run it through a densely populated urban area, close to homes, day care centers, places of worship, schools, hospitals, and businesses, and expose so many to the risk of leaks or explosion.

Duke Energy's proposal (Case No. 16-0253-GA-BTX) should not be approved.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cenalo Vaz



ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHL0u:ref

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: public comment 16-0253 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHLbp:ref]
Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 11:23:05 AM

I am writing to you in opposition of the proposed Central Corridor Gas Pipeline Extension Project (Case No. 16-253-GA-BTX). I understand the project is designed to bring an increased volume of natural gas into Southwest Ohio. While I understand this goal, as well as the need to continuously improve the utility service infrastructure, I remain concerned that the proposed, preferred route by the Power Siting Board, will be located in our densely populated neighborhood. In Golf Manor, this project will be disruptive to properties impacted in both the short and long term. Our concern continues to be about the safety issues related to this natural gas pipeline as well as the proposed removal of trees and proposed barriers and future serviceability of land acquired in impacted areas. I would remind elected officials, the Ohio Power Siting Board, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and Duke Energy that lower median income, smaller urban communities such as Golf Manor, work diligently to contain expense for taxpayers while providing critical services. A project of this magnitude will not only disrupt the peace of the community during construction, but will leave Golf Manor with the responsibility, cost, and aftermath of managing any catastrophic event that may take place due to the failure of Duke Energy's pipeline. Safety is of critical importance. The potential harm in such a densely populated area is of alarm to all residents should there be a failure of the pipeline. We are also concerned about the lack of engagement with local first responders, in particular the Little Miami Joint Fire & Rescue District, our fire service provider, or any safety organization, regarding the support Duke Energy will require or impose upon this Village should this project be built. We anticipate that valuable economic resources will need to be diverted from other essential needs to additional training and equipment required to support any catastrophic failure of the pipeline, and we need to know how to fund this additional burden. Finally, as the Board, PUCO and Duke Energy decide what best routes will be taken, we encourage you to consider the financial impact this project will have on residential and business property values, property insurance rates and the quality of life in the Village for our residents. I strongly encourage the Ohio Power Siting Board, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and Duke Energy to reevaluate the Central Corridor Gas Pipeline Extension Project and find better alternatives that do not rip apart the fabric of our densely populated and settled community in the heart of Hamilton County.

Sincerely,

Sharon Chaney
Village of Golf Manor Council Member
2408 Vera Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45237
513-531-7491 

ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHLbp:ref

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: 16-0253-GA-BTX [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHHzB:ref]
Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 11:51:56 AM

Dear Ms. Trombold,

We live in Evendale, Ohio at 3726 Monet's Lane and our home is within 1000 feet of the proposed Green pipeline route for Duke's Central Corridor Pipeline. We do not feel safe being this close to the proposed pipeline. We have attended various meetings about this pipeline and have not been convinced that this is Safe or Necessary.

Please ask for a objective assessment from Duke as to why this is Necessary and how Safe this will be for me and all the other homes, schools, daycare facilities and businesses in this proposed route.

In the city of Reading alone, there is a "Superfund" site. This is a 3-acre called Pristine, Inc.. A Superfund site is land that has been identified by the EPA as contaminated by hazardous waste and poses a risk to human health and /or environment. The clean up of this area has been ongoing since 1981, when the EPA closed this site. This area is Still in the cleanup stage. How can a pipeline be Safely installed in this area? With the installation of the pipeline, the Superfund site would be compromised and the possibility of hazardous waste put into the environment. This is another area that we think Duke has questions of Safety to be addressed.

As a result, we feel Duke has numerous areas of this project to be better addressed as to the safety of our community. We ask that OPSB reject Both pipeline routes.

Thank you considering our request.

Sincerely,

Julia and Gregg Pennekamp



ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHHzB:ref

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [PucO Docketing](#)
Subject: Case number 16-0253-GA-BTX [ref: _00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHMgn:ref]
Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 2:14:39 PM

I am writing to let you know that I continue to be opposed to either of the proposed pipelines by Duke Energy through densely populated areas of Hamilton County.

I attended the 2nd public hearing yesterday at U.C. Blue Ash and my first reaction was WOW! The people that took the time to speak were so eloquent with their comments. I was saddened once again that NONE of the voting members of The Ohio Siting Board attended to see and hear the heartfelt testimony from the people and the communities that will be impacted IF either of the proposed lines proceeds.

Before making any decisions I ask that you:

1. Review, in their entirety, both of the public sessions that have been held and taped as neither was attended by any of the voting members. Although a taped session doesn't show you all of the emotions involved, at least you can hear the testimony. I realize this is about 10 hours of tape, but don't we deserve this since none of the voting members of this board attended either session?
2. Request an independent evaluation of the pipeline - is it REALLY necessary and what is the TOTAL impact to the densely populated area they are asking you to consider? Don't we deserve this before allowing a corporation that isn't headquartered in our state to proceed? If you would have attended the public hearing yesterday, you would have heard loud and clear that the people and the communities in Hamilton County **DO NOT WANT** this pipeline! PLEASE listen to the people in Hamilton County, Ohio and not Duke Energy, a corporation based in North Carolina!
3. Take a drive! Drive both proposed routes, in Hamilton County? What do you see? Although I haven't taken the drive myself, I have lived in Hamilton County for almost 28 years so I know the areas and I know what you will see -- HOMES that people live in, SCHOOLS, HOUSES OF WORSHIP, BUSINESSES, mature TREES, parks, Jewish Hospital, Kenwood Towne Center (a destination mall for this area and beyond!), major interstates and so much more!! That is what you will see, but also keep in mind that you there is A LOT that you won't see nearby that could be impacted!
4. Look at the cost and need! Although I have not been able to verify this information, I have heard that Hamilton County already has the highest (or close to the highest) rates for natural gas. It is my understanding that IF Duke is authorized to build the pipeline in this area, we will pay even more as they will pass the cost onto their customers -- the same customers that DO NOT WANT THE PIPELINE! Why do we have to pay for a pipeline that we don't want and haven't seen proof that it is even needed?

Again, PLEASE complete your due diligence on this very important matter to Hamilton County. Is it really necessary AND why is a transmission line of this size needed if Duke says this is line is needed just for natural gas consumption in this area?

Thank you for your serious attention to this matter that is critically important to the residents

of Hamilton County, Ohio!

Elaine Kerr
10870 Wengate Lane
Blue Ash, OH 45241



ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHMgn:ref

From: [Ohio Power Siting Board](#)
To: [Puco Docketing](#)
Subject: comment 16-253-GA-BTX [ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0GHGgx:ref]
Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 2:10:23 PM

Dear Ms Mertz,

I am writing you today because I am very concerned about Duke Energy's Central Corridor Pipeline Project Application (**Case # 16-253-GA-BTX**) that is before the OPSB at this time.

These are my concerns:

1. **Do we really need this pipeline?**—Duke has not adequately addressed the need for this 500PSI pipeline. Our area's population is declining with stagnant projections for natural gas use.

I suggest that we need an independent objective assessment to quantify the need for the pipeline for the local region.

2. **Will the project be safe?**—Safety of the residents must be paramount in the consideration of the application. Given the high pressure and size of the pipeline, this poses a potential risk of a devastating explosion. The pipeline would traverse densely populated areas close by schools, homes, businesses, and places of worship. And there have been several instances of pipeline explosions on newly constructed high pressure pipelines such as this one so no line is 100% safe. The blast zone would be 900 feet on either side of the line!

3. **How will the pipeline affect me and my family?** — Construction will be intrusive and create many transportation issues in the area. Many mature trees will be cut down along the pipeline route for the construction at a time when we have lost so many trees to disease. Many homeowners would have the pipeline close to their house due to the route that Duke has proposed. And how can we ever really feel safe when traveling or living near the pipeline?

4. **Costs**— Duke's customers in the region will be footing the bill for the pipeline project without seeing a benefit. We already pay the highest natural gas rates in the state.

In summary, we need to step back and really consider if this project is worth the risk and cost

for this region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Rob Schmuelling

6780 Siebern Ave

Cincinnati OH 45236



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This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

3/22/2019 5:12:51 PM

in

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

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