

FILE

Ohio Power Siting Board  
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street,  
Columbus, OH 43215

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RE: 16-0253-GA-BTX

PUCO

I am a resident of Pleasant Ridge, Cincinnati.

Duke Energy wants to run a massive, high-pressure natural gas pipeline directly through my densely populated neighborhood! Within the danger zone near the three proposed routes are schools, hospitals, day care centers, places of worship, small business, major shopping areas and tens of thousands of homes. This is an unprecedented project and a massive safety hazard. Any explosion could kill or injure thousands of residents within the pipeline's path.

Our quite city neighborhood with 100 year old oaks is growing with young families now, but the proposed pipeline runs nearby our elementary schools and alongside the remains of our industrial past, including the containment structures at the Hilton-Davis Superfund site. An explosion there could dispense massive amounts of toxic chemicals across a wide area.

I understand that pipelines are normally run in rural areas, so the periodic accidents (averaging 6-10 incidents a year) have not yet caused substantial loss of life. However, the one in San Bruno CA cost 8 lives, 51 injuries and \$550 million in property damage, leaving a crater behind 6 years later. Why are there no proposed routes in rural areas? What is Duke Energy thinking, proposing a pipeline with double the CA pressures through more densely populated urban areas?

Duke Energy has also as yet to give a justification of why it needs a pipeline that can serve 2,000,000 households when its monopoly serves less than 500,000 here in the southwest corner of the state. Is this in fact an interstate project for now avoiding regulation?

But not just here, such a pipeline should not be allowed in any urban or suburban area. I am writing of my direct experience with my neighborhood, but I'm sure all the other impacted, densely populated neighborhoods along the three proposed routes have their own stories.

Please send Duke Energy back to the drawing boards to propose a safe alternative, justified by local needs, with route proposals built with community input.

Sincerely,

Lauren A Marcum

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