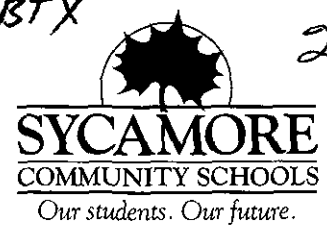


FILE

16-253-GA-BTX

2



District Offices

Frank A. Forsthoefel, Superintendent
 Karen B. Naber, Assistant Superintendent
 Beth A. Weber, Treasurer

May 20, 2016

The Ohio Power Siting Board
 180 East Broad Street
 Columbus, OH 43215

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV
 2016 MAY 24 PM 2:53
 PUCCO

Dear Members of the Board:

As Superintendent of Sycamore Community Schools, a public school district located in north central Cincinnati; specifically serving students in the cities of Blue Ash, Montgomery and Symmes Township, I feel obligated to comment on the proposed Duke Central Corridor (Case Number 16-0253-GA-BTX) Extension Gas Pipeline.

Sycamore Community Schools serves approximately 5,300 students in grades Pk - 12 in seven schools. As the state designated authority charged with reviewing, and ultimately ruling on, the coming permit from Duke Energy for the proposed natural gas lines, it is important for you to understand and carefully consider my reservations regarding the locations of these proposed natural gas pipelines. I respectfully offer these below.

In reviewing the details of the project, there are three proposed pipeline routes under consideration. Two of these routes, specifically, the Pink Route and Orange Route are of concern for me, as superintendent, charged with ensuring the safety of each and every student, staff and visitor to our schools.

As proposed currently, the Pink Route will pass in close proximity to Blue Ash Elementary, a school educating 510 students in grades Pk - 4; ages 3 through 10 years of age. This proximity is within two-hundred (200) feet of Blue Ash Elementary with one variation of the Pink Route and fifteen hundred (1,500) feet with another variation. It is my opinion that the placement of this pipeline, designed to pump natural gas at high pressure, in a highly concentrated area so close to a school, poses potential danger to our students.

The second route of concern, the Orange Route, could impact three of our schools. Maple Dale Elementary, Edwin H. Greene Intermediate and Sycamore High School are the learning environments for approximately 3,100 students in grades Pk - 12. As proposed, this Orange Route will pass within eight hundred (800) feet of Sycamore High School, one thousand (1000) feet of the intermediate school and thirty four hundred (3,400) of the elementary school. As referenced above, the closeness of proximity of this proposed Orange Route to three of our school causes concern for the safety of our students.

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file
 delivered to the public course of business.
 5959 Hagewald Drive Cincinnati, Ohio 45242-3919 Phone (513) 795-4500 Fax (513) 795-4505 www.sycamoreschools.org
 Technician SJM Date Processed MAY 24 2016 **MAY 24 2016**

As a resident of Sycamore Community Schools myself, and a parent who has a student at Sycamore High School, I fully understand the need to provide the region with an ample supply of natural gas. However, placing a natural gas line in such close proximity to any one, if not several of our schools, poses a daily safety concern for my students. As a result, I am respectfully requesting that when the proposals for the Central Corridor Gas Pipeline are before you, as the authorizing board, you will thoughtfully consider alternatives not in close proximity to schools within the Sycamore District.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Frank A. Forsthoefel". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Frank A. Forsthoefel
Superintendent

C: Sycamore Board of Education