

The Jordan Cove Energy Project L.P. (JCEP) proposes to construct a liquefied natural gas export facility on 500 acres of the North Spit across the Coos Bay from the Southwest Oregon Regional Airport. Pembina, the parent company and applicant, also proposes to build a natural gas pipeline called the Pacific Connector between the Jordan Cove facility and Malin in Klamath County. The project is in regulatory review.

As noted in the January 2019 Argus, four local LWVs jointly submitted substantive comments addressing permit criteria to the US Army Corps of Engineers and Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality. They urged the agencies to deny the permit applications currently before them. The LWVOR submitted a comment with the same message. You may have seen ads for the project or come across news reports. Here's more background:

Jordan Cove LNG has a long history involving several Canadian companies, primarily Veresen, to initially build the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline to Coos Bay between years 2005-2017. In 2007 the first application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to import natural gas (propane) for west coast markets was approved. However, by 2009 fracking created a surplus of LNG (*liquid natural gas greater than 90 percent methane*) in the US and Canada.<sup>1</sup> Jordan Cove LNG (Jordan Cove) then changed petitioning to exporting natural gas. Requests to FERC were turned down in 2016 to export natural gas citing negative impact on landowners whose land the pipeline would cross and at the time Jordan Cove not having established markets.<sup>2</sup>

Pembina, another Canadian company, acquired Veresen in 2017. Pembina in 2014 had a deal with Portland to build a natural gas terminal on the Columbia River promising 800 construction jobs and \$9 million in taxes a year. The deal supported by the mayor and local business leaders raised public concern when a zoning variance was needed to build a pipeline above ground on the site. Public outrage halted the deal. Environmental groups and Portland residents rallied against business practices that add to the current climate crisis.<sup>3</sup>

Pembina then turned focus to Coos Bay and the Jordan Cove LNG. They filed with FERC in 2017 requests for both the pipeline and export terminal. Japanese markets had agreed to buy 50 percent of Pembina LNG that allowed petitioning FERC again for the project.<sup>4</sup> Pembina was also encouraged in 2016 by the current administration's promise of easing environment regulations.<sup>4</sup>

Jordan Cove's impact to southern Oregon includes 229 miles of 36" wide pipeline beginning at Malin, Oregon buried below 200 private properties and public lands to its final export terminal on the north jetty sand spit of Coos Bay. The pipeline burial will potentially affect private wells, requires 50 feet easement permanently on either side, allows the company free access to maintain the pipeline on these properties and has already devalued property values. As of April 2018, 90 landowners have signed on to Jordan Cove. If Pembina were given go-ahead from FERC for the pipeline and the terminal they would be allowed to acquire the lands by eminent domain. And finally, Jordan Cove will leave a hundred foot easement through old growth forests, marshlands and 400 rivers and waterways including the Rogue River, a healthy vital spawning ground for Chinook salmon.<sup>1</sup>

Minor pipeline leaks of methane and disastrous leaks from a major breach are grave concerns as a result of having a pipeline tunneling through our state. The 2010 Dilbit Disaster on the Kalamazoo River in Michigan from a pipeline owned by the Canadian company, Enbridge, caused a million-gallon spill costing ¾ billion dollars for basic cleanup.<sup>5</sup>

Coos Bay Mayor, state Representative Caddy Brown and three Coos County commissioners support Jordan Cove. Creation of 150 jobs paying average salaries of \$97,000 per year and billions of tax revenue over 20 years have fueled support in a community that has an unemployment rate 3 times the national average. Opponents express concern for the oyster industries, the airport's being near the proposed site, the sand spit site being in a tsunami and earthquake zone, and the potential dangers for 17,000 citizens if the terminal should burn.<sup>1</sup>

In 2017, as reported by OPB's Inside Addition, Measure 6-162 was defeated with 75.91 percent against and 24.0 percent in favor. The measure would have banned future fossil fuel delivery in Coos County while maintaining existing systems for automotive fuel.

Klamath County also has Jordan Cove supporters including the Malin Mayor Gary Zieg, County commissioner Derrick DeGroot, the Malin City Council and the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce anticipating \$60 million per year additional revenue to the region.<sup>6</sup>

Pembina has an aggressive agenda to ensure Jordan Cove is exporting natural gas by **2024**. The Oregonian in September 2018 disclosed campaign contributions to candidates during the 2016 elections gifted via a Delaware office of the Jordan Cove Energy Project LP. Foreign nationals are prohibited from contributing to federal, state and local elections in the United States, per the Federal Election Campaign Act and related regulations.<sup>7</sup>

Pembina expects the FERC Jordan Cove impact statement by February 2019 and final notice in November 2019. FERC at the federal level has sole authority to grant LNG permits in the United States. Pembina still needs county and state permits. To follow the permitting progress of Jordan Cove go to <https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/WW/Pages/jordancove.aspx>

Should Pembina be granted permits to build a pipeline and export terminal in Oregon? Three immediate concerns come to mind. The first is Pembina's Canadian ownership. Does a foreign entity have the legal right to acquire properties owned by US citizens through eminent domain? Will the company diligently monitor the safety of the pipeline and terminal? Second, should a pipeline that exports energy impact landowners in the pipeline path, as well as the natural rivers and forests of Oregon? Third, with Oregon legislators pledging to pass the Clean Energy Jobs Bill in 2019, does this project represent core values of decreasing use of fossils fuels?

Jordan Cove public hearings until February 3, 2019 5PM

- **January 7, 2019** | 5:30-8 p.m. at Klamath Falls Community College (7390 S 6th St. in Klamath Falls)
- **January 8, 2019** | 5:30-8 p.m. at the Jackson County Expo (1 Peninger Rd in Central Point)
- **January 9, 2019** | 5:30-8 p.m. at Seven Feathers Casino (146 Chief Milaweta Ln in Canyonville)
- **January 10, 2019** | 5:30-8 p.m. at Mill Casino (3201 Tremont Ave in North Bend)
- **January 15, 2019** | 5:30-8 p.m. at the Department of State Lands Land Board Room (775 Summer St. NE in Salem)

1. Pacific Standard <https://psmag.com/environment/pacific-connector-gas-pipeline-oregon-landowners>

2. Willamette Week <https://www.wweek.com/news/2018/09/01/the-oregon-department-energy-recommends-denying-jordan-cove-liquified-natural-gas-project-an-exemption/>

3. The Globe and Mail <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/environmental-concerns-over-fossil-fuels-halt-pembina-pipeline-in-portland/article24695107/>

4. Sightline Institute <https://www.sightline.org/2018/07/16/trump-administration-pushes-jordan-cove-energy-project/>

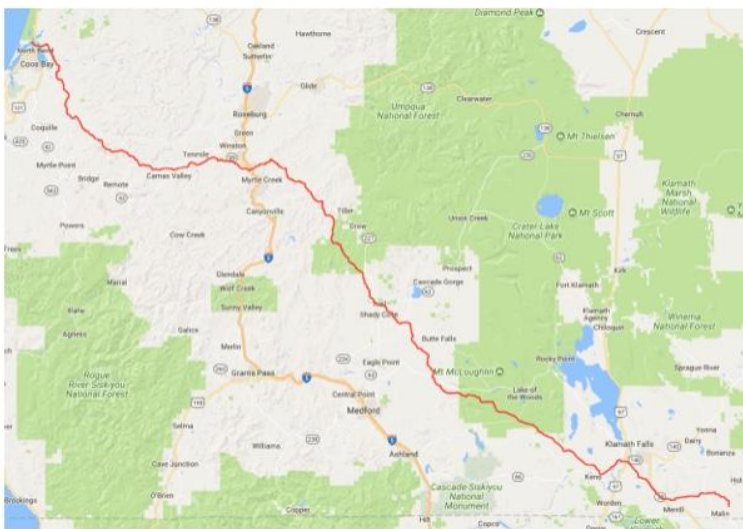
5. Inside Climate News <https://insideclimatenews.org/content/dilbit-disaster-inside-biggest-oil-spill-youve-never-heard>

6. Herald News

[https://www.heraldandnews.com/news/local\\_news/jordan-cove-hearing-draws-capacity-crowd/article\\_27dbfc3d-da49-536b-9d6d-601ac8b2908f.html](https://www.heraldandnews.com/news/local_news/jordan-cove-hearing-draws-capacity-crowd/article_27dbfc3d-da49-536b-9d6d-601ac8b2908f.html)

7. Oregonian

[https://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2018/09/jordan\\_cove\\_campaigns\\_contribu.html](https://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2018/09/jordan_cove_campaigns_contribu.html)



The proposed route of the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline.

(Map: Jordan Cove LNG)