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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Attn: Kimberly Bose, Secretary
888 First St. NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

January 21, 2016

RE: Nexus Pipeline Route Impact to the City of Green

The City of Green continues to stand firm in our belief that the route as it traverses through the City is **ill-conceived** and is an **inappropriate** location for a 36" CNG transmission pipeline project. The impact to our residents, business community, natural environment and long-term financial health is too great. As we stated in our July 24, 2015 letter¹, we're not opposed to this project or the transportation of natural gas. We are asking for a well thought out project that doesn't impact the future of communities such as the City of Green.

We are in the process of reviewing the Resource Reports. These reports, over 6,490 pages, contain numerous errors, omissions, misrepresentations and misstatements. The City will address these Resource Reports in additional letters within the next two weeks.

Before discussing specific impacts to the City, we would like to point out that there are currently several pipeline projects at various points in the approval process with the same goal of transporting natural gas from eastern Ohio to Canada. **If ever there was a time to establish a safety corridor in Ohio, it is now. We urge FERC to please do not let the opportunity pass.**

The proposed path currently proposed thru the City of Green is approximately 7.9 miles of this project, this translates to approximately 48 acres of permanent impact, and 96+ acres of disturbed area (minimum of 100' construction zone, not including additional work areas).

The proposed path impacts Category 3 Wetlands, environmentally sensitive land, commercial/industrial properties, residential properties, and park land. The City is currently analyzing the route to determine the future impact to its land planning, proposed and existing land development potential, and the financial impacts of this route to the future development of the City. A brief outline of some concerns is attached as Appendix A.

As the City continues to review the Resource Reports for additional omissions, errors and misstatements we want to bring forward one major element we believe is missing in the Resource Reports submitted

¹ Number 20150724-5117 filed on Docket PF15-10, July 24, 2015

with the application. Nexus has **totally failed** to review the Natural Heritage database for this proposed route thereby failing to adequately address endangered and protected species in the City of Green.

Two pipelines, ET Rover and ANR East can provide the same result i.e. transmitting gas from Eastern Ohio to Canada (which is the only purpose for this duplicative pipeline) without these additional impacts. The City of Green (COG) provided an alternate route to demonstrate a route with fewer impacts is possible; this was rejected by Nexus due to speculative, at best, market connections. **We urge FERC to not take any action on the Nexus application until an alternate route is properly analyzed by Nexus and the market connections fully examined.** Please note FERC "ordered" Nexus to analyze the COG alternate route in the pre-application process.

Nexus has failed to prove that a Purpose & Need exists to provide additional natural gas to Northeast Ohio (NEO). NEO is served very well by Dominion East Ohio (DEO) and Columbia Gas. Storage fields for DEO are located in northern Stark County's Jackson Township and southern Summit County (Green and New Franklin). These fields provide adequate reserves for DEO.

We again urge FERC to deny this application as proposed. The route is **ill-conceived**; alternative routes within pipeline safety corridors can be achieved. **FERC cannot in good conscience approve this application to construct a 36" CNG pipeline with the current route due to all the errors, omissions, misstatements and misrepresentations currently within the Resource Reports.**

The attached brief synopsis of the route within Green is just a precursor to issues connected with the route only within the City of Green's Corporation limits.

We would value the opportunity to meet and speak with FERC Officials.

Sincerely,



Wayne L. Wiethe, AICP
Director of Planning
WW/NB



Chrissy Lingenfelter, GISP
GIS Administrator

cc: *Sherrad Brown, U.S. Senator*
Rob Portman, U.S. Senator
Jim Renacci, Congressman
John Kasich, Governor
Frank LaRose, Ohio State Senator
Anthony DeVitis, Ohio State Representative
Russ Pry, Summit County Executive
John Sheridan, Director of State Gov Affairs Spectra Energy
Brian Hicks, Hicks Partners
David Slater, Executive Vice President-Gas Storage & Pipeline

Steven Pruneski, Law Director – As Intervener on behalf of City of Green
Distribution to: Service List

Appendix A

Milepost references are approximate.

- ✗ MP 34.2 – 34.6 is a large wetland that extends across our border into Lake Township to our east. We have reason to believe this is a Category 3 wetland.²
- ✗ MP 34.8 – 35 is currently an agricultural field. This is a prime location for a future residential development. A permanent easement on this property would impact the development value and potential. Pipeline construction will impact agricultural output.
- ✗ MP 35.3 – 35.6 is Ariss Park. We have repeatedly provided information about Ariss Park such as the presence of abandoned mines, the history of a past user that would indicate the potential of contaminated soil, and the Master Plan for the park.
 - There is a history of mine subsidence in the area.
 - As outlined in a previous letter³ (and disregarded in the Resource Reports), there is the potential of contaminated soil in this area. Ohio EPA required the City to test soil in the area of any soil disturbance during the development of the park. While no contaminated soil was found the development of the park was focused away from the suspected contamination area. Any future soil disturbance on this property will need to be tested.
 - The Master Plan for Ariss Park was provided in a letter dated February 23, 2015⁴. The proposed route goes through a future parking lot, baseball field and walking path.
- ✗ MP 35.6 – 35.8 is currently an agricultural field. However, the owner of the property has an approved concept plan for a commercial development⁵. (Planned Development zoning has been approved).
 - The development would include a mixture of office and retail uses. The location of the pipeline on this property will drastically effect how the land can be developed which in turn will have a long term impact on the financial health of the City. The removal of development potential consequently removes property value and therefore property taxes as well as a loss of potential jobs and their income tax.
 - Additionally, the City has a long term plan of constructing a road that would connect Wise Road and Greensburg Road. This road would cross the proposed route. The constructed pipeline would add engineering cost to the City's plans as well as construction cost of adhering to the elevation of the pipeline.
- ✗ MP 35.8 – 37.3 crosses land that is currently zoned for industrial uses. This is also an area indicated as the Airport Business District in the City's 2014 Land Use Plan. The Airport Business District is an area that the City is targeted for industrial, office and other airport compatible lands uses in order to maintain and increase the economic base within the City.

² Category 3 wetlands "are typified by high levels of diversity, a high proportion of native species, and/or high functional values." – Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands v. 5.0, Ohio EPA

³ Number 20150724-5117 filed on Docket PF15-10, July 24, 2015

⁴ Number 20150226-5223 filed on Docket PF15-10, February 26, 2015

⁵ Number 20150226-5223 filed on Docket PF15-10, February 26, 2015

- North Canton Elevator envisions an expansion of their successful business in the near future. The proposed route would fully prevent this company's ability to utilize their land to its highest and best use.
- North Canton Transfer also envisions an expansion as well as the addition of a supporting development on their land. The proposed route would fully prevent this company's ability to utilize their land to its highest and best use.
- The Akron-Canton Airport owns land in this area that is earmarked in the Airport Master Plan for future development.
- Port Green is an industrial park that was developed through a partnership between the City of Green, the Akron-Canton Airport, Summit County, Aqua Ohio and the State of Ohio. The proposed route essentially renders Lot 21 undevelopable.
- ✗ MP 37.1 is Greensburg Park. The proposed route crosses a small corner of this property. However, it puts the pipeline just 125 feet from a baseball field.
- ✗ MP 37.4 is the Massillon Road crossing. Country View South is a 32 unit apartment building that would be 82' from the pipeline⁶. Green Acres is a 19 unit apartment complex approximately 375' north of the pipeline. Walnut Woods is a private children's day care approximately 500' north of the pipeline.
- ✗ MP 37.6 – 37.8 is currently an agricultural field. This is an ideal location for a future residential development. A permanent easement on this property would impact the development value and potential.
- ✗ MP 38 – 38.3 is currently forested land. This is an ideal location for a future residential development. A permanent easement on this property would impact the development value and potential.
- ✗ MP 38.3 – 39 is in the vicinity of the Singer Lake Bog which is a globally rare poor fen⁷. While the Bog itself would not be crossed there are two wetlands close by that would be. The Bog is ground water feed and the two crossed wetlands are connected to the Bog. There is also concern of sedimentation runoff during construction near this delicate ecosystem. The introduction of invasive species through the cleared pipeline corridor is also a concern.
- ✗ MP 39.35 – 39.55 is currently an agricultural field. This is a prime location for a future residential development. A permanent easement on this property would impact the development value and potential.
- ✗ MP 39.5 – 40.7 is an area dense with wetlands. Possibly high quality wetlands. Between the meandering of both the stream and the pipeline, this one stream would be crossed four times. Coupled with the amount of wetland in this area we feel this project would be too great of a burden on this watershed.
- ✗ MP 40.5 is Loyola of the Lakes Retreat House. The Retreat House is a destination for people in search of peace and spiritual awareness.
- ✗ MP 40.7 – 42.1 is the remainder of the proposed route in Green. This area has more wetlands, state owned property (managed by Summit County Metro Parks) and homes in close proximity to the proposed route.

⁶ Residential Drawing MP 37.25 to 37.41 in Resource Report 8.

⁷ Number 20150424-5097 filed on Docket PF15-10, April 24, 2015 & Number 20150519-5097 filed on Docket PF15-10, May 19, 2015