FILE

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Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2016 8:19 PM
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Subject: DUKE Pipeline Project - REF: 16-0253-GA-BTX

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To My City, My County and My State Elected Leadership,

As I am sure you are aware, there is a proposal afoot to route a major, 30 inch, high pressure (720 psi) gas pipeline through residential areas in Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati. Neighborhoods affected by the proposed routes include: Amberley Village, Blue Ash, Silverton, Golf Manor, Wyoming, Sycamore Township, Pleasant Ridge, Madisonville, Madiera, Kenwood, and more.

Key aspects of the proposals include:-

- On 23rd June, Duke will submit recommendations for a preferred route and backup route. The Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) has never rejected a utility request, although it has tweaked details. If Duke to is change its route to rural areas, now is the time it must do so. OPSB public hearings occur in the fall and winter. AFTER that, the board approves routes. Construction will begin next summer.

- The "blast zone," i.e., damaged or scorched properties, from a pipeline of this size (30 inches) is 2000 feet on either side of the pipe. The blast zone for Duke's proposed "pink route" includes schools, churches, and many other significant neighborhood facilities, not to speak of the houses in these high density areas.

- Despite citizen questions, Duke has not explained how/where the route will connect "compression stations" in Norwood and Fairfax. The most direct route appears to run through sections Hamilton County and therefore the Neighborhoods mentioned above.

- As soon as the Ohio Power Siting Board approves the pipeline, homeowners wishing to sell their property must disclose to potential buyers that their home is adjacent to an environmental hazard. This will surely impact home valuations and sales.

- The 30-inch 720 psi pipeline is possibly the largest-flow highest-compression gas line produced in the US. It can service two million gas customers. Ohio statewide has only 470,000 customers total. The pipeline is being run through densely populated Ohio neighborhoods, which means that Greater Cincinnati bears the safety risk for gas customers as far away as Texas and perhaps Mexico. Ohio Revised Code requires utility companies to prove the need for improvements; the need appears to be smaller than the proposed 30-inch pipeline.

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- There is no engineering reason why the pipeline cannot be built in rural areas where damage would be minimized for an explosion or leak.

- Duke is accountable for monitoring pipeline safety, not a qualified third party as is true in healthcare, education, industrial safety, food service, barber shops, etc.

- Municipalities and residents at large have never been contacted by Duke. Only property owners with land that Duke needs to buy for pipeline easements have received Duke notices. Duke has not answered any questions posed by a grassroots citizens groups that have started to keep all neighborhoods informed.

I urge the City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County, and the State of Ohio to use their role as the elected representatives of the residents of South West Ohio to have the proposed routed re-assessed to be more appropriate and use Rural Routes to achieve the Gas transmission goals.

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