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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Friday, December 11, 2020

Robert Cicero Kentucky Public Service Commission PO Box 615 211 Sower Blvd Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

Dear Mr Cicero,

I hope you take the time to read this letter. I tried to phone you but was unable to reach you. I am opposed to the seizure of Bernheim land for the construction of the LG&E natural gas pipeline through Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest. Bernheim protects endangered species, provides clean air, water, scenic beauty and brings joy to hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. The pipeline threatens this pristine and protected conservation land. I urge you choose another route!

Bernheim is a community asset, not just because of conservation work, but also due to the health and economic benefits it provides. The beauty of a peaceful environment like Bernheim attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors to the region each year. Everyone in the community benefits from the beauty and the clean air and water, and tourism that Bernheim provides. In a growing economy like Bullitt County, Bernheim is a powerful resource for talent attraction and retention.

The proposed pipeline cuts directly through an area that is home to federally endangered Indiana bats, northern long-eared bats, Kentucky glade cress, bluff vertigo snail, and the recently discovered hidden spring snail. This project will destroy conservation land that includes cave systems, springs, streams, mature forests, knobs, and rock outcroppings on which these species depend.

As a Certified Community Health Education Specialist of 25 years, a volunteer naturalist, meditation instructor for PTSD, and public health advocate I beg you move the pipeline route. Humans get absolutely everything they need, use, want, from the earth. To treat our natural resources like a revenue stream is not only ill advised it is counter to that purpose. Once we degrade and exploit our natural resources it is prohibitively costly to repair or rehabilitate them. California communities, as we speak, are struggling to provide fresh water for their communities and the great lakes are under siege by corporate America. We must act smarter. While Kentucky continues to lag behind other states in so many areas we do have this resource, let's not shoot ourselves in the foot (yet again) in this

short sighted rush to revenue. Destruction of our irreplaceable natural resources hinders valid sustainable revenue streams (like tourism for example) and more importantly injures all aspects of our populations' health. Everyday we learn more about how essential our forests and streams are to our mental, physical, and spiritual health. I stand with large forests, abundant wildlife, clean streams, clean air, wild places, kids in nature, vibrant rural communities, and Bernheim Forest. Don't destroy our forest! Find another route!

Respectfully,

Kim Briand MBA CHES RYT

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