

FILE

Patrick Donlon
Ohio Power Siting Board - Interim Executive Director
December 30, 2014

Mr. Donlon:

In response to the Staff Report of Investigation dated December 29, 2014 with regard to North Coast Gas Transmission, LLC's application for Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Oregon Lateral 24 inch Natural Gas Pipeline, I am submitting a letter which intends to highlight the concerns I have and am expressing on behalf of my family.

The speed with which the public notification period and governmental approval process were fast-tracked is most prominent in my objections. With such little time afforded Ohio property owners to review, properly understand, seek and interview competent legal counsel and to respond to the appropriate parties, I find this entire process to be fast-tracked beyond any reasonable timeframe. With a third party real estate acquisition company being the only real form of information and no direct contact with the party installing the natural gas pipeline, I find it reprehensible to be asked to respond to a letter written and posted just prior to 5pm on December 29, 2014 and allowing just over 24 hours with which to respond as per your guidelines. This lack of courtesy and foresight continues to create a cloud of uncertainty and offers Ohio property owners little chance to properly protect our land.

My family has owned a farm on Route 20 (Fremont Pike) in Perrysburg Township, Ohio for 100 years. This farm has provided sustenance, income and a livelihood for the first century in which it provided for us. For the past six years, we have attempted to market the property for commercial and/or industrial development. Through the worst economic period for commercial development, we persevered and continued to list the property until very recently as we attempted to understand the ramifications of this pipeline and the economic and financial deterioration that will follow. While we feel that this property, along with neighboring land, is ideal for development, this pipeline will likely create a void in sales opportunities for the foreseeable future. At the request of fellow property owners, we wish to request access to the alternative pipeline routes that were considered so as to discuss in greater detail the options which would benefit the potentially affected parties. I realize this will likely negatively affect other property owners in a different manner, however, that initial negativity may potentially provide an infusion of income without devaluing land which is effectively adjacent to major commercial and retail development within a one-half mile radius of our property.

With a one business day review period being afforded upon delivery of the applicant's discussion of steps to be taken to meet landowner's concerns, the minimal time allowed to all parties is insufficient and highlights a rush to approval without providing the Ohio landowners proper and adequate time to review any such documentation which is produced through this application.

I strongly urge you to slow the application approval process so as to allow all 100+ property owners the proper ability to secure representatives best able to provide legal, financial and real estate advice which will provide protection to many families in the Northwest Ohio area affected by this pipeline project.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan J. Sherman
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Effected Property: 9535 Fremont Pike, Perrysburg, OH 43551
Home Address: 340 W. Front St., Perrysburg, OH 43551

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