

## Klamath County Commissioners

**Tom Mallams**, *Commissioner*  
Position One

**Dennis Linthicum**, *Commissioner*  
Position Two

**Jim Bellet**, *Commissioner*  
Position Three

June 19, 2014

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
United States Senate  
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wyden,

We are writing to you today because we as a state and country are missing out on significant economic opportunities if we do not allow the timely approval of liquefied natural gas (LNG) export permits. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has thus far approved only a few of more-than-two-dozen applications for these permits. Between the construction of LNG export facilities and the ongoing export of LNG, these opportunities are substantial and should not be further delayed.

The benefits of LNG exports are tremendous. About 45,000 Americans will be put to work if these permits are approved, according to an NERA Economic Consulting study. These newly employed workers will spend money in their communities, greatly expanding the employment benefits. New tax revenues will flow to local, state and federal coffers. Economies will rebound.

By exporting LNG, we also can help reduce our trade deficit. Perhaps even more importantly in these times, LNG exports can help America's allies who need new sources of natural gas. This could be a game changer in geopolitical terms, strengthening America's position in the world.

We were pleased to see that the Department of Energy conditionally approved the Jordan Cove LNG Export facility in Coos Bay recently. It is only the first of many steps necessary before exports can commence at Jordan Cove, but nothing happens if this first step of approval isn't taken. The Jordan Cove LNG facility and the Pacific Connector Pipeline will provide much needed economic growth to Southern Oregon.



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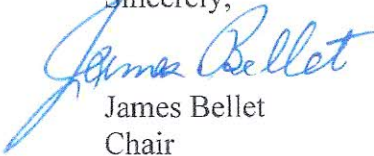
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That's why we are urging you to support recently proposed legislation to expedite exports of American LNG to our allies. We need to enact transparent, time-limited reviews of LNG export permits and break through the backlog of applications awaiting DOE review and approval.

Expanding LNG exports will benefit our local and national economy and help our allies. Please support legislation to enact timely reviews of LNG export permits.

Sincerely,

  
James Bellet  
Chair

  
Tom Mallams  
Vice-Chair

  
Dennis Linthicum  
Commissioner