

August 4, 2008

Senator Ron Wyden
223 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3703
Fax: (202) 228-2717

Re: S2822 – LNG Terminal Siting

Dear Senator Wyden,

Thank you very much for introducing bill S.2822, which would return to state and local governments the siting authority for terminals to import Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). We look forward to the day that state and local governments are able to reclaim authority over this critical energy and land use issue.

S.2822 provides an excellent way to decentralize the current authority maintained by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in LNG terminal siting. Since FERC was given this authority through the Energy Policy Act of 2005, they have largely ignored local concerns and permitted far more LNG terminals than have proven necessary. We find it frustrating that an LNG terminal can be authorized by the federal government without agreement with individual state governments, or without any sort of proven need for the project.

We strongly support S.2822 because it would stop the wasteful process that has led to numerous, unnecessary LNG permitting battles throughout the country. As you know, the current projects in Oregon have generated huge opposition and permitting processes have resulted in high costs for cash-strapped government agencies. The Oregon Department of Energy has reported that there is no proven need for LNG in the state, yet the federal process to permit LNG terminals continues. S.2822 would return some sanity to what is now an unwieldy and haphazard process.

S.2822 would also provide a level playing field between the permitting processes for on-shore and off-shore LNG proposals. For instance, state and city agencies in California have permitting authority over current off-shore LNG proposals in Southern California, while FERC has authority over the on-shore proposals in Oregon.

In addition, S.2822 would fix the contradiction between some of the new greenhouse gas laws passed by states such as Oregon, and the Federal push for LNG. According to numerous studies, most notably by Carnegie Mellon University, imported LNG carries a lifecycle of greenhouse gas emissions level comparable to coal. This high level of emissions is due to the intensive processes of extraction, liquefaction, shipment, and distribution. Yet under FERC's LNG siting pre-emption, state laws are ignored in order to site LNG terminals.

Therefore, we the undersigned urge you to take action upon S. 2822 which will repeal the Federal takeover of LNG siting, and return the lead agency status to local and state governments.

If you have questions or you would like to discuss how we can assist, please contact:

Rory Cox, California Program Director at Pacific Environment
 Ph: 415.399.8850 x302
 Email: rcox@pacificenvironment.org

Brent Foster, Executive Director of Columbia Riverkeeper
 Ph: (541) 380-1334
 Email: brentfoster@gorge.net

Dan Serres, Organizer, Columbia Riverkeeper
 (503) 890-2441
 Email: dserres@oregonwaters.org

Yours,

Organizations and Businesses

1. Brent Foster, Executive Director, Columbia Riverkeeper (Oregon)
2. Greg Jacob, LNG Issue Coordinator, Oregon Chapter, Sierra Club
3. Mark Riskedahl, Executive Director, Northwest Environmental Defense Center (Oregon)
4. Lesley Adams, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center (Oregon)
5. Dean Byers, Chair, Douglas County Democratic Party, Obama 4th C.D. Oregon Delegate to Democratic National Convention
6. Rory Cox, California Program Director, Pacific Environment (California)
7. Tyson Slocum, Energy Program Director, Public Citizen (U.S-wide)
8. Jody McCaffree, Citizens Against LNG (Oregon)
9. Lupe Anguiano, Director Stewards of the Earth (California)
10. Susan Jordan, Executive Director, California Coastal Protection Network
11. Ellen Saunders, Neighbors Against Apple Valley Expansion (Oregon)
12. Serge Dedina, Wildcoast (California)
13. Jesse N. Marquez, Coalition for a Safe Environment (California)
14. Rachel Larson, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
15. Anne Berblinger, Owner, Gales Meadow Farm (California)
16. Aaron Viles, Campaign Director, Gulf Restoration Network (Louisiana)
17. Diane Moss, Co-Founder Renewables 100 Policy Institute (California)
18. Casi Callaway, Mobile Baykeeper (Alabama)
19. Allen Neuringer, Ridgetop Forestry (Oregon)
20. Susan S. Vosburg, Forest Grove Tax Service,(Oregon)
21. Carol Carver and George Exum, Wahkiakum Friends of the River (Washington)
22. Martha Neuringer, Board Member of Forest Grove Chapter, Oregon Citizens Against the Pipelines
23. Marjie Castle, Vice President of Castle Automotive Machine, Inc. of Longview (Washington)
24. R. Peter Wilcox, President Renewal Associates LLC and Columbia River Keeper board member,(Oregon)
25. Sha Spady, Molalla, Oregon Citizens Against the Pipeline

26. Jim Gilbert, President, Friends of Clackamas County and Molalla Community Planning Organization (Oregon)
27. Miles & Linda C. Martin, Miles Martin Consulting, Inc. (Oregon)
28. Donna Anessi, Concerned Citizens of Yamhill County (Oregon)
29. Susan Evans, Executive Director, Citizens for a Clean Columbia (Oregon)
30. Lori Durham, RiverVision, Clatsop County Citizens for Common Sense, (Oregon)
31. Melvin and Leslie Ulven, Owner, Ulven Design Group (Oregon)
32. Robert B. Stang & Merilee Cameron, Columbia River Business Alliance, (Oregon & Washington)
33. Cindy Zipf, Executive Director, Clean Ocean Action (New Jersey)
34. Olivia Schmidt, RiverVision in Clatsop County (Oregon)
35. Tom Wolf, Chair, Oregon Council Trout Unlimited
36. Gayle Kiser, Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (Oregon)
37. Dan Serres, Friends of Living Oregon Waters (FLOW) & Energy Options (Oregon)
38. Dola & Ray Johnson, Board Members, Southern Oregon Pipeline Information Project
39. Marcella RG Laudani and Alan A Laudani, Trail/Shady Cove residents against LNG (Oregon)
40. Betty Goodboe and Barbara Falcy, Upper Rogue Against LNG (Oregon)
41. Shirley Godwin, Chairperson, Saviers Road Design Team (California)
42. Nina Bell, J.D., Executive Director, Northwest Environmental Advocates (Oregon)
43. Gloria G. MacKenzie, Director, Willapa Hills Audubon Society (Oregon)
44. Paul Sansone, Sansone & Associates (Oregon)
45. Megan Fehrman, Grassroots Coordinator, Friends of Family Farmers (Oregon)
46. Sam Sweeney & Nancy Sweeney, Owners, Sweeny Farm (Oregon)
47. Bry Myown, Executive Director, Long Beach Citizens for Utility Reform (California)
48. Bill Powers, Co-chair, Border Power Plant Working Group (California)
49. Michael & Phoebe Reinecker, Reinecker Nursery (Oregon)
50. Barry Wulff, Chair, Marys Peak Group - Sierra Club (Oregon)
51. Bill Castle, President, Castle Automotive Machine, Inc. (Washington)
52. Lloyd Henion, Chair, Linn County Democrats
53. Environmental Action Council, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Corvallis (Oregon)
54. Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director, Audubon Society of Portland
55. Linda Krop, Chief Counsel, Environmental Defense Center (California)
56. Tom Ford, Executive Director, Santa Monica Baykeeper (California)
57. Roger Hannam Hanna, McEldowney & Associates (Oregon)

Individuals:

Holly Stamper, Former Commissioner of Port of Coos Bay
 Camby Collier, Oregon Resident
 Sharon Cox, Oregon Resident
 Sara G. Shaw, Oregon Resident
 Steve and Carol Wick, Oregon Residents
 Nancy Monroe, Oregon Resident
 Jake Rockwood, Oregon Resident
 Dahe Good, Oregon Landowner and Environmentalist
 David and Linda McKeel, Oregon Homeowners

Kathleen E. Foster, Concerned Citizen
Lynn Owre, Land owner,
Dr. Richard and Anne Hanschu, Oregon Landowners
Teresa M. DeLorenzo, Oregon Resident
Jay and Diane Speakman, Oregon Residents
Susan Hansen and Randy Hironimus, Oregon Landowners
Laurie Caplan, Oregon Resident
Patrick McGee, Oregon Resident
Jan Mitchell, Oregon Resident
Diane Jette, Seaside, Oregon Homeowner
Patricia J. Warren, Oregon Homeowner
J. Fred Kirby, Oregon Resident
Carol Newman, Oregon Resident
Erin Moore, 1663 9th St., Oregon Resident
Dianne Safford, Oregon Homeowner
Anne Phillips, Oregon Resident
Linda Oldenkamp Oregon Resident
Gail Galen, Oregon Landowner
Randall Henderson, Oregon Resident
Jan Mitchell, Oregon Homeowner
Patrick A Dooney, Oregon Homeowner
Tammy Dowling, Oregon Homeowner
Ken and Barbara Hurst, Oregon Resident
Fred White, Oregon Homeowner
Elleda Wilson, Oregon Resident
Josie Peper, Oregon Resident
Harry Stamper, Oregon Resident
Debbie and Tom Thrall,
Marron A. Dooney and James C. Miller, Oregon Homeowners
Ruby Starr, Oregon Homeowner
Curt Clay, Oregon Homeowner
Jeanne and Randall Henderson, Oregon Residents
Bob & Gail Barker, Oregon Homeowners
M. A. Hansen, ENSP
Charles Straughan, Owner, Kestrel Lane Garden
Rebecca Martin and Philip Martin, Oregon Landowners
Deborah Donnelly, Oregon Resident
Joyce and Bill Sauber, Oregon Residents
Rebecca and Michael Hundley, Oregon Residents
Sandi Fitts-Freeman, Oregon Resident