

FILE

16-253-GA-BTX²
BTX

From: Grossman, Charles [mailto:grossman@xavier.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2016 10:38 PM
To: Puco Contact OPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Cc: Grossman, Charles <grossman@xavier.edu>
Subject: OPSB CASE # 16-0253-ga-btx

Date : 6/7/2106

Dear: Ohio Power Board:

PUCO

2016 JUN -8 PM 1:33

This letter is in reference to **OPSB cas number 16-0253-GA-BTX.** I have been a resident of Amberley Village for the past 25 years. Please be advised that I am absolutely against the Duke plan that may involve the routing of their high pressure 30" pipeline directly through Amberley Village and along Ridge Road. This route is possibly the poorest choice given the fact that it will entail passing through a heavily populated area of Amberley and also would disrupt the course of Ridge Road and decimate adult trees on the verge of the road. This route will also pass schools and churches. Should an explosion happen perhaps hundreds of residents of Amberley will be killed or maimed. Additionally the churches and schools containing preschool up to high school students most likely will have absolutely no warning and the carnage will be unimaginable. Such a pipeline should only be allowed in rural regions away from populated areas, as has been demonstrated in San Bruno CA and also in Salem Township PA. In this explosion damage was evident up to a half mile away.

Why would Duke choose a route that runs through populated areas and not for example along a railroad right of way? Clearly the reason is the almighty dollar and Duke wishes to save construction costs at the expense of human lives and property. They would disagree with this but how else can such a disregard for human life and property be explained? I agree that Duke may need this high pressure gas trans-shipped, but their choice of this route is unacceptable to those whose homes are in close proximity to this pipeline. I am quite certain that the CEO and high ranking officials of Duke would be opposed to having such a pipeline within ½ mile of their residences or country clubs, but we who are the general population are clearly of no interest to the governing board of the company.

Also as a PhD Biologist at Xavier University for 40 years I have grave concerns as to the effects of the planned pipeline which will most certainly disrupt a variety of animals and plants (including as noted above, mature trees which take up to 50-100 years to obtain full growth). Another question is how many stream crossing will this route encompass, and what is the impact on the water quality and aquatic fauna and flora. No information has been provided by Duke and they only repeat their mantra that this is for the good of their customers. However, this amount of pressurized gas is not required for use by the community of Norwood and there have been no serious "brown outs" of which they speak and lie. Indeed, such an amount of pressurized gas would be capable of operating three Zimmer power plants. Rather, it is almost certainly their future plan to continue these pipelines to the Gulf of Mexico for shipment overseas. By keeping this leg of the pipeline in Ohio they can initially limit Federal Safety requirement, which would otherwise be placed on this project if it was to cross state lines.

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I summary then, this pipeline is a terrible idea should it pass through Amberley Village It places the residents of Amberley at great risk for life and property, should the pipeline rupture. Additionally, in Amberley Village property values will fall drastically and many of the older residents are dependent on their home values as an important financial bulwark against a drop in income with age. Will Duke reimburse these people for the original value of their homes when they go to sell them? I fancy not given the cost cutting measures by the the CEO and senior executives to route the pipeline through populated areas and not through rural environs. I truly hope that you will take these comments under advisement when you finally make your decision as to the the final route that this pipeline will take. Amberley is absolutely the poorest of choices.

If I can be of any assistance in the area of impact on the Ecology or Biology as it related to damage of flora and fauna, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am sincerely;

Charles J. Grossman, PhD and Prof of Biology
Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati Ohio 45207

And; A Member of the Amberley Village Environmental Stewardship Committee

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