Reasons to Oppose SB 1020, the LNG Fast-track Bill:

Background:
This session's LNG fast-track bill, SB 1020 (formerly LC 85), is a repeat of last session's controversial House Bill 3058. The proposed bill would remove the word "applicant" from key permitting rules, allowing out-of-state liquefied natural gas (LNG) companies to apply for permits on private property without the landowner's knowledge or permission. In its current form, SB 1020 is a give-away to the LNG industry, offering state permits to companies on lands they do not control. The bill is strongly opposed by those who respect private property rights and Oregonians who oppose condemning Oregon farms, forests, nurseries and vineyards to send un-needed LNG to California. Please oppose SB 1020 for the following reasons:

The bill is a controversial and unnecessary gift to the LNG industry.

SB 1020's predecessor, HB 3058, was introduced at the request of Bradwood LNG. The suggestion that SB 1020 is not about LNG conflicts with a 2007 memo from Bradwood stating that "**we will ask the Oregon Legislature to change the definition of applicant"** to allow LNG companies to obtain permits on private land.

The bill is designed primarily to fast-track LNG pipelines, not to build roads.

The bill could easily be narrowed to exclude LNG-related pipelines. A simple amendment could limit the SB 1020 to apply only to public entities (e.g. roads and, light-rail projects), but LNG companies are pushing for broad language to provide a short-cut for their projects. An amendment to fast-track public projects, but not LNG, would be widely supported.

Oregonians from all walks of life oppose SB 1020, the LNG Fast-Track Bill.

Local farm bureaus, forestry groups, and prominent property rights advocates opposed this bill during the last session (as HB 3058) because the proposed change makes it easier for LNG companies to obtain permits without landowner permission. Ultimately, by facilitating permits and moving LNG projects forward, the bill will cause economic harm to Oregon farms, forests, vineyards, and our natural resources.