



TO: Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission
RE: Public Comment, Tuesday, July 28th, 2020
FROM: Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

Good morning Commissioners and thank you for the opportunity to testify this morning. For the record, my name is Damon Motz-Storey and I am the Healthy Climate Program Director at the Oregon chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility. I also grew up in Evergreen in unincorporated Jefferson County in Colorado where my family still lives. Oregon PSR is an organization of over 2,000 Oregon health professionals and public health advocates working collaboratively with community partners to educate and advocate for societal and policy change that protects human health and a peaceful world for present and future generations.

Today I will present [the findings of our epidemiologists and public health experts who studied the proposed Jordan Cove LNG export terminal and Pacific Connector pipeline](#) which you heard about at your last meeting. What we found is that there would be sweeping impacts to health and safety in southern Oregon if the Jordan Cove LNG export terminal and the 229-mile Pacific Connector gas pipeline were to be built through four southern Oregon counties. You may have heard that this new project would be good for jobs. In fact, this project would harm public health, safety, welfare, environment, and wildlife resources.

The project's new compressor station in Klamath County, Oregon would degrade air quality in a county with an already high air pollution and poverty rate. Horizontal drilling and pipeline leaks and explosions threaten people's homes, our air and water quality, and our outdoor recreation spaces. The Jordan Cove LNG export terminal would destroy vital eelgrass and crab habitat in Coos Bay, Oregon and impair fishing commerce and tourism. The pipeline would cross Oregon waterways 480 times and threaten the drinking water of approximately 160,000 Oregonians. Noise from the LNG export terminal and pipeline compressor station would disturb the peace and temporary labor camps to build the project would stress our already low stock of housing and have been shown to increase violence against women, especially Native American women. And, the project would become our state's single largest source of greenhouse gas emissions. That would have a big impact on our nation's cumulative climate warming emissions.

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Perhaps most importantly for you to know, the Jordan Cove LNG has failed to obtain multiple necessary Oregon permits including state lands removal-fill authority and Clean Water Act approval. The state of Oregon, two Oregon tribes, nearly 50 impacted landowners, and a dozen conservation and health groups (including us) have filed lawsuits against the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission over their flawed conditional approval of the project. This project cannot move forward and every day it seems more likely that Jordan Cove LNG is destined for the same fate as the Atlantic Coast gas Pipeline recently canceled on the East Coast.

This commission would do well to keep your guard up and know that Colorado rules should not be changed or weakened for the sake of Jordan Cove LNG. This project faces widespread bipartisan opposition and immense hurdles and would cause severe and unmitigable harm to our health, safety, and natural resources. Thank you for your important work and for the chance to testify today before a body in my beloved home state.

Sincerely,



Damon Motz-Storey, Healthy Climate Program Director
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility



Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
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