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Sent: Saturday, April 30, 2016 1:10 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>; CentCorridorPipeline@duke-energy.com
Subject: OPSB Case No. 16-253-GA-BTX

We are writing to oppose Duke Energy's current plans for the Central Corridor Pipeline (case 16-253-GA-BTX), on the Pink Route in particular and through residential areas in general. Constructing a 30inch diameter pipeline along residential property is unprecedented for Duke Energy, and raises numerous concerns, especially given the short timeline in which the proposed routes have come together:

Safety: As the parents of two small children residing on Bluewing Terrace, we are particularly concerned with the safety implications a pipeline of this size presents. In a meeting with the residents of our neighborhood, a Duke representative stated that the company has never installed a pipe of this size along residential property. This alone is a major safety concern for all potential routes, especially given the history of large pipeline accidents such as the San Bruno disaster and the most recent explosion of a 30 inch pipeline in Salem Township, PA on April 29, 2016. It also raises the question of whether this project truly needs to pass through residential areas. The Duke representative also stated that the company prefers not to install on public property because the company would have to move or alter its construction if ordered to do so. While Duke's financial motivations in targeting residential property are easily understood, that still doesn't justify putting private residents at risk of death or injury.

**Probable Environmental Impact:** We know for certain that installing the pipeline along the Pink Route would be materially harmful to the environment and community, creating more than a minimum adverse environmental impact. The University of Cincinnati Blue Ash has extensively studied the surrounding area as part of its long-term campus plans, and has noted the need to preserve the area that Duke now intends to build on: "The North Woodland and South Woodland areas of campus possess natural woods and riparian features that are both unique to the campus in their current natural state, are necessary to the natural mitigation of stormwater, and are difficult to develop for buildings but that offer significant educational, recreational, and community potential."

**Process:** It seems as if this project is being rushed through the Siting Board without providing enough time for residents to educate themselves and speak out. The question of whether Duke has fulfilled its legal duties to notify affected residents and businesses needs to be investigated before the Siting Board considers any plans.

Quality of Life: Bluewing Terrrace is a quiet residential neighborhood, whose residents specifically sought the privacy provided by the natural landscape. The pipeline construction would cut across the backyard environments of these properties, including mature trees and woodlands, yielding unsightly views and destroying the character of the neighborhood. The construction process alone is an invasion of the landowner's privacy with noise, congestion, heavy duty equipment, and debris removal over an extended period of time.

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Property Values: A study by the Colorado School of Public Health found that natural gas development hurts property values during construction. While some properties can recover once they are returned to their original condition, the mature forest in our community makes a full restoration impossible. According to the Forensic Appraisal Group, the decline in property value could range from 50 percent of easement value to 30 percent of entire property value. Additionally, reports indicate that some banks may refuse to refinance homes along large natural gas pipelines, and insurance providers may seek higher rates. Some real estate agents also indicate that there is a stigma associated with properties adjacent to natural gas pipeline projects, and this causes properties to remain on the market longer as a result.

We urge the Siting Board, at minimum, to exercise caution and care as it evaluates this unprecedented project. Ultimately, we hope the Siting Board will reject the Pink Route, and any other plan that runs through residential neighborhoods and puts residents at risk.

Sincerely, Jeremy and Erin Kraus 9461 Bluewing Terrace Cincinnati, OH 45241