From:	LYshanya Davis
To:	Puco Docketing
Subject:	Docketing Case: 19-2148 [ref:_00Dt0GzXt500t0SO4TC:ref]
Date:	Tuesday, March 3, 2020 2:15:43 PM

Subject: Comments on behalf of the Building Industry Association of Central Ohio (BIA)

On behalf of the Building Industry Association of Central Ohio (BIA), the largest trade association that is focused on promoting and protecting the viability of the regional, residential and multi-family housing industry to the benefit of builders and associates and businesses associated with and dependent on the industry, we submit the following comments to the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding the Marysville Connector project (case number: 19-2148).

The BIA has concerns that the Marysville Connector does not provide a comprehensive, regional, long-term solution for the region's energy needs. Bringing new natural gas capacity to the entire region is essential to continue growing and supporting Ohio's fastest developing area. Just along Route 33 alone, \$100 million has been invested by state and local officials to construct the 33 Smart Mobility Corridor. In the Northwest corner of Union County (including portions of Logan County) a \$125 million wind tunnel is being constructed on the Transportation Resource Center (TRC) property that will be opening in late 2020. This is just a small portion of the total investment happening in the area. Jobs will be created directly and indirectly to support these investments and residential construction projects are happening in every direction. In Union County alone, 405 new residential permits and 65 new commercial/industrial permits were filed in 2019. This growing region is essential to the state's economy and adequate supplies of natural gas are essential to its sustained growth.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jon Melchi Executive Director BIA of Central Ohio 445 Hutchinson Avenue, Suite 280 Columbus, OH 43235 (614) 891-0575 jon@biahomebuilders.com ref:_00Dt0GzXt._500t0SO4TC:ref

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Case No(s). 19-2148-GA-BLN

Summary: Public Comment of Jon Melchi, Executive Director, on behalf of the Building Industry Association of Central Ohio, via website, electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing