

August 2, 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



Via email: [fergas@hq.doe.gov](mailto:fergas@hq.doe.gov)

Re: FE Docket No. 12-32-LNG

Dear Mr. Talbert & Ms. Moore:

I am writing in support of the application by Jordan Cove Energy Project, L.P. for long-term authorization to export liquefied natural gas produced from domestic and Canadian resources to non-Free Trade Agreement countries. The Jordan Cove project represents an unprecedented economic opportunity for Coos County and the region.

At \$6 Billion, the Jordan Cove project and the associated Pacific Connector Pipeline would be, by dollar value, the largest private sector investments in Oregon. Coos County continues to experience chronic financial distress from reduced timber harvests that have led to greatly reduced revenues, and as a result, public services. This has required Coos and other Southern Oregon counties to make difficult and painful cuts in public services. Even before the current recession, Southern Oregon counties lagged the rest of the State of Oregon and the nation in economic growth and routinely posted unemployment figures higher than the state and national averages.

The Jordan Cove project provides several key 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 three-and-a-half years of construction. 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 Southern 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 governments.
4. **Economic Development.** Construction of the Jordan Cove terminal will revitalize the Port of Coos Bay, a naturally deep-water port that is under-utilized. Port facilities will be improved, making the Port of Coos Bay more attractive to importers and exporters. In addition, the Pacific Connector Pipeline will provide connections to the existing natural

gas pipeline infrastructure in Southern Oregon thereby increasing the supply of natural gas. The increased availability of natural gas in Southern Oregon would make the region more competitive in attracting industries that require reliable, large volumes of natural gas. This improvement in natural gas availability will also 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 Pipeline would provide a long-term economic benefit to a region of Oregon that has been suffering from high unemployment and a steady erosion of its traditional natural resource-based industries. It would provide high-wage construction and permanent employment and it would have important spin-off benefits from the improvements made at the Port of Coos Bay and the increased availability of natural gas.

For these reasons, I ask that you approve Jordan Cove Energy Partners, L.P.'s application to export LNG to non-Free Trade Agreement countries.

Sincerely,



Christopher R. Johnson