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Re: ORCA and undersigned parties’ Supplemental Comments on Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, File No. HBCU-13-04 and HBCU-13-02

On behalf of Oregon Coast Alliance (ORCA) and the undersigned organizations and individuals, please accept these supplemental comments on the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, File Nos. HBCU-13-04 and HBCU-13-02.

Because of the many disparate pieces presented at the local level and the unfinished work at the state and federal level, the Jordan Cove Energy Project cannot appropriately be put into its larger context. For example, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has not yet released any Draft Environmental Impact Statement for either the Jordan Cove liquefaction facility or the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, which will likely reveal various environmental impacts that are relevant to these local proceedings related to route alternatives and the “import only” condition on the pipeline approval. Because the Final Environmental Impact Statement will have to assess the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the entire project, the local governments are necessarily making decisions without the pertinent information that would be provided under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Likewise, the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) has not yet performed its review of the relevant criteria for the South Dunes power plant, another component of the overall Jordan Cove Energy Project. Under EFSC’s process, geologic and environmental issues would be addressed, but these issues are relevant to the local proceedings before Coos County. By choosing Path A, the geologic and environmental issues have been hidden from the local proceedings. Under path B, EFSC could have addressed relevant criteria under state law and
local law at the same time. This disjointed and segmented process serves only to undermine the public’s ability to competently comment and participate in the local proceedings.

In addition, FERC’s public interest and public necessity determination has not yet occurred, but this information is relevant to the County’s determination of whether the pipeline remains a utility under the Coos County Zoning Land Development Ordinance (CCZLDO) and whether the pipeline is in the public interest and whether it is a public necessity under federal law. While an import facility may have been justified as a public service and possibly a public necessity because it serves the American people, an export facility does not similarly benefit the American people. Because the American people have lost the benefit of imported liquefied natural gas through modification of the condition of approval, it is questionable whether the pipeline remains a utility in light of CCZLDO 2.1.200 and whether the Applicant can comply with CCZLDO 4.9.450. ORCA and the undersigned parties, therefore, question the entire process because it serves to obfuscate issues and environmental impacts that are relevant to the local proceedings. These issues and environmental impacts will only be revealed once it is too late to appropriately inform the local proceedings.

Therefore, ORCA requests that the applicant stay its applications on the import-only condition and the pipeline realignment alternative request pending issuance of the Final Environmental Impact Statement and FERC’s public necessity determination. We further request Coos County to encourage Jordan Cove Energy Project to stay its applications, HBCU-13-04 and HBCU-13-02, for these reasons.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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