

# Reese Electric, Inc.

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS**

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Senator Ron Wyden  
221 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wyden:

I am writing to ask you to ensure that the Department of Energy (DOE) approves Jordan Cove's application to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) to non-FTA countries prior to the DOE hitting the "pause button", as we are told there is a possibility of happening.

Jordan Cove will create needed business opportunities for the local community and a large amount of employment for local residents. This \$7.7 billion construction project (export facility and pipeline) will employ an average of 1,750 people over 42 months with peak employment being 3,000 construction jobs. For the businesses working on this project, it will bring job security for nearly four years, which is almost unheard of in the construction industry and especially in Oregon.

I am a small business owner with a current staff of 27 full time employees and a 3 year average of \$5.5M in sales. In 2007 and 2008 we employed 63 people full time, and you know what happened in 2009 as the recession hit and we nosedived in sales and staffing levels. It has been extremely difficult to keep the doors open here, but we've made it through the worst (I believe) and the importance of the Jordan Cove project to this company and our local economy in general cannot be stressed enough.

My 21 year old daughter just joined the electrical apprenticeship program and will become a journeyman electrician in 4 years. After getting some project management skills out on the job, it is our intention that she take over this fine company (founded in 1946) and continue the tradition of service to the community that we live in, and love. The Jordan Cove project would go a long way toward seeing her dream (and mine) become a reality.

We have the very best deep water port between San Francisco and Seattle, and I remember well the days when we were the largest lumber shipping port in the world. Of course that all changed in the late 1970's and early 80's with the huge reduction in logging. While our county is struggling, several counties around us are on the verge of bankruptcy, largely due to the loss of timber payments for the O&C timber lands and all of the logging restrictions. This project is the brightest glimmer of hope that we have seen in a very long time and I cannot stress to you how important it is to all of us that live here and strive to support our families and community.

The next step in ensuring economic success for our area would be a direct highway from the Port of Coos Bay to the I-5 corridor, such a highway would greatly enhance this area's economic opportunities.

I also understand that Hawaii is firmly behind this project, a state that I care for a great deal as I was stationed at Pearl Harbor during 4 of my 8 years in the US Navy, I love the state as much as I do my home here in Oregon and I applaud and support Hawaii's goal of producing their electric power with natural gas. This project would provide to Hawaii the best chance for seeing that goal become a reality and just 4% of the production from Jordan Cove would power the entire chain of islands that I love so much.

We NEED this project, and I would ask, beg and implore you to become a very vocal advocate for this project, we need your help Senator, plain and simple.

Jordan Cove is paying for infrastructure improvements in Southwest Oregon and is financing the pipeline (along with The Williams Companies) with no cost to taxpayers or utility ratepayers. The infrastructure improvements will create additional business opportunities for this region, and increased availability of natural gas in Southwest Oregon will make the region more competitive in attracting industries that require reliable, large volumes of natural gas. All of this will likely lead to yet more construction projects for our members.

That is to say nothing of the strategic importance of Jordan Cove, given its proximity to Asian markets. In fact, while Jordan Cove is approximately 9 shipping days to Asia, the projects in the Gulf are 22 shipping days through the Panama Canal. Not only will Gulf Coast projects require twice the number of vessels to do the job – adding nearly \$2 billion to the cost of these projects – twice the amount of fuel will be consumed.

We understand that opponents of LNG exports are advocating at the highest levels of the Obama Administration for a pause prior to Jordan Cove being approved. This is ironic given that Dow CEO Andrew Liveris, one of the most vocal opponents to LNG exports, went on record last year saying that 15% of natural gas production dedicated to LNG export would work for all parties involved. In other words, according to Mr. Liveris, approving Jordan Cove wouldn't negatively impact U.S. manufacturing. Even if Mr. Liveris hadn't acknowledged that approving Jordan Cove is okay, the fact is that Jordan Cove will have minimal impact on gas prices. Work performed by the Navigant consultancy firm found Jordan Cove to have amongst the least average impact on prices – less than a few cents per MMBtu – amongst six proposed LNG export projects on the East Coast, in the Gulf and on the West Coast.

Simply put, having Jordan Cove put on a wait list is not good for our industry, my company, or the southern Oregon coast in general. We need you to ensure that DOE approves the Jordan Cove Energy Project before the pause, should there be one.

Sincerely,

**Randy Z Rema**

Randy Z Rema  
President