

Written Testimony for Richard Krock, resident, Westlake, Ohio

Before Ohio Senate Committee Hearing in support of SB 95

October 25, 2017

My name is Richard Krock. I reside in Westlake, Ohio. I am employed by the Vinyl Institute as their Vice President of Regulatory and Technical Affairs. I am a chemical engineer and have held a professional engineering license in the State of Kentucky since 1978. In 1988, I moved to Westlake Ohio and purchased the home that I currently live in. It was a new development and a new home. So I have lived there for over 29 years.

As a resident of Ohio for nearly 3 decades, I am well aware of our state's deteriorating water infrastructure. One example I have occurred last summer, when the ductile iron water supply pipe feeding our street broke, requiring excavation of the street and driveway aprons directly across from my home. In fact, there were 5 such breaks throughout our neighborhood in the ductile iron pipes that were installed only 30 years ago. In this case, the pipe had corroded to the point of failure.

At a time when Ohio communities are already facing difficult budgetary situations, we need our investments in water infrastructure to go further. Our State needs to provide the best material at the lowest cost. SB 95 will help accomplish this goal by introducing competition into the procurement process and driving down costs for rate payers. Thank you for your time today.