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MAY 02 2019

City of Coos Bay

63840 Fossil Point Road  
Coos Bay  
OR 97420

April 29, 2019

Dear Governor Brown,

As you are aware, the Jordan Cove project is in the process of applying for several State, County and City permits, all of which need citizen input, in addition to the draft EIS recently issued by FERC. I have been following the progress of these permits and commenting on them when I have information that I feel is appropriate to the issue at hand. As a biologist who has worked at the University of Oregon for the past 40 years I have been particularly interested in the activities that are planned for the Coos estuary. One such action proposed by Jordan Cove is dredging four areas of the Federal Navigation channel. Three of these areas are under Coos County's jurisdiction and one, titled NRI4, occurs within the boundary of the City of Coos Bay.

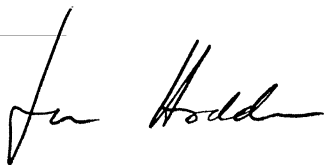
I write to give you an indication of the process and actions associated with this later permit request to show you how unbalanced and how difficult it is for the average citizen to be involved in the process.

The City of Coos Bay does not have adequate planning staff to undertake the process of dealing with these types of permit requests so they have contracted with Lane County of Governments for planning permit processing services. A hearing on the NRI4 dredging permit was held before the **all volunteer** Planning Commission on March 21. The record was left open for written comments on any issue related to the project until April 25. The City has posted written comments on its web site. Those submitted by Jordan Cove on April 25 total **16,845 pages**. There is a second open record period from April 26 to May 16. On May 23rd, a compilation of the comments received on the project application will be available on the City's web site, and the Planning Commission staff report will be presented on May 30.

To ensure that all the information submitted about the NRI4 dredging is read by the planning staff and the volunteer planning commissioners, they will need to read **648 pages** of the April 25 Jordan Cove's comments **each day** between April 26 and May 23! That disregards both the possibility that there will additional information submitted in the second open period, and the time for staff and commissioners to read anyone else's comments that have been submitted. This is absurd and is a disrespect for volunteers and the small planning staff of the City of Coos Bay. It also means that the public who wish to follow this issue cannot fully participate in the process. Concurrent with this application are several other City and County permits that have a similar volume of comments that should be addressed by the public. Few, especially those employed, have the luxury to spend the time to do this.

I know that you are an advocate for public involvement in government, which is why I am writing to you with this information. It is clear that the citizen's involvement promise of State planning goal 1 is not practical with such a volume of material to read. I do not have a solution to this issue other than slowing the entire Jordan Cove process; but I look forward to hearing your thoughts and suggestions for how to better facilitate public involvement in the permitting activities associated with the Jordan Cove project.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Hodder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jan" and last name "Hodder" clearly distinguishable.

Jan Hodder Ph.D.

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cc. Senator Arnie Roblan

Representative Caddie McKeown

Representative Peter DeFazio

Senator Jeff Merkeley

Senator Ron Wyden

Jason Miner, Governors Natural Resources Policy Director

Jim Rue, Director of the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

Carolyn Johnson, City of Coos Bay Planner