

# STATE OF COLORADO

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

By Docket Room Aug. 4, 2015



John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor

July 22, 2015

The Honorable Ernest Moniz  
Secretary  
U. S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

The Honorable Cheryl LaFleur  
Chairman  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Secretary Moniz & Chairman LaFleur:

We would like to add our support for the Jordan Cove application to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) to non-Free Trade Agreement (FTA) countries. Our Administration has long supported LNG exports. Jordan Cove is of specific interest to Colorado. The project terminal is the only LNG facility on the west coast that would directly link Colorado to new energy markets via the Ruby Pipeline which originates in northwest Colorado and carries natural gas from that region to states further west of Colorado.

The approval and construction of the Jordan Cove facility will open international markets and economic opportunity for rural northwestern Colorado communities as well as provide federal, state and local revenues derived from Federal mineral royalties and state severance taxes collected on natural gas production.

The U.S. supply of natural gas has increased over the past few years and is now projected to exceed domestic demand. Consequently, exploration and production of these resources have dwindled in the Rocky Mountain region. The reduction of natural gas production in western Colorado has resulted in loss of jobs in our rural communities and less revenue generated at the state and local level negatively impacting the economic condition of the region.

In recent months, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has granted eastern and Gulf coast states opportunities to access overseas markets. It's with great optimism for the future of our economy that we request the Department of Energy and FERC afford Colorado the same opportunity by approving Jordan Cove application, ensuring that companies in the Rocky Mountain region have the export incentive to produce natural gas in the future.

We look forward to FERC releasing the final environmental impact statement for Jordan Cove that holds the project to the highest environmental standards and prioritize human health and safety. We ask that the Department of Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission expeditiously act favorably on the Jordan Cove application to export LNG to non-FTA countries.

Sincerely,

John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor