

PROTECT THE NORTHWEST FROM DESTRUCTIVE LNG PIPELINES & TERMINAL

A Guide to Participating in FERC's
National Environmental Policy Act Scoping Process



Prepared by Columbia Riverkeeper



Join Citizens across the Northwest: Say NO to LNG

Attend a Public Hearing

Monday, 10/15 (6PM): Warrenton Community Center, 170 SW 3rd St., Warrenton, OR

Tuesday, 10/16 (6PM): Woodland High School/Middle School Commons, 755 Park St., Woodland, WA

Thursday, 10/18 (6PM): Vernonia Schools, Commons, 1000 Missouri Ave., Vernonia, OR

Thursday, 10/18* (6PM): R.A. Long High School Auditorium, 2903 Nichols Blvd., Longview, WA

**NOTE: This hearing is for the Williams Pipeline. However, FERC will be looking at the Williams Pipeline and Oregon LNG pipelines and terminal in one Environmental Impact Statement.*

Tell FERC you oppose LNG

Submit Written Comments by November 8th

Tell FERC how LNG export will impact your life and livelihood. When submitting comments, pictures, maps, and documents, make sure to include the FERC Docket Numbers: **PF12-18-000 for the Export Project** and **PF12-20-000 for the Williams Pipeline**

Online: Submit a comment through FERC's website, at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>

Mail: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
FERC
888 First Street, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426



Landowners & community activists visited Oregon's Capitol in December 2011 to urge the State to deny LNG projects.

Introduction

For over seven years, citizens across Oregon and Washington have successfully protected farms, communities, and the Columbia River from dangerous and destructive liquefied natural gas (LNG) import proposals. We celebrated a David beats Goliath victory in 2010 when Northern Star pulled the plug on its Bradwood Landing LNG terminal, and again in 2011 when Northwest Natural withdrew plans for the Palomar Pipeline.

Together, we can shut the door on Oregon LNG and the Williams Pipeline Company's latest proposal to sacrifice livelihoods and the safety of communities in the name of LNG export.

Columbia Riverkeeper's Citizen Guide will help you navigate the companies' latest plans and provide critically-needed input during the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) public process.

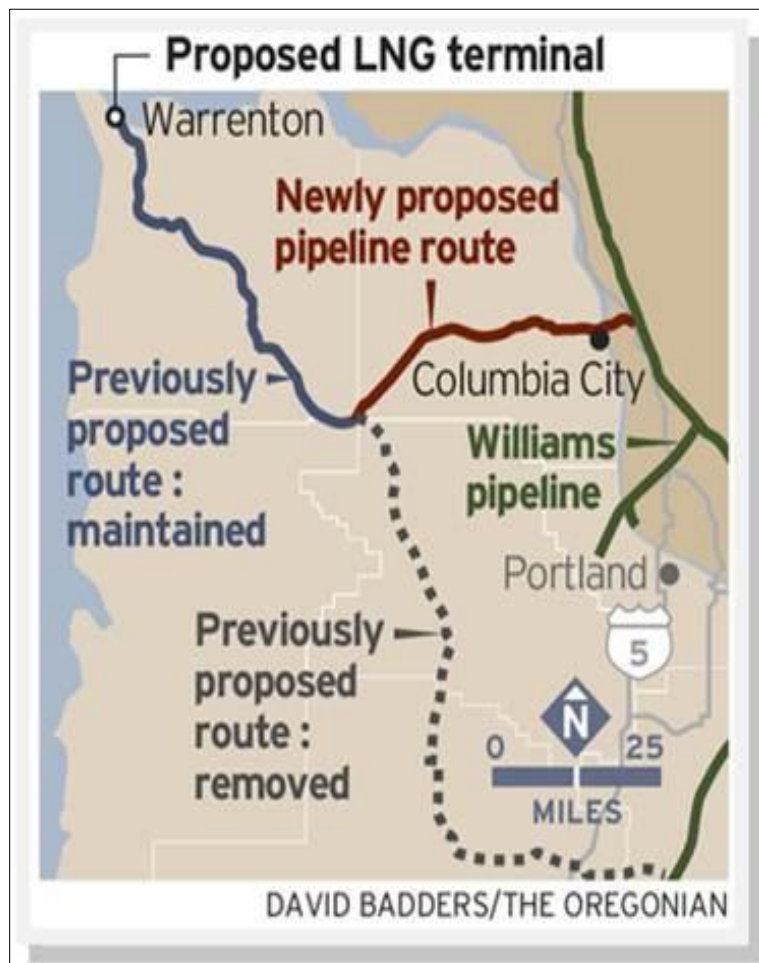


Oregon & Washington residents celebrating our victory over the proposed Bradwood LNG terminal & pipelines in 2010.

Why is it important to attend FERC's scoping hearings & submit public comments?

In 2012, Oregon LNG flipped its proposal to an export terminal and added plans for hundreds of miles of new pipeline in Columbia County, Oregon and Washington State. The proposed pipeline will impact huge swaths of land, including the use of eminent domain to take private land for LNG export.

FERC is holding hearings and accepting written comments to satisfy its duties under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA is our basic national charter for the protection and restoration of the environment. Before FERC can issue a license to build the LNG terminal and pipelines, FERC **must** prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that examines how the export project and pipelines, including the Williams Pipeline, will affect the environment, communities, and public health.



GOALS OF SCOPING

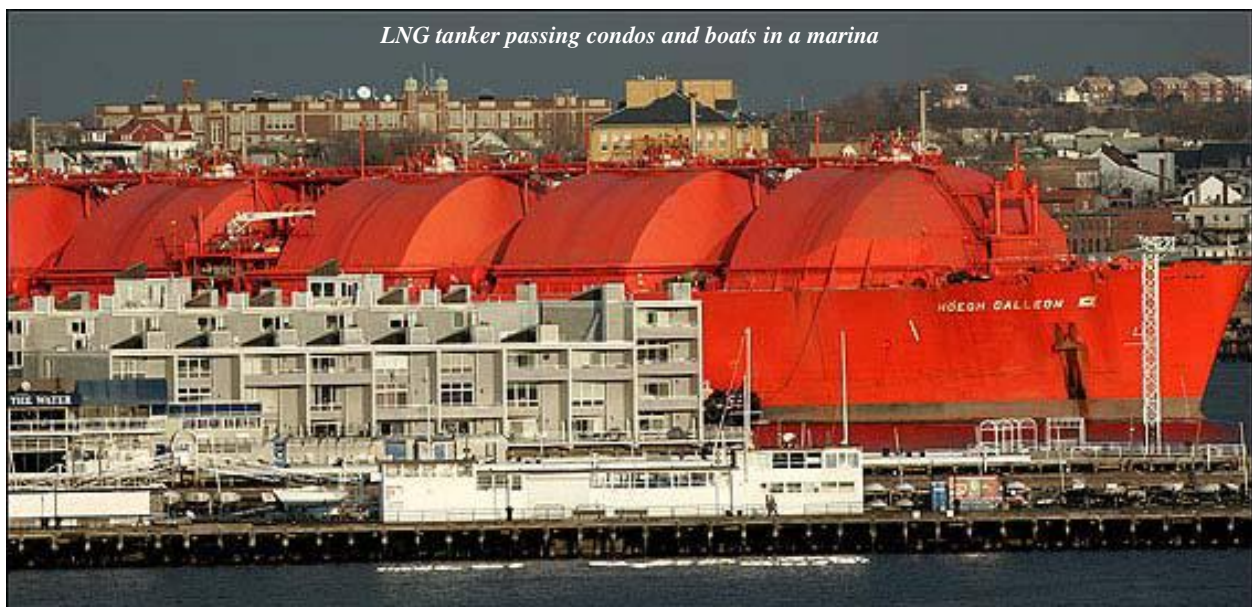
The overall goal of NEPA scoping is to:

- Identify gaps in data & information
- Identify significant issues to be analyzed in the Environmental Impact Statement
- Identify what organizations & people are interested in the proposed action

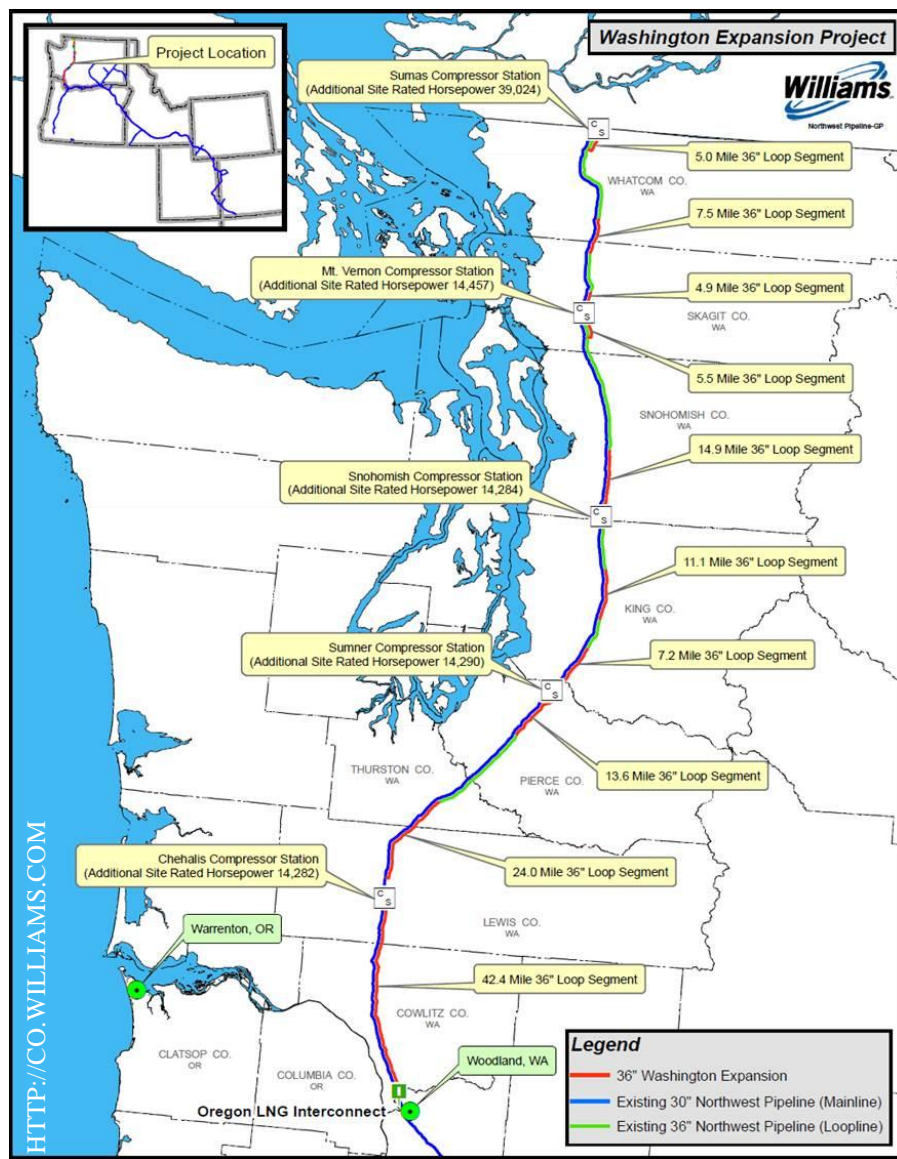
What is Oregon LNG's current proposal?

Oregon LNG proposes to export natural gas from a terminal on the banks of the Columbia River in Warrenton, Oregon. Oregon LNG claims that the facility will be “bidirectional,” allowing the company to import LNG if market conditions shift. However, Oregon LNG clearly plans to operate as an LNG export terminal for the foreseeable future. Here is a breakdown of the current proposal.

- **LNG Terminal.** Oregon LNG's terminal would be located on 96-acres of state-owned land on the Skipanon Peninsula between the Skipanon River and Youngs Bay. The terminal would include two 160,000-cubic meter LNG storage tanks, each 17-stories tall, and facilities that support ship berthing and LNG loading. To export LNG, the company must dredge 1.2 million cubic feet of river bottom in high-quality salmon habitat.
- **LNG Tankers.** LNG tankers are not your average ship. One LNG tanker is longer than three football fields and towers 20-stories high. According to Oregon LNG's filings, its terminal will require roughly 125 new ships crossing the Columbia River bar (inbound and outbound) every year. *Each departing tanker would carry a staggering 8 percent of total U.S. daily gas consumption.*
- **Oregon LNG's Pipeline in Oregon & Washington.** Oregon LNG will build *86 miles of high-pressure pipelines* through Clatsop and Columbia counties. The company would drill under the Columbia River and connect to the Williams Pipeline in Woodland, Washington. This route cuts a destructive path through agricultural and forest lands, residential properties, and through rivers and streams.



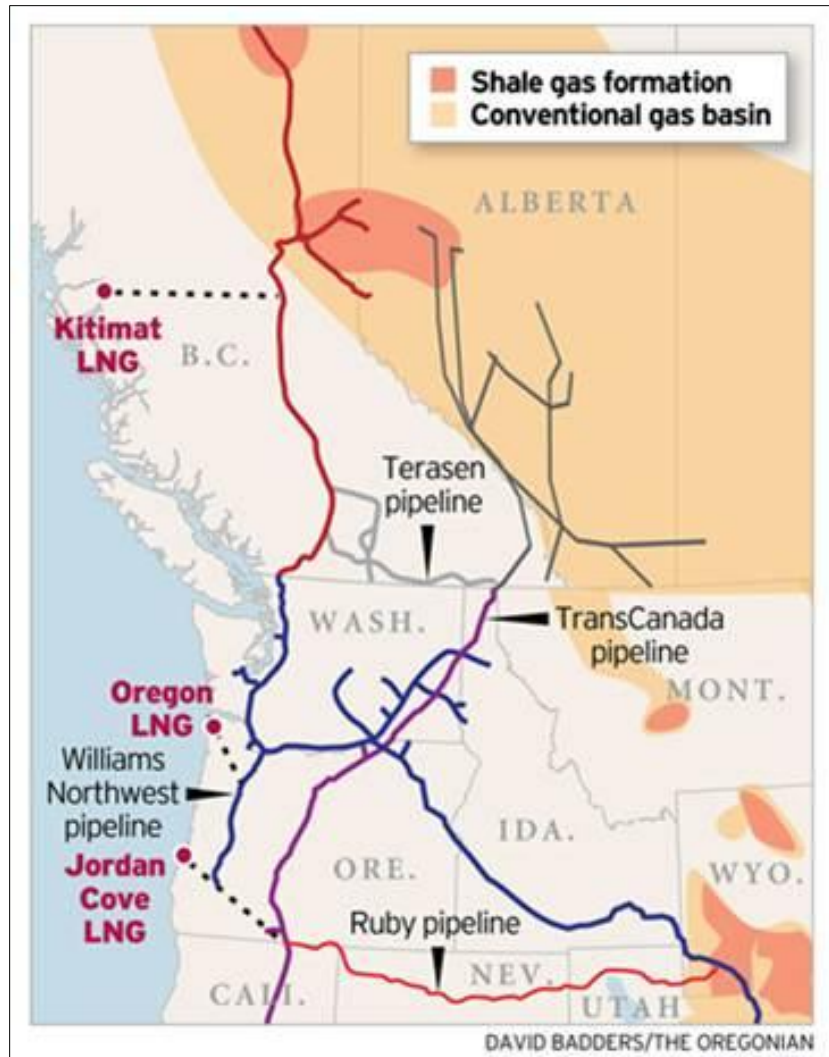
- Williams Pipeline in Washington.** The Williams Pipeline Company plans to build *136 miles of new, high-pressure pipeline* in ten different segments in or near the existing Northwest Pipeline right-of-way. Segments of the new LNG pipeline would run from Washington's northern border south to Woodland, Washington, threatening hundreds of landowners and communities along the way. Williams would also expand existing compression horsepower at five existing compressor stations.
- Alternate Pipeline Route through the Willamette Valley.** For years, Oregon LNG planned to build a pipeline from Warrenton to Molalla and cross the Willamette Valley. Now, Oregon LNG and FERC have provided conflicting information about whether the Willamette Valley pipeline, is still being considered. According to Oregon LNG, however, the "Molalla Route Alternative" is still on the table.



Suggestions for Comments to FERC

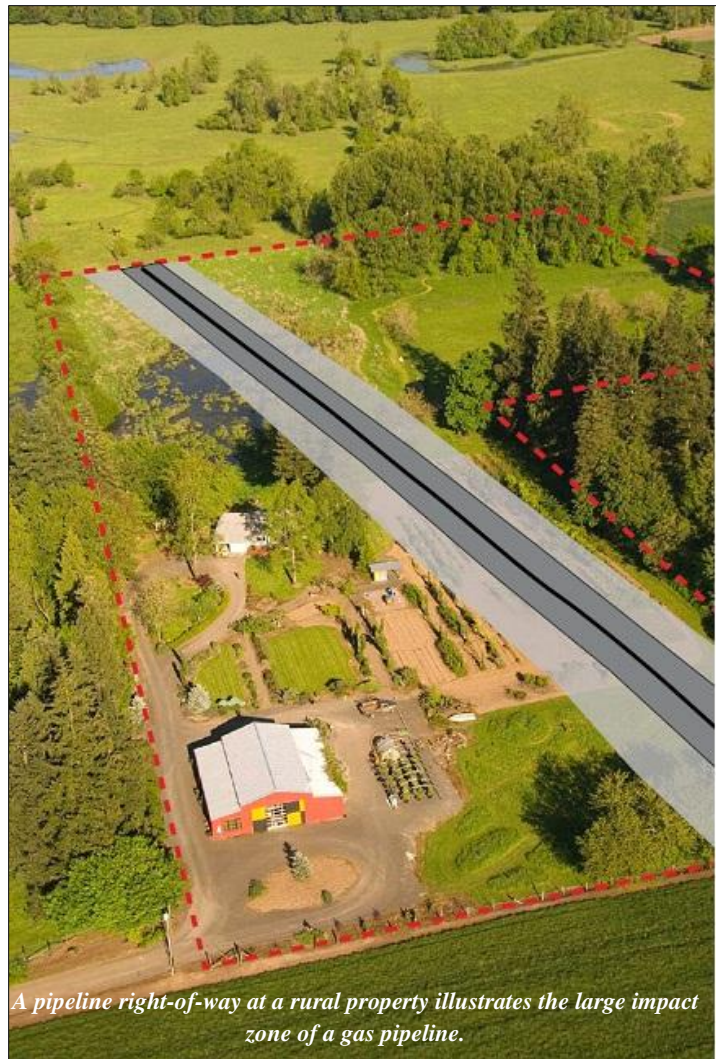
Overall Impacts

- **LNG's Impact on Your Life.** We encourage you to tell your story and ask FERC to consider how LNG export will impact your life and livelihood. Bring pictures, maps, and documents to submit to FERC at the hearings, online, or by mail.
- **Rushing the NEPA process at the Public's Expense.** FERC provided less than one month's notice before the first scoping hearing. This is not reasonable. The public deserves time to prepare.
- **Misleading the Public on the Complete LNG project.** FERC is asking for public input on a project that is starkly different from the reality. FERC's public notice asks for input on the segments of "newly proposed" pipeline (*i.e.*, Williams Pipeline and Oregon LNG's new pipeline route in Columbia and Cowlitz counties), but fails to ask for public input on the proposed pipeline in Clatsop County.
- **Cumulative Impacts of Exporting North American Natural Gas.** On September 27, 2012 members of Congress stated: "We are concerned that exporting more LNG would lead to greater hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, activity thus threatening the health of local residents and jobs." *FERC must analyze the combined environmental, social, and economic impacts of exporting as much as 47 billion cubic feet of LNG per day—the amount of LNG proposed for export in pending LNG applications.*



Threatening our Economy & Jobs

- **Deterring Economic Development & Threatening Property Values.** Oregon LNG's terminal will deter economic development, decrease property values, cause the loss of tourism and recreation related jobs, and result in a generally reduced quality of life around the Estuary. The pipelines will degrade property values, including farms and forestlands, by preventing customary uses of land, causing erosion and environmental damage, harming drainage systems, and creating a safety risk.
- **Increasing Rates for Pacific Northwest Consumers.** LNG export will increase natural gas prices for every Northwest resident by forcing us to outbid high-priced Asian markets. Paul Cicio, President of the Industrial Energy Consumers of America, stated, "In the end, it's going to be every homeowner, every farmer buying fertilizer, and every manufacturer trying to create jobs who is going to be hurt by this." FERC must consider the environmental and social impacts of LNG export on ratepayers.
- **Impacts from Exclusion Zones on the Columbia River.** LNG tankers require exclusion zones that will restrict fishing and interfere with recreational kayaking and boating. FERC should take a hard look at how LNG tankers and associated marine traffic would impact commerce, recreational fishing, and other uses of the Columbia River.
- **Alternative Pipeline Route Threatens the Willamette Valley.** Oregon LNG's destructive pipeline route through the Willamette Valley is still on the table as an alternative to the pipeline route through Columbia County and Washington State. FERC must notify all landowners in the Willamette Valley that the threat of eminent domain is still knocking at their doors. FERC should be honest and transparent with the public by: (1) holding additional scoping hearings in the Willamette Valley, (2) extending the public comment, and (3) analyzing the social and



environmental impacts of all alternative routes in the Environmental Impact Statement. Ultimately, FERC must answer the question: Is the Willamette Valley route being considered as an alternate path?

Endangering Public Safety

- **Risks from Pipeline Explosions.** Deadly pipeline explosions continue to occur despite modern safety standards and inspections. The planned pipelines will use odorless gas and have a high-impact blast zone of over 800 feet. FERC must examine the impacts of building and operating the pipeline, including the risks to life and property, threats to wildlife (including endangered species), and wildfires resulting from pipeline explosions.
- **Impacts from a Catastrophic Accident or Terrorist Attack.** FERC must take an in-depth look at the risks of a catastrophic accident or terrorist-induced ignition of a vapor cloud along the LNG shipping route and at Oregon LNG's terminal.
- **Demand Maps of Who is at Risk.** FERC should include maps showing how the area around the LNG tanker shipping route and the land-based storage terminal would be affected by an LNG catastrophe. FERC should also describe properties and residences that would be affected by an LNG release.



Destructive Environmental Impacts

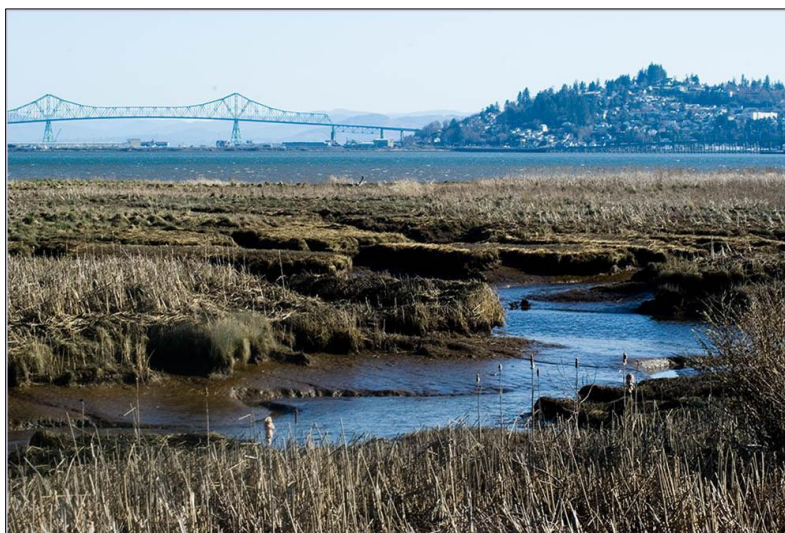
- **Impacts to Water Quality and Salmon.** LNG tankers and terminals wreak havoc on water quality. For example, LNG tankers expel hot water from their engines and chemically treated water from their re-gasification terminals. LNG tankers also discharge ballast water containing invasive species. FERC must evaluate how Oregon LNG's terminal and tankers would impact water quality, endangered salmon, and other aquatic life in the Columbia River.
- **Air Pollution from the Terminal & Tankers.** Oregon LNG's terminal would degrade local air quality at the terminal and in the surrounding communities of Astoria and Hammond. LNG terminals emit air pollution from compressors, vaporizers, gas-turbines, construction dust, and other sources. LNG tankers and the security vessels that accompany them run their engines during the entire cargo loading cycle, spewing exhaust and air pollutants that would impact surrounding communities. LNG-related pipelines also require large compressor stations that generate air pollution and noise. FERC must analyze how LNG will compromise clean air and the quality of scenic vistas in the Columbia River Estuary.
- **Dredging in Linchpin Salmon Habitat.** Oregon LNG proposes deepening the Columbia River—removing 1.2 million cubic yards of river bottom—to dock LNG tankers. *The company will also dredge 300,000 cubic yards of river bottom every three years to maintain its dock.* As taxpayers, we are investing hundreds of millions of dollars in recovering the Northwest's iconic salmon runs and other endangered species (*i.e.*, smelt and green sturgeon). LNG threatens our region's investment.
- **Impacts from Energy Consumption.** Operating an LNG export terminal takes a lot of energy. *At a minimum, Oregon LNG will likely require 350 MW of energy every day, which is more energy than the average U.S. power plant generates in a day.* In a region committed to reducing energy consumption, how does Oregon LNG fit into this vision for a green economy? FERC must analyze the environmental and social impacts of generating electricity that will fuel the massive LNG terminal. This includes the impacts of hydroelectric power, wind power, and coal-fired power.
- **Light and Noise Pollution at the LNG terminal.** LNG terminals operate around the clock, lighting the night sky as part of their 24-hour surveillance requirements and creating loud noises as they convert natural gas into LNG. *The export terminal will require the ability to flare gas — a visual nightmare in the scenic Columbia River Estuary.* FERC must examine how noise and light pollution will harm the communities of Warrenton and Astoria, as well as wildlife and aquatic life.



- **Impacts from Consuming Billions of Gallons of Water.** FERC must consider the environmental impacts of using billions of gallons of water to operate the LNG terminal and the ability of Warrenton's municipal wastewater treatment plant to absorb this burden.
- **Combined Impacts from LNG & Coal Export Ship Traffic.** Coal export speculators propose three export terminals on the Columbia: Ambre Energy's 8.8 million ton per year Morrow Pacific Project (Port of Morrow and Port Westward in St. Helens), Kinder Morgan's 30 million ton per year proposal at Port Westward, and Ambre Energy's 44 million ton per year Millennium Bulk Terminals proposal in Longview. Any one of these projects would significantly increase river and marine traffic. Combined, the impacts of coal export and LNG are staggering. FERC must analyze these reasonably foreseeable future energy export projects.
- **Impacts to Climate Change.** FERC must examine the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions of extracting, exporting, and burning natural gas. This includes the associated impact on climate change. *LNG derived from conventional gas wells has a 30% larger carbon footprint than domestic natural gas.* On a global scale, LNG will have a greater impact to climate change than current natural gas sources used in the Pacific Northwest.

Impacts Beyond the Northwest

- **Environmental & Social Impacts where Gas is Extracted.** FERC must examine the significant environmental impacts of extracting natural gas, from groundwater contamination to air pollution.
- **Threatening Marine Life.** On their journey to Asia and back, Oregon LNG's tankers will pass through sensitive marine habitats, including feeding and breeding grounds in the Aleutian Islands Alaska Maritime Wildlife Refuge. FERC must analyze the impacts of additional maritime traffic, including the increased risk of vessel spills, accidents, and harm to sensitive marine life.



The Skipanon Peninsula near Warrenton, Oregon.

Take Action

Get Involved

Learn how you can make a difference in the fight to protect the Northwest from LNG. Contact Dan Serres, Columbia Riverkeeper's Conservation Director, at dan@columbiariverkeeper.org or (503) 890-2441.

Support Columbia Riverkeeper!

For over seven years, Columbia Riverkeeper has successfully worked with communities across Oregon and Washington to protect our farms, forests, and salmon from LNG. We are a nonprofit organization powered by a team of scientists, grassroots organizers, and lawyers. We depend on the support of our members and generous donations from the public to continue the fight to protect our way of life from LNG. Please visit www.columbiariverkeeper.org or call (541) 387-3030 to join our growing campaign against LNG.

