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Dear Commissioners,

I am strongly opposed to the proposed Kentucky American Water pipeline from pool 3 on the Kentucky River through rural Franklin, Scott and Fayette Counties. It is redundant since the same amount of water and more is available from the Louisville Water Company. The KAW option will also be vastly more expensive to the rate-paying water customer.

It is poor public policy to slice and dice our rapidly disappearing small farms and natural areas that still remain in central Kentucky. It is unfortunate that some view these same areas as having no intrinsic value instead of seeing them for the tremendous value they have left as they are. Many tourists from other states come here to drive and bicycle our scenic roads, hike our beautiful natural areas and canoe our creeks. Friends often ask me to hike with them in the Red River gorge, or at Natural Bridge. My response is generally that I live in a gorgeous area with many natural wonders - come hike here with me.

One of the most immediate and problematic parts of this whole KAW pipeline scenario to me is the lack of support given to farmers and landowners along the route who depend on springs, wells, ponds, creeks, lakes and other similar sources of water. Digging an 8 foot deep trench, and in most areas blasting rock, is the same thing as building an 8 foot deep french drain. It will disrupt shallow groundwater flows and leave many creeks, ponds, lakes, springs and wells dry most of the year. A french drain's chief attribute is to control the natural flow of shallow groundwater and surface water to direct it somewhere else. Has KAW stepped forward and offered to supplement water to the householder, cattle, horse or crop farmer who depends on shallow groundwater for their livelihood or for household use? I don't think so. Over 30 miles in length and several miles wide for the entire length will be disturbed in such a manner, followed in a few short years by another 30 or so miles through rural Owen and Carroll counties to reach the Ohio River for more water.

The Louisville pipeline will be built along already disrupted areas where the shallow groundwater flow has been disturbed by the construction of Interstate 64, thus this option makes more sense. I entreat you to study the Kentucky American option carefully, and decide on what is best for all of central Kentucky, not on what is best for Kentucky American and their money-making machine.

Respectfully,



Dara Carlisle
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Owenton

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