



# JACKSON COUNTY

Oregon

## Board of Commissioners

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March 17, 2016

Chairman Norman C. Bay  
Commissioner Cheryl A. LaFleur  
Commissioner Tony Clark  
Commissioner Colette D. Honorable  
Ann F. Miles, Director  
Office of Energy Projects  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

OFFICE OF  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
2016 MAY 23 P 6: 08  
FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Re: Jordan Cove Energy Project, LP Docket No. CP13-483-001  
Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, LP Docket No. CP13-492-001

Dear Chairman Bay, Commissioners LaFleur, Clark, and Honorable, and Director Miles:

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) uphold its previous order in the above referenced proceedings and deny the applications. Jackson County opposed the above applications and believes upholding the denial is in the public's interest for the following reasons.

First, Jackson County opposes the use of eminent domain for private economic benefit. To the best of our understanding, a significant portion of the property required for the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline project (Pacific Connector) would be required to be obtained through the use of eminent domain and not through willing transactions with the affected property owners in our County. Our stance opposing eminent domain for private economic benefit is so strong that we have adopted an Ordinance, codified as Section 216.23 of the Codified Ordinances of Jackson County, specifically opposing it as a practice. Further, in passing Measure 39 in 2006, the people of the entire State of Oregon also made it clear that the entire state was opposed to using eminent domain for private economic benefit. While not binding on the applicant in this situation, the people who would be impacted by such actions and the people of the entire State of Oregon have clearly stated that they are opposed.

Second, the process for the Pacific Connector has been ongoing for over a decade. Property owners along the route of the project have had their property under threat of a taking for this entire time. This has dramatically impacted their ability to develop, sell or otherwise make any decisions on their property because of the potential for an eminent domain action, all along, without any compensation for this continued cloud over their rights as a property owner.

Third, the March 11, 2016 order of the Commission denying the applications clearly establishes that the Commission found that there was no demonstrated benefit to the public interest that outweighed the adverse impacts to the property owners. The property owners in Jackson County have suffered enough with the threat of this project and its impacts on their property. The Commission, itself, agreed when it denied the applications.

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As such, we again, respectfully request that the Commission uphold its previous Order denying the above referenced applications. It is time that the property owners be allowed to come out from underneath the cloud this project has placed on their property.

Sincerely,

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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Rick Dyer, Chair



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Colleen Roberts, Commissioner

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Doug Breidenthal, Commissioner

JB:ld

cc: Governor Kate Brown  
U. S. Senator Ron Wyden  
U. S. Senator Jeff Merkley  
U.S. Representative Greg Walden  
U.S. Representative Peter DeFazio

Document Content(s)

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