



The Bi-Annual Newsletter
of the Jackson County Chapter of the Oregon League of Conservation Voters

The Conservation Voter

Protecting Jackson County with the LNG Public Protection Act

One of our 2009 legislative priorities is to “ensure new energy supplies are responsible.” The proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals and pipeline that could course through as many as 23 Oregon counties (including Jackson) would not meet this definition.

According to studies that look at the emissions associated not only with energy consumption but also with producing and transporting fuels, **LNG emits 26% more global warming pollution than domestic natural gas.** LNG terminals planned for Oregon, including one in Coos Bay, would likely send gas to California, which has already rejected LNG terminals due to environmental and safety concerns. LNG terminals would require more than 500 miles of gas pipelines in clearings 120 feet wide that would hurt Oregon’s farms, private-property owners, forest land and fish habitat.

Last month, the National Marine Fisheries Service, represented by the U.S. Department of Justice and Oregon Attorney General John Kroger, joined Columbia Riverkeeper and other environmental groups in appealing the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s approval of the LNG project on the lower Columbia River. This fight is far from over, though. Some legislators are failing to stand up to the big-energy rhetoric of out-of-state corporations.

The risks to Oregon’s pristine natural environment are great. That’s why OLCV is joining with fifty other environmental groups in the Oregon Conservation Network to pass House Bill 2015, the Liquefied Natural Gas Public Protection Act. **This bill would give Oregon a voice in the siting of LNG terminals and pipelines by requiring the Oregon Department of Energy to:**

- first prove that LNG is needed in Oregon
- establish that LNG would be cheaper for consumers than North American natural gas
- determine that LNG is consistent with Oregon’s statutory global warming pollution reduction goals

The bill would also protect commercial and recreational fishing, navigation, recreation, wildlife and farming by requiring LNG have no adverse affect on these existing economic drivers.

OLCV’s lobbyist Evan Manvel is in Salem every day, working to pass the LNG Public Protection Act and a host of other pro-environment bills. By supporting OLCV, you support OLCV’s work in Salem and around the state. To learn more about all of OCN’s priorities, please see: www.olcv.org or www.oregonpriorities.org.

Meet Gaia Pernchief Carney



Gaia joined the steering committee for the Jackson County Oregon League of Conservation Voters last year because she was excited to participate in local politics and educate voters and local

elected officials about conservation issues.

Diagnosed with chronic asthma in 2006, Gaia is keenly aware of the connection between environment, politics, and human health. “It is important to do everything in our power to preserve Oregon’s pristine environment,” she says.

Gaia moved to Ashland in 1988 for college and still loves the community. Her first political volunteer work was for the “No on 9” campaign in 1992. Gaia is excited to be a part of OLCV. “My heart is in volunteerism, I wish I could just volunteer 20 hours a week.”

Gaia and Diane Beukema of Medford serve as volunteer co-chairs of the Jackson County OLCV Steering Committee.

Interested in learning more about the steering committee or volunteering? Contact Mat Marr: 541-324-3592 or mat@olcv.org.

Bring the family to the Earth Day Fair and stop by our OLCV booth. Learn about important state and local conservation issues, including global warming solutions being debated right now in the Oregon Legislature.

Be sure to say hi to the volunteer members of your OLCV Jackson County Steering Committee!

WHAT: Rogue Valley Earth Day 2009

WHEN: Saturday, April 25, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: Scienceworks, 1500 E. Main St., Ashland



320 SW Stark
Portland, OR 97204
www.olcv.org/jackson

Diane Beukema
Gaia Perinchief Carney
Tomas Estes
Tom Marr
Mat Marr, Staff

Please consider making a donation to support OLCV's work in Jackson County. Remember: The Oregon Political Tax Credit allows you to credit the first \$50 (\$100 for a couple) on your state tax return. www.olcv.org/jackson

Dine Out for the Earth Wednesday, April 22

Celebrate Earth Day in style by dining out at Geppetto's, Greenleaf or Mihama's and support the OLCV Jackson County Chapter at the same time.

Dine Out for the Earth is a partnership in which locally owned restaurants donate 10 percent of their sales on Earth Day to the OLCV Jackson County Chapter. That money will fund our work to elect pro-environment candidates, hold elected officials accountable, and protect Jackson County's unique natural beauty.



Participating Restaurants:

Geppetto's is an Ashland icon. Greens grown on their own farm make for the freshest meal in town.

Greenleaf overlooks Lithia Creek and offers fresh baked goods, natural meats, and vegetarian eats.

Mihama's Teriyaki Grill has offered fresh, tasty and affordable Japanese cuisine since 1989.

Please thank these great establishments for their commitment to the environment with your patronage on Earth Day, (April 22) and every day.

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