

FILE

16-253-GA-BTX

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2016 JUN 16 PM 3:00

From: Mark Lehman [mailto:markelel@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2016 4:46 PM
To: Puco ContactOPSB <contactopsb@puco.ohio.gov>
Subject: OPSB Case Number 16-0253-GA-BTX

SUBJECT: OHIO POWER SITING BOARD CASE NUMBER 16-0253-GA-BTX
PROJECT Central Corridor Extension Gas Pipeline Company: Duke Energy Ohio
Location: Hamilton County

TO: The members of the Ohio Power Siting Board
<http://dis.puc.state.oh.us/CaseRecord.as>

FROM: Mark L. Lehman markelel@aol.com

15 June 2016

By now you'll have received hundred of letters from Cincinnatians concerned about the proposed Duke Energy pipeline through our city's densely populated neighborhoods.

There will be many detailed approaches to this issue, involving a multitude of facts, figures, calculations, etc. And there will be also some desperate pleas from terrified or outraged citizens imploring you to stop this project.

What I'd like to do is to ask you to step back from both the technicalities and the emotions and instead, look at the bigger picture. What it comes down to is that Duke is asking tens of thousands of Ohio citizens to be, in effect, guinea pigs in a large-scale high-risk experiment. Neither Duke nor those worried citizens really know what will happen. The use of large-diameter very-high-pressure gas lines is a quite recent and largely untested technology. Maybe it'll turn out to be safe, maybe it won't—though there have already been some serious problems, including very hazardous and destructive explosions, several in just the past few months.

We don't really know yet if this technology will turn out to be safe enough to use in a wide variety of situations, but we do know that a large explosion in a highly populated area will almost certainly kill or maim dozens if not hundreds of men, women, and children. These potential victims ask of you, the members of the Ohio Power Siting Board, and any other state officials who have influence in this matter, to do the responsible thing, and the right thing: do unto others as you would have done to yourselves and your own families. Let Duke build its high-pressure lines out in the farmlands where if they fail, no one will be harmed. Let them thoroughly demonstrate the safety of this new technology first, not inflict it untested on unwilling victims who happen to inconvenience them by being in their way.

Once Duke has shown that they know how to implement this technology safely—and, I may add, once they have had a chance to learn from their mistakes (and they WILL make mistakes, as in any new technology)—then, and only then, should it be considered for use in populated areas.

It is your job, your responsibility, your duty, to be cautious, to be wise, to be prudent; our lives and the lives of our children are in your hands.

Cordially,

Mark L. Lehman
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Amberley Village

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