Paul Miller, Director
Kentucky Division of Water
300 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Re: Louisville Gas and Electric Co. Application for Water Quality Certification, AI #120218

Dear Mr. Miller:

As a local student, I’m writing you to voice my opposition to LG&E’s application for a Water Quality Certification for its proposed natural gas pipeline cutting through Bernheim’s Cedar Creek Wildlife Corridor. I support Bernheim’s efforts to defend our forests, streams, springs, and wildlife from the proposed LG&E pipeline that would break a conservation easement to cut through the Cedar Creek Wildlife Corridor.

This LG&E proposed natural gas pipeline as stated in this Water Quality Certification application would create substantial impacts to water at Bernheim, of which may include:

* Hydrostatic wastewater discharge location proposed on Bernheim that would release pollutants into streams and groundwater
* Serious risk of landslides and slope destabilization
* Damage to streams and springs
* Permanent clearing of forests and damage to landforms
* Impacts to water quality and sensitive species

The issuance of a 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) from the KY Division of Water should be denied because of these serious and permanent impacts to the Cedar Creek watershed, our forests, and sensitive aquatic life.

I have spent a lot of time at Bernheim and it’s a place that means a lot to me, and I worry about anything that threatens its future. I oppose this application’s approval because I believe that the pipeline project poses a significant threat to Bernheim’s land and water — and possibly even the communities beyond Bernheim. Approving this request can lead to the permanent destruction of protected forested land, which to me as a young person who worries about the future health of my community is a frightening idea. I don’t think a big public utility should have the right to threaten water and land that’s supposed to be protected for future generations.

The proposed pipeline route would pose a direct threat to almost a mile of streams. As someone who has spent time playing and learning in those creeks, I’m very concerned for their health and future. As an adult, I hope that I can still visit the places that were important to me as a child. I also worry about how this decision will impact our drinking water, since anything that poisons or damages Bernheim’s waterways can easily reach the communities around it.

As someone who has a deep connection to Bernheim both as a place and an ideal, I respectfully ask that you reject LG&E’s proposal. Please take the side of people like me who are concerned about possible dangerous and irreversible consequences a pipeline could have on water we will still be drinking in 50 years. Help ensure a healthy and sustainable future for us, our children and our children’s children. Please don’t allow the pipeline project to move forward, so that the next generation will be able to enjoy Bernheim Forest’s water and land the same way mine has.

Thank you for your consideration and I would appreciate a response,

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