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First name: Michael
Last name: Heumann
Organization:
Title:
Comments: January 29, 2020
TO: PNW Regional Forester, Objections Reviewing Officer
VIA: https:/cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?project=28132

Subject: 36 CFR 219.54(c) Objection Pacific Connector Pipeline Forest Plan Amendments for the Umpqua, Rogue River Siskiyou, and Fremont-Winema National Forests

Dear Forest Service:

In accordance with 36 C.F.R. Part 219 I, Michael Heumann, hereby object to the project described below.

DOCUMENT TITLE: Opportunity to Object, Forest Plan Amendments for Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline on The Umpqua, Rogue River Siskiyou, and Fremont-Winema National Forests.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed action will make provision for 30.6 miles of the Pacific Connector Pipeline route to cross National Forest System (NFS) lands administered by the above-mentioned Forests. These areas affected by this decision include approximately 591 acres of lands associated with the proposed construction of the Pacific Connector Pipeline Project and approximately 186 acres associated with the proposed permanent right of way for the Pipeline Project, which would cross approximately 10.8 miles on the Umpqua Nation Forest in Douglas County, 13.7 miles on the Rogue River Siskiyou National 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 B. Carlton, Forest Supervisor and Responsible Official, Umpqua National Forest.

LEAD OBJECTOR: Michael Heumann

TIMELINESS: This objection is timely filed. Notice of the Opportunity to Object to Plan Amendments for Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline proposed decision was published in the federal register on November 22, 2019. Sixty days from November 22 is January 20, 2020.

REQUEST FOR MEETING TO DISCUSS RESOLUTION: I, Michael Heumann, hereby request a meeting to discuss potential resolution of the issues raised in this objection.

STATEMENT OF ISSUES:

The current Land Use Management Plan for the Forest Service requires that developments (such as pipelines) in older forests or "Late Successional Reserves" must be impact-neutral or beneficial "for the creation and maintenance of late-successional (old forest) habitat." The proposed action to amend the existing forest plan to create a permanent clearcut along the pipeline route would:
-destroy quality healthy forest and harm existing old forests in currently protected LSR's
-increase fire hazard
-undercut protections for threatened species

-undermine recreational values on public lands
-ultimately harm public lands in a way that is incompatible with the values of the current forest plan.

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 OBJECTIONS RELATE TO PRIOR COMMENTS:
The stop and start FERC planning process for routing the pipeline through public lands has been confusing, complex, misleading, and difficult to follow for ordinary citizens. What I know is that I value and use the forests and watersheds that the Forest Service manages on behalf of the public. Throughout the extensive FERC planning process, I, like many others, have attempted to voice my concerns over the impacts of pipeline construction on my public lands. Now to the best of my ability I am attempting to again convey my concern 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 foreign energy company.

Signed,

Michael Heumann