

FILE

16-253-GA-BTX

From: Jess Gahl [mailto:jessgahl@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2016 3:13 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: Duke Energy Central Corridor Proposal, case number 16-0253-GA-BTX

PUCO

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TO: The Ohio Power Siting Board

I am a resident of Ridgewood, a suburban community of approximately 200 homes, in Cincinnati. One of the proposed routes for the transmission pipeline lies within .3 miles from the farthest home in our subdivision. For this reason, I, like virtually all of my neighbors, oppose Duke Energy's Corridor extension project, number 16-253-GA-BTX.

While I recognize the need to promote natural gas as an (albeit temporary) alternative to other fossil-based energy sources, I believe that gas transmission lines on the scale of those proposed here (30" diameter pipe, maximum 720 psi) should not be installed in densely populated areas.

Installing these lines through a large section of suburban Cincinnati will cause neighborhoods to drop in property value between 11 and 30 percent and likely increase the cost of insurance. Burying the pipe three to four feet below the surface of the ground raises the potential for catastrophic explosions either through negligence or malicious intent. Given the size & pressure proposed (never before done by Duke Energy,) we could see a disaster of unparalleled scope should an explosion occur. Unfortunately these disasters have already struck other communities in the country. While unlikely, it could very well destroy our entire community.

I urge the Ohio Power Siting Board to reject Duke's current proposal in favor of pipelines running through rural areas where harm will be minimized. Public safety should supersede corporate profits. This would certainly be in the best interests of families living in a dozen communities within Greater Cincinnati, including mine (with my two young children) and my parents. I am asking that public officials consider the harm that can be avoided by exercising responsible leadership of those officials involved.

Respectfully,
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