



Columbia Riverkeeper
111 Third Street
Hood River, OR 97031
phone 541.387.3030
www.columbiariverkeeper.org

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Brett VandenHeuvel, Columbia Riverkeeper
503-348-2436; bv@columbiariverkeeper.org

OREGON LNG LOSES AGAIN: OREGON SUPREME COURT DENIES OREGON LNG REQUEST FOR REVIEW

Oregon LNG has run out of complaints. On March 28, 2013, the Supreme Court denied Oregon LNG's request for review, ending Oregon LNG's attempt to prevent Clatsop County from ruling on the land use application for the LNG pipeline.

In March of 2011, the Clatsop County Commissioners voted 4 to 1 to deny the Oregon LNG pipeline application because the project does not comply with county law. Oregon LNG took the extraordinary step of asking a Court to prevent the County from finalizing that vote. On Thursday, Oregon LNG lost, and the County can move forward to finalize its vote.

"This is a resounding victory for the citizens of Clatsop County," stated Brett VandenHeuvel. "Oregon LNG attempted to subvert the democratic process by challenging the right of Clatsop County to review a dangerous pipeline proposal. Today's decision casts serious doubt on the viability of Oregon LNG."

The high-pressure natural gas pipeline would cut through 41 miles of farms, forests, the Columbia River Estuary, and residential properties. Clatsop County found that the pipeline would violate protections of farmland, forests, salmon habitat, and public safety.

The Supreme Court ruling will send the decision to the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners to evaluate whether the LNG project complies with local land use protections.

"The bottom line is the project does not meet the public safety and salmon protections in Clatsop County," stated VandenHeuvel.

Cheryl Johnson, a retired school librarian and Clatsop County resident added, "Our community voted by a two to one margin to reject LNG in 2008. Oregon LNG's new export proposal is even worse. Oregon LNG has no future in our county, where people value local jobs, a healthy river, and the safety of our community much more than empty promises from Oregon LNG."

The Oregon State Court of Appeals previously affirmed the right of the Clatsop County Commissioners to review the land use permit for Oregon LNG. The Supreme Court's decision determines, once and for all, that Clatsop County has the right to make a decision about Oregon LNG.

In July 2012 Oregon LNG announced its plans to join with Williams Pipeline's proposed Washington Expansion Project – involving 140 miles of new pipeline construction through Washington – to ship natural gas overseas to Asia, where consumers pay much higher prices for energy. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), the exportation of natural gas as LNG will increase energy prices for every American.

"LNG export is incredibly unpopular," stated VandenHeuvel. "It's a bad deal for our farms and rivers, and a bad deal for everyone who uses natural gas."

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