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By Docket Room at 2:40 pm, Aug 02, 2012



Bay Area Chamber of Commerce

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August 3, 2012

U.S. Department of Energy (FE-34)
Attn: Larine Moore and Marc Talbert
Office of Natural Gas Regulatory Activities / Office of Fossil Energy
P.O. Box 44375
Washington, DC 20026-4375
— Sent via email: fergas@hq.doe.gov

Re: FE Docket No. 12-32-LNG

Dear Mr. Talbert & Ms. Moore:

The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, serving Oregon's bay area communities of Coos Bay, North Bend and Charleston, supports the application by the Jordan Cove Energy Project, L.P. for long-term authorization to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) produced from domestic and Canadian resources to non-Free Trade Agreement countries.

The Jordan Cove project represents a significant and beneficial economic opportunity for the bay area, Coos County, the Coos Bay harbor and the southwest Oregon region.

With an investment of more than \$6 billion, the Jordan Cove project and the associated Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline would be, simply by dollar value, the largest private-sector investments ever made in Oregon.

Coos County and much of the south coast region continue to experience chronic economic distress resulting from reduced timber harvests that have led to disastrously reduced tax revenues for government entities statewide, and as a result, critical public services have been greatly diminished and in some cases eliminated. This has required southwestern Oregon cities and counties to make difficult and excruciating cuts in public services. Even before the current recession, southwestern Oregon counties lagged significantly behind other counties in the State of Oregon, and across the nation, in economic growth. This region routinely posts unemployment figures higher than the state and national averages, and has been doing so for nearly three decades.

The Jordan Cove LNG project provides several strategic opportunities for the region:

1. Construction Jobs. Terminal construction is forecast to create more than 2,600 jobs at peak, with an average of more than 900 jobs over the three-and-a-half year construction cycle. The pipeline will employ an additional 800 workers over two years of construction.
2. Permanent Jobs. The terminal and pipeline will create 150 permanent jobs, with an average annual salary of \$75,000, which is twice the average per capita income in southwestern Oregon.
3. Local Taxes. Jordan Cove will pay \$25-30 million per year in local taxes. Considering the multi-decade projected operations of the Jordan Cove facility, these tax payments would be a large and reliable revenue source for local and regional units of government.
4. Economic Development. Construction of the Jordan Cove terminal will revitalize the Coos Bay harbor, an underutilized deep-water port and a vital component of Oregon's and the nation's intermodal transportation system. Port infrastructure and marine services will be greatly improved, making the Coos Bay harbor more attractive to importers and exporters. In addition, the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline will provide connections to the existing natural gas pipeline infrastructure in southwestern Oregon, thereby increasing the supply of natural gas. The increased availability of natural gas in southwestern Oregon would make the region more competitive in attracting industries that require large, reliable volumes of natural gas as an energy source. This improvement in natural gas availability will come at no cost to utility ratepayers, because the pipeline will be financed by Pacific Connector's investors, with no ratepayer recovery.

In summary, the Jordan Cove Energy Project, and its associated Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, would provide long-term economic benefit to a region of Oregon that has been suffering from chronic unemployment and a steady erosion of its traditional natural resource-based industries. It would provide high-wage construction jobs and permanent employment, and it would have important spin-off benefits from improvements to the Coos Bay harbor, and the increased availability of natural gas.

For these reasons, the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce has taken a formal position in support of this project and asks that you approve Jordan Cove Energy Partners, L.P.'s application to export LNG to non-Free Trade Agreement countries.

Sincerely,



Matt LeDoux, President

On behalf of the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce