

STATE OF OHIO)
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON)

DECLARATION OF CAROLINE C. BEIDLER

I, Caroline Beidler, hereby declare and state:

1. I reside at 1870 Michaelis Road, Marietta, Ohio-45750.
2. I have been a member of Ohio Citizen Action since March 2000. I have also been a member of the board of directors of Ohio Citizen Action since 2001, and serve as secretary/treasurer of the board.
3. I, along with Keith Bailey, moved into our current home 9 years ago.
4. Our home is located in Pinehurst, Ohio, a small community just outside of Marietta between State Route 550 and State Route 676. The American Electric Power's Muskingum River plant is almost exactly 10 miles north of our home.
5. I am very concerned about the air pollution that AEP's Muskingum River plant emits and the impact that such pollution has on Keith Bailey and me. I know from Toxic Release Inventory reports that AEP's Muskingum River plant emits very high quantities of air pollution such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, and I feel that our overall health is affected by the pollution emitted from AEP's Muskingum River plant. While engaging in outdoor activities such as gardening, mowing the lawn, or walking through the woods, I often get a bitter sulfur odor and taste in my mouth. When outdoors, I usually cannot breathe through my nose, and on hot days when the air is still I often feel that I cannot get any oxygen into my lungs.
6. Our property includes 12 acres of woods, comprised primarily of white pines and various types of oak trees. Keith and I frequently hike through these woods, which we enjoy for their natural beauty and biodiversity. A significant number of the trees on our property are dying, however, which has negatively impacted my enjoyment of hiking through the woods on my property. I believe that the air pollution from AEP's Muskingum River plant has contributed to the deaths of these trees. Because pine trees are known to be similar to "the canary in the coal mine," I am very concerned about what the air pollution could also be doing to Keith and me.
7. Keith and I are avid gardeners. The plants in our garden (along with homes and cars in the area) are frequently covered with a black residue which I believe is caused by air pollution from sources such as AEP's Muskingum River plant, and which has caused us to stop eating food grown in the area. Therefore, while we used to plant vegetable gardens, we now plant only flower gardens.

8. I support Ohio Citizen Action's lawsuit against the AEP Muskingum River plant's violation of the Clean Air Act. I feel very strongly that the AEP Muskingum River plant needs to be held to the law as it is, with no exceptions, for our health. - If the Muskingum River plant were required to clean up, I believe that the air quality where I live would be reduced and that many of the impacts I have identified above would be lessened.

I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Executed on 11/20, 2004

Caroline C. Beidler
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