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By Docket Room at 3:36 pm, Aug 02, 2012

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

Re: FE Docket No. 12-32-LNG

Dear Mr. Talbert & Ms. Moore:

We are writing in support of the application by Jordan Cove Energy Project, L.P. for long-term authorization to export liquefied natural gas. The Jordan Cove project represents an unprecedented economic opportunity for Coos County and the region.

The Jordan Cove project and the associated Pacific Connector Pipeline would be the largest private sector investment in Coos County Oregon which continues to experience financial distress from years of economic downturn. Which in turn has effected public services. Even before the current recession, Southern Oregon counties lagged the rest of the State of Oregon and the nation in economic growth.

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, as business owners for over 33 years in Coos Bay and as former Mayor, city councilor and currently Chair of Coos County Airport District. Tricia is a former president of Bay Area Chamber of commerce and a currently board member of Oregon Pacific Bank and we know that this project is critical for the future of our area.

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

Sincerely,

Joe Benetti
Tricia Benetti

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area, obscuring the names and any handwritten notes or dates that might have been present.