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Kimberly Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

PUCO

RE: Docket No. CP07-208-000  
Rockies Express Pipeline LLC, REX-East Project

Dear Secretary Bose:

I am concerned about the effects of the combination of the proposed 42" Rockies Express-East Pipeline and longwall mining in the vicinity of my property in Belmont County, Ohio. It is my understanding that longwall mining will eventually take place in this area; I think that this is well-known in the area and has been known for quite some time. Thousands of feet of this pipeline will be passing through areas in which the ground may drop several feet. What will happen when the ground in which the pipeline rests drops? Will the pipe shear? Will it bend and break? Are the walls thick enough to sustain such a drop?

I searched the DEIS for some mention of how this issue was being addressed. I did not find anything to indicate that this had been discussed or that it was being considered. At the December 18 meeting held in the town of Somerton with the Rockies representatives, this issue was raised. Mr. Nelson, one of the REX representatives, said that the people from Rockies had been having talks with Murray's (the coal company) engineers about how to deal with putting such a large pipeline in a location where the ground was so likely to drop.

I am concerned about the timing of these discussions. Why was this not worked out before the proposed route was submitted to FERC? How could a complete DEIS be prepared without information on and a discussion of the combined effects of the pipeline and the mining operations? Why were the people from Rockies not prepared earlier? It seems so late in the process for such a big issue to remain unaddressed or remain without a complete, satisfactory solution being proposed.

I do hope that the Commission will require Rockies to address the issue of building their pipeline over the location of future longwall mining operations and that this issue will be fully addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Hutchison, M.S., M.Ed.  
4139 Commander Lane  
Columbus, OH 43224  
614-397-8020  
rich@hutchisonenterprises.com

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