

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Saturday, July 18, 2020

Contacts: For Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, Phillip Johnson, 503-754-9303, phillip@oregonshores.org

For Crag Law Center, Courtney Johnson, 503-525-2728, courtney@crag.org

For Citizens for Renewables, Tonia Moro, 541-973-2063, tonia@toniamoro.com

New Setback for Jordan Cove LNG Export Terminal

Local land use permit revoked for controversial fracked gas export terminal

[NORTH BEND, OR] Late Friday, the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) dealt a blow to the Jordan Cove LNG export terminal when it reversed the City of North Bend's approval of a local land use permit. The permit would have allowed the disposal of dredged material from the proposed widening of the federal navigation channel in Coos Bay. The applicant proposed transporting the dredge material by pipe across the bay to two locations in the estuary known as North Point.

The reversal means that, barring further appeal, the company will need to submit an entirely new application for the disposal of material to be dredged from the bay. This could harm Pembina's ability to qualify for other permits related to the dredging of Coos Bay. Currently, the Jordan Cove LNG export terminal cannot move forward because it lacks the necessary state permits.

"The Land Use Board of Appeals did the right thing in reversing this wrongly made decision, which failed to protect the people of Coos County and the key resources of the Coos Bay estuary," said Phillip Johnson, Oregon Shores' executive director. "We hope that Pembina will see this decision, along with permit denials from the State Of Oregon, as a clear indication that the Jordan Cove LNG export terminal scheme is incompatible with Oregon's laws and Oregon's environment, and will cancel the proposed terminal and pipeline for good."

"We are so glad to see that the LUBA upheld the intent and requirements of the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan. The Coos estuary is so critical to the vitality of our crabbing, clamming, fishing, oyster and recreation industries." Jody McCaffree, Executive Director CFR.

Coastal watchdog organization Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition and local Coos Bay group Citizens for Renewables challenged the permit approval, arguing that the City failed to properly apply the law in approving both the placement of the dredged material and the disposal pipeline that would traverse the bay in order to transport the material to the locations in North Bend. LUBA agreed, finding that the dredge line is not consistent with the objectives of the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan. LUBA also found that the applicant had failed to demonstrate that the height of the new earthen mounds of dredging material would not interfere with the nearby North Bend Municipal Airport and had failed to adequately address noise impacts from the project.

There are several other land use permit challenges pending before the Land Use Board of Appeals that are likely to be decided over the coming months.

Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition is represented by the nonprofit Crag Law Center. Citizens for Renewables is represented by attorney Tonia Moro.

###