



SOUTHWESTERN  
Oregon Community College  
FOUNDATION

September 27, 2013

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
United State Senate  
223 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ron Wyden,

With the consent of the Southwestern Oregon Community College (SWOCC) Foundation Board, I am writing to you to express the Foundation's strong support for the Jordan Cove Energy Project (JCEP) and its application to the Department of Energy (DOE) for the authority to export liquefied natural gas to non-free trade agreement countries. The Board believes this support is consistent with our mission to help improve the community we live and work in, and to support the college in its mission to grow and provide meaningful educational opportunities to our student population.

At its September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 meeting the Board discussed the impacts that JCEP could have on the college and the community we serve. We are particularly excited about the proposed Education Trust that JCEP has committed to fund at a rate of approximately \$25 million/year and what that might mean not only to SWOCC but to all of our local schools. This annual funding level is the estimated amount that JCEP will save in property taxes by virtue of it being constructed in an Enterprise Zone. We think this public commitment to redirect these funds, which they are neither required nor obligated to do, into an Education Trust for the benefit of our local schools speaks well of JCEP and clearly demonstrates that they want to be a contributing member of our community and are committed to enhancing and improving not only this area's economic development but its educational institutions as well.

SWOCC currently has an agreement in place with JCEP to add to its curriculum a world class LNG first responder training program. This will be only the second program of this type in the country, the other currently being offered at Texas A&M. It is expected that this program will enhance the ability of SWOCC to attract students to our area and will raise the profile of the college both nationally and internationally.

With so many of our children leaving the area, to not only further their education, but to seek family-wage employment, the Foundation realizes that from time to time, it has to make a public statement and support those opportunities that we feel have the potential to make a significant difference in the social well-being and economic vitality of our area. We believe that JCEP has

the potential to not only help our community achieve this lofty goal but will also benefit the college, our mission, and the students we serve. None of this will happen without your commitment and support of JCEP to secure the authority from DOE to export to non free trade agreement countries.

We appreciate and recognize your dedication to the future of Southwest Oregon and your continued support for higher education in our area. Please join us in supporting JCEP and help us make a difference in our community. Thank you in advance for your support of this very important project. We believe that your advocacy of JCEP can and will make a difference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Brooke', written in a cursive style.

Ken Brooke, Chairman  
Southwestern Oregon Community College Foundation