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16-253-GA-BTX

Rabbi Gary P. Zola, Ph.D. 9318 Bluewing Terrace Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

May 1, 2016

Mr. Matt Butler
Siting, Efficiency, and Renewable
Rates and Analysis Department
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio | Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Mr. Butler:

I wish to express my own views on the matter of PUCO Case #16-253-GA-BTX (i.e., Duke Energy's request to install a 30-inch diameter central corridor pipeline through a Blue Ash residential area). The specific route to which I am referring is the "Pink Route" (as well as the related "Blue Reroutes" that pertain to the aforementioned "Pink Route") in Duke's submitted plans, a route that runs within feet of many dozen family residences and, also through the campus of U.C.'s Blue Ash campus.

The many letters that have been submitted to PUCO give voice to my own concerns. Instead of reiterating these letters. I wish to emphasize certain disturbing elements of this plan that may not yet have been fully outlined:

I. Prospect of Danger, Damage, and Loss of Life
I urge the PUCO to give careful consideration to the dangerous consequences
that would result from installing such a pipeline so close to dozens of
residences and a large educational institution. I presume the members of the
PUCO are aware of the fact that natural gas pipelines do explode. These
calamities occur unexpectedly and with cataclysmic consequences, including
loss of property and life. Ominously, such a terrible explosion just occurred
outside of Pittsburgh. I urge the members of PUCO to read about these
explosions and consider its responsibility were such a thing to occur along this

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"Pink Route." The lives and property of hundreds of Blue Ash residents - not to mention the university students at UC Blue Ash, the residents of the Geier Home for the disabled on Hunt Road (operated by Hamilton County), and those who attend the Chabad Jewish Center - would be put in Harm's Way if PUCO permits Duke Energy to use this residential route when it installs a delivery system for natural gas.

II. The Introduction of Dangerous Terrorist Target

If PUCO permits Duke Energy to make use of this "Pink Route" to install its central corridor pipeline, then PUCO will be installing a potential terrorist target that runs literally adjacent to Chabad Jewish Center and, also, in close proximity to the Mayerson Jewish Community Center, Rockdale Temple, and Wise Temple. The installation of a major corridor so close to so many of our community's Jewish structures creates an appealing target for any group that wishes to wreak havoc on this community. Unfortunately, circumstances of this sort must be weighed carefully in the political climate that currently prevails.

III. Damaging the Environment, Quality of Life & Property Values

If the PUCO permits Duke to use this route, it will result in the irreparable damage to the natural woods and riparian features. The installation would likely impact drainage, the flow of storm water and other environmental factors. In addition, this route would eliminate important sections of our "greenbelt" and, as has been amply proven, provoke a decline in property values. These factors, too, should dissuade the PUCO from selecting the "Pink Route."

Let me stress that I fully support all of the additional, excellent points that dozens of Blue Ash residents have made in their own letters of protest, which have been registered with the PUCO. I will hot restate them in this communication, but I do consider them to be highly apt and pertinent.

Finally, it is clear that Duke has proposed several other options, one of which seems (potentially) to avoid large clusters of residential homes and certainly does not endanger students and houses of prayer.

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Therefore, my wife and I are urging the PUCO to deny Duke Energy's request to run this central corridor pipeline along the "Pink Route" (or the "Blue Reroutes" that relate to the "Pink Route").

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Sincerely

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Rabbi Gary P. Zola, Ph.D. & Stefani P. Zola