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Third day of FERC hearings brings Jordan Cove supporters to Medford

June 26, 2019 – Medford, OR – Today, The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) experienced strong support for the Jordan Cove Project at the public hearing on the Project’s Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The hearing, held at the Ramada Medford Hotel from 1pm – 8pm, allowed the public to provide comments about the Project and the DEIS in a one-on-one format with FERC officials. This one-on-one format allowed supporters to freely and safely delivery their testimony and voice their support for the Project in private rooms.

“I’ve been coming to these public hearings about the Jordan Cove Project for many years. This week it was clear that the opposition is weakening. Or maybe it’s that the support is strengthening. At the current FERC hearings, they have allowed each individual for, or against, to testify and I have seen firsthand at each of the current FERC hearings the opposition turnout is much smaller than was expected, a further testament to the progress the Project has made in growing support and momentum. The 82% of private land miles Jordan Cove has acquired is a prime example of a shift in sentiment about the Project,” said Lou Christian, Business Manager Local Union 290.

Supporters in attendance included a delegation of 16 members from the Western States and Tribal Nations and Consumer Energy Alliance. Their commitment to travel to Medford today is a clear demonstration of the positive ripple effect Jordan Cove will have for all of the western United States. Their support, representing communities that know the benefit of clean-energy natural gas industry jobs, as well as the safety and environmental culture of the industry in their own communities is an important message to share with Oregonians and FERC.

“We can argue about global warming and climate change, but the facts are pollution is real. There is no arguing that. It knows no boundaries and doesn’t stop at state, county or country lines. It becomes a world problem. We have natural gas that is stranded and not used so it is being flared or vented to no benefit. We could be shipping this gas to other countries to replace other dirtier sources of energy and receive the benefits to our economies and environment,” said Bart Haslem, County Commissioner, Uintah County, Utah.

The FERC DEIS being commented on represented positive momentum for the Project, pointing to a majority of environmental impacts being “less than significant due to the implementation of proposed and recommended impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures.” Jordan Cove continues to work with state and federal agencies on a robust compensatory mitigation plan that goes above and beyond requirements.

Today’s seven-hour hearing also allowed the public to weigh in on the benefits the Project will have for residents of Jackson County, including \$5.3 million in tax revenue each year for Jackson County, thousands of jobs and more than \$1.1 million each year for county government and infrastructure. In addition, the Project is expected to contribute more than \$230,000 in tax revenue to local fire districts the equivalent of four new firefighters.

According to those who provided testimony, FERC received quality, substantive input from many Jackson County residents relevant to the determining issues for the Commission. Pembina and Jordan Cove are looking forward to continuing the positive momentum at the FERC hearing in Klamath County tomorrow.

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