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First name: Rebecca

Last name: Lipton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: January 2, 2020

To: PNW Regional Forester, Objections Reviewing Office

VIA: <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/commentinput?project=28132>

Subject: 36 CFR 218 Objection Pacific Connector Pipeline Site specific Plan Amendment for the Umpqua, Rogue River-Siskiyou, and Fremont-Winema National Forests

Dear Forest Service:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. Part 218, I, Rebecca Lipton, hereby object to the project described below.

Document Title: Opportunity to Object, Plan Amendments for Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline on the Umpqua, Rogue River-Siskiyou, and Fremont-Winema National Forests

Project Description: The Forest Service proposes to approve 30.6 miles of the Pacific Pipeline Connector route across the National Forest System. This proposal includes approximately 591 acres of forests for the construction of the Pipeline Project and an additional 186 acres of permanent right of way.

This decision would allow crossing of 10.8 miles on the Umpqua National Forest in Douglas County, 13.7 miles on the Rogue River Siskiyou Nation Forest in Jackson County and 6 miles on the Fremont-Winema National Forest in Klamath County.

Project Location (Forest/District): Umpqua, Rogue River-Siskiyou, and Fremont-Winema National Forests, Douglas, Jackson, and Klamath Counties, Oregon

Name and Title of responsible official: Alice Carlton, Forest supervisor and Responsible Official, Umpqua National Forest

Objector: as stated above

Timeliness: this objection is timely filed. Notice of the Opportunity to Objection to 'Site specific' Plan Amendments for Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline proposed decision was published in the Federal Register on November 22, 2019. Forty-five days from November 22, 2019 is January 5, 2020.

Request for a Public Meeting to Discuss Resolution: I, Rebecca Lipton, hereby request a public meeting to discuss potential resolution of the issues raised in this objection

The Forest Service has failed to disclose site-specific effects that the pipeline would have

The Forest Service failed to take a hard look at all of the various concerns associated with the pipeline

The Forest Service failed to consider reasonable alternatives to the project

Suggested Remedies that would Resolve the Objection:

I respectfully request that the Forest Service withdraw the recommended project and 1. Prepare a project that meets the standards and guidelines of the existing land use management plan or 2. Deny the project

Describe how the objection relates to prior comments: I have expressed my concerns that this pipeline would have negative impacts on public lands by commenting through the FERC process on numerous occasions. Once again, I am trying to convey my concerns through an administrative objection to the Forest Service over its proposal to re-designate my public forest lands as a permanent give-away to a fossil fuel corporation from another country, no less

Statement of issues related to the proposed site-specific plan amendments action:

The Forest Service failed to consider an alternative that doesn't require exempting Jordan Cove from adhering to their forest plans

Late Successional and Riparian Reserves should not be stripped of protections at the behest and for the benefit of a foreign fossil fuel company

The forest Service did not consider site-specific impacts that pipeline construction would have and must disclose impacts and plans for mitigation on a site specific basis. For example, just north of Shady Cove, outside Medford, the pipeline would cross the Rogue River. The Rogue is an outstanding river for rafting, as well as salmon and steelhead fishing. Over the previous decades, millions of dollars have been spent to begin restoring the damage done by dams and pollution. Now all that work is being put at risk by Jordan Cove.

The pipeline plan undermines the forest Service's 'survey-,manage' protocol, created to ensure the protection of federally protected endangered species such as the Northern Spotted Owl and the Marbled Murrelet

The Forest Service did not analyze or mitigate for increased fire risk from the LNG pipeline. A highly pressurized and explosive pipeline poses an obvious danger to the forests, firefighters, and our communities. And in fact these pipelines explode into massive fireballs pretty regularly.

The cumulative effects of this proposal on watershed, wildlife and fire management have not been analyzed for their comprehensive 'purpose and the effects' as required by law. For example, millions of dollars have been put into restoration efforts intended to repair damage to salmon spawning habitat, but those efforts will continue to be futile in the face of the clear cut logging, pollution, and new threats from Jordan Cove's pipeline. Another example, four major dams are scheduled to be taken down on the Klamath River, starting in 2020, to further restore this river for salmon and lamprey species. Now, Jordan Cove wants to put their fracked gas pipeline directly under the river, putting everything downstream at risk.

The Proposal fails to meet requirements of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy and should not be exempt from analysis and mitigation of landslides, sedimentation and waterway degradation. The runoff created by the clear cut for the pipeline and associated road construction would be devastating for stream health, and for salmon in particular. According to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council, Jordan Cove would have "substantial impacts of an unprecedented scale" on the rivers and streams where salmon spawn and rear

You must fulfill your duties to properly and fully assess this project and make certain that it adheres to best practices of protecting these public lands. You must deny permits for this project if it cannot meet the high standards that are set up to protect our public lands.

