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October 27, 2020

Ms. Tanowa M. Troupe, Secretary
Ohio Power Siting Board
Docketing Division
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for the Bethel-Batavia Pipeline
PUCO Case No. 20-1411-GA-BTX

Dear Ms. Troupe:

The Affidavit of Publications and proof of publication, relating to the above-referenced case, are attached for filing today.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Emily A. Olive, CP

Emily A. Olive
Certified Paralegal



Proof of Publication

I, Joshua Park, do hereby attest that the Duke Energy Notice did appear in the following newspaper(s) as ordered:

Clermont Sun

10/8/2020


Joshua Park
10/21/20
Date

State of Ohio
County of Franklin

On this day, the 21 day of October, 2020 before me, Chana Powell, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared Joshua Park, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name was subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he executed it.

Witness my hand and official seal.


Notary Public



CHANA L. POWELL
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF OHIO
COMM. EXPIRES
NOVEMBER 25, 2020

COVID: Addressing misconceptions about testing negative

Continued from page 1

has met four of those indicators: new cases per capita with 129 cases over the last two weeks for a population of 206,428 (62.49 per 100,000); non-congregate cases at 75 percent; ED visits, which have steadily gone up since a low in September of a 1.14 seven-day average to 3.57 on Sept. 27; and outpatient visits, which hit a low on Sept. 10 of a 15.14 seven-day average to 30.57 on Sept. 29.

According to Clermont County Public Health's new COVID-19 dashboard, the county has seen 1,815 total cases since the pandemic began, of which 1,622 people have recovered. It remains unclear what the long-term effects of having COVID-19 and "recovering" entails.

Of total cases, 1,007 have been women, and 808 have been men.

The most common age bracket contracting the disease are those 20-29 (314 cases), and 50-59 (287 cases).

So far, 33 county residents have died from the disease, and 160 cases remain active.

CCPH Commissioner Julianne Nesbit explained that the rise in ED visits could be a person who has symptoms similar to COVID-19, and goes in for treatment.

"As the summer ends and the weather gets colder, we will start to see an increase in other illnesses as well, that may have similar symptoms to COVID-19, which can contribute to the healthcare provider numbers," she said. "Our numbers are not above what we have seen historically."

She continued, "We saw a small decrease and numbers are rebounding back up,

which triggered the indicators in the alert system. It doesn't measure a number as being 'high' or not, just any increase over five days."

Over the last few weeks, while the county has been in the orange, ED visits and outpatient visits had been decreasing, and the latest increase was about "bringing the visits back to about where we have been," Nesbit said.

Again, the triggering indicator is the "sustained" increase. Another way to look at it is that ED visits on Sept. 17 were at a historic low since the system began, so anything moving in the opposite direction of that number would be a triggering indicator, as happened.

During the course of the pandemic, the hallmarks of staying safe and taking necessary precautions continue to apply, and it's a holistic approach, i.e., all precautions should be taken to mitigate the spread of the virus and exposure to yourself and others:

- Individuals need to self-monitor health/symptoms, such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, body aches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, and diarrhea.
- Stay home if symptomatic.
- Maintain social distancing of at least six feet from non-household members.
- Wear face coverings in public.
- Avoid traveling to high-risk areas.
- Wash hands and use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Seek medical care as needed, but limit or avoid

unnecessary visits to hospitals and nursing homes.

One of the misconceptions about COVID-19 is that if someone gets tested and tests negative, then they are free to forgo the aforementioned safety precautions, such as removing their mask and getting within six feet of others without fear of contracting the virus. That is incorrect.

As Nesbit confirmed, just because you test negative one day, "that doesn't mean you won't test negative the following day."

"It takes some time for the viral load to build in your body. So if you get infected, it may take two-three days before you will have enough of the virus to trigger a positive test," she said. "What makes this difficult is people are often infectious before they start to show symptoms. Even if you've received a negative test, that doesn't mean you should stop following all of the public health guidance you've been hearing about for the last six months."

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the time between initial exposure to the virus and the appearance of symptoms is known as the "incubation period." That incubation period could be up to 14 days, which is why the quarantine time if you've been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 is 14 days, with an average incubation time of four to five days.

Viral load means the time it takes to build up the pathogen in the body, as it replicates itself in the cells. "Shedding the virus" means an individual's viral load

has peaked, typically right before the onset of symptoms, and they could begin spreading it to others.

That combination of peak viral load without demonstrating obvious symptoms is what has made COVID-19 spread to every country in the world, and in the United States, infect nearly 8 million people and so far has killed upwards of 211,000 (which is an undercount of the true death toll).

It's also why Robert Redfield, CDC director, has repeatedly said one of the easiest ways to mitigate spread of the viral load into what's called "super-spreader events," is to wear a face covering.

Back in July, he said if everyone in the United States wore a mask, the pandemic could be under control within four to eight weeks.

That hasn't been the case, however, since the toll of the pandemic continues to rise, with between 800 and nearly 1,200 deaths a day, every day in September in the United States.

While most cases (81 percent, according to a large cohort study from China) are mild to moderate, meaning they won't require hospitalization, 19 percent can be severe or critical, and do require hospitalization.

Another misconception Nesbit said she's heard about is those who get tested because they were exposed to someone who had the virus, but while they wait for their test result, they are returning to work and/or school.

"If that happens, then your result is positive, then you risk infecting many other people. If it is determined you are a close contact to a confirmed case, you need to stay in quarantine for 14 days from your last exposure to that person," she said.

Nesbit encouraged every-



Photo by Betty Mease

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends everyone six months and older receive the flu shot. Particularly, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, getting the flu shot is vital.

one to "please stay vigilant."

"Colder weather means fewer outdoor activities and more time people will be spending indoors. So those precautions of mask-wearing, keeping a safe distance from other people, avoiding crowded areas, and practicing good hand hygiene will be more important than ever," she said.

Time to get the flu shot

In concurrence with colder weather, as with every year, Nesbit also recommends that people get the flu shot, but it's even more imperative this year.

"Having the flu spreading along with COVID-19 is not only more dangerous, especially to people who are at high-risk, but it also risks putting more of a strain on hospitals and healthcare resources," she said.

The CDC recommends everyone six months and older receive the flu shot.

While the flu shot won't protect against COVID-19, getting both respiratory-based illnesses at the same would be "extremely dangerous, especially for people in high-risk categories," Nesbit added.

"We know the flu shot isn't 100 percent effective, but it greatly reduces your chances of getting sick from it and even if it does not prevent it you may have a milder case," she said.

CCPH offers seasonal flu shots. Call 513-735-8400 for more information.

COVID-19 Resources: For a list of COVID-19 testing locations, visit <https://ccphohio.org/covid-19-testing-locations/>.

To see the county's dashboard, including cases by zip code, visit <https://ccphohio.org/covid-19/>.

For State numbers, including the advisory system, visit <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/>.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING FOR PROPOSED MAJOR UTILITY FACILITY

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke Energy Ohio) Schedules Open House to Discuss New Natural Gas Pipeline Project

Duke Energy Ohio invites residents of Clermont County to attend a virtual public information open house regarding plans to install a natural gas pipeline that will run from the area around Bethel to the area around Batavia.

Public information open houses to discuss the proposed Bethel-Batavia Pipeline (or "Project"), which will be virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will be offered twice:

- Open House 1: October 27, 6 - 8 p.m.
- Open House 2: October 29, 6 - 8 p.m.

To access the meeting, you must pre-register online, at www.duke-energy.com/BBPipeline. If you need assistance with registration, please call 513.287.2130. Access credentials will be emailed to registrants one week prior to the event.

Duke Energy Ohio plans to build this new natural gas line in order to support the growth of demand for natural gas in the eastern portion of our Ohio service area, provide available and affordable natural gas supply, and support economic development in Clermont County.

The Project consists of 13 to 15 miles of 12-inch steel natural gas line. The general Project location is shown on the accompanying map of the area.

Duke Energy Ohio expects to file the application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Project with the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPS) in December 2020. The application has been assigned case number 20-1411-GA-BTX. This number should be included in all communications with respect to this Project.

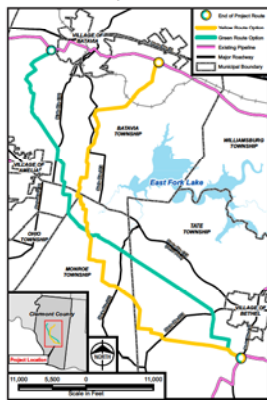
The OPS is responsible for reviewing information related to this Project - including input from the public - and determining

whether the proposed Project should be approved. There are two proposed route corridors at this time, as shown on the accompanying map. Two potential route corridors will be submitted to OPS for permitting. The OPS will make the final decision regarding route selection. It should be noted that, due to reduced scale and limited detail, this map should be used only as a general guide.

If the application is approved, construction of the Project could begin in early 2023 and be complete by spring 2024. Construction on each property typically takes a few weeks, not counting restoration, but may vary greatly depending on the size of the lot and other factors.

Additional information about this Project can be found online at www.duke-energy.com/BBPipeline. The public also can ask questions or make comments about the Project by calling 513.287.2130 or by email at BBPipeline@duke-energy.com. Mail inquiries may be sent to the following address:

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.
Attention: BB Pipeline
139 East Fourth Street
Mail code: EX460a
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202



clermontsun.com

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COA
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