

FILE

16-253-GA-BTX (2)

KENWOOD MALL, LLC
C/O GENERAL GROWTH PROPERTIES, INC.
110 NORTH WACKER DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV.
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PUCO

September 27, 2016

Ohio Power Siting Board
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Case 16-0253-GA-BTX – Duke Central Corridor Extension Gas Pipeline

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Macy's, Inc., Nordstrom, Inc., Dillard's, Inc., and Kenwood Mall, LLC, directly or through affiliates, own or ground lease parcels of land that together are the site of Kenwood Towne Centre, a regional shopping center in Sycamore Township, Cincinnati. We have received notices of the proposed natural gas pipeline extension that is the subject of the above-referenced Case. This project, as now planned, would have a dramatic adverse effect, not only upon the Shopping Center, but on the surrounding businesses and communities.

Kenwood Towne Centre is bounded by Kenwood Road, Montgomery Road, Galbraith Road, and Interstate 71. Its neighbors include a variety of retail and commercial establishments, as well as a hospital, church, and, on the west, family residential neighborhoods. The routes for the proposed gas pipeline run near the Shopping Center and near or through the neighboring homes and businesses.

Our foremost concern is with the safety of people. We are fortunate to be a popular destination for shopping, dining, and entertainment visited by thousands of people every day, including families and children.

We are not confident that the proposed project can be made sufficiently safe to be placed in the settings that Duke Energy has under its consideration. The Duke Energy project involves the installation and operation of a pipeline having a diameter of 2½ feet pressurized at 600 pounds per square inch and transmitting flammable gas. Duke Energy proposes to install this high-pressure line in densely populated residential areas and near a major regional shopping center. Moreover, the project does not benefit any of the people, homes, or businesses that it would disrupt and that it would put at risk.

Although personal safety is a paramount concern, it is not the only consideration. The presence of a pressurized gas pipeline of the magnitude involved in this proposal could

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irrevocably impair the character of the homes and property through which it passes. Residential neighborhoods may become less attractive, new businesses may not consider the area as a promising site to commit substantial investment or to locate their employees, and existing businesses may consider relocating to other areas.

The construction process itself would be highly detrimental, necessarily destroying trees, landscaping, and other features that may not be easily replaced and for which there may be no satisfactory substitutes.

We understand and agree that an extension of the existing pipeline may be necessary; we are only concerned with the implications of the routes under consideration. While these routes may be relatively convenient in some sense, it is difficult to believe that alternatives cannot be found in undeveloped or less developed areas that would have less impact and impose less risk on the community. We believe that the nature and character of the communities, neighborhoods, and businesses that would be affected by the Duke Energy pipeline makes the proposed routes unacceptable.

Very truly yours,

KENWOOD MALL, LLC

By: 

Brian S. McCarthy

Executive Vice President, Asset Management