

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Tuesday, March 15, 2016

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Statement of Jim Chapman on FERC Denial of LNG in Oregon

BROWNSVILLE—On Friday, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Commission issued an order denying the proposal for Jordan Cove LNG export terminal near Coos Bay, Oregon, along with the proposed 232-mile long pipeline that would bring natural gas to the facility.

In its historic decision, FERC reviewed residents' concerns about the pipeline, including safety risks, the devaluation of private property, and the threats it posed to waterways. They also noted that Jordan Cove LNG had failed, over the course of 22 months, to obtain binding contracts to actually sell any LNG overseas. It is believed that this was the first time FERC has denied either a pipeline or an export terminal.

Earlier, Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune [noted](#) that this historic victory was the result of over a decade of hard work by Oregonians and their allies across the environmental movement committed to protecting their communities from this dangerous proposal.

In response to the order, **Jim Chapman, Chair of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Sierra Club**, issued the following statement:

“Regulatory approval of the proposed Port of Brownsville LNG export terminals looks more doubtful after this decision. Given the apparent lack of a market for LNG, FERC determined that the public benefit of the pipeline did not outweigh the adverse effects on residents. Since the pipeline was the only source of gas for the export terminal, rejecting it means that FERC has rejected the terminal itself.

It appears that FERC is going to be taking a hard look at LNG export terminals rather than just rubberstamping them, and this could be a big problem for the LNG companies who want to build export terminals in the Port of Brownsville.

Rio Grande LNG is boasting about its non-binding contracts, and Annova and Texas LNG exude confidence that they will be able to sell their LNG overseas, but that's clearly not enough for FERC approval, especially since we can show how damaging these projects would be.”

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