

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS  
888 FIRST STREET, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

In Reply Refer To:  
OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 3  
Jordan Cove Energy Project, L.P.  
Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, L.P.  
Docket Nos. CP17-494-000  
CP17-495-000

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 5, 2020

Joe Zisa  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Oregon Office  
Joe\_Zisa@fws.gov

**RE: Jordan Cove Energy Project – Reinitiation of Formal Consultation**

Dear Mr. Zisa:

In a letter dated June 23, 2020, the environmental staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) requested, in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the reinitiation of formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to address the Jordan Cove Energy Project modification referred to as the Blue Ridge Variation. In the FWS' July 7, 2020 response, you informed us that the FWS cannot reinitiate consultation until a new Biological Assessment (BA) or other new information or assessment of effects is received. Furthermore, in your response you referred to a planned meeting with the FERC, FWS, and Jordan Cove representatives to discuss the consultation process and schedule.

In regard to a new BA or assessment of effects, I remind you that in our request, we included a description of the Blue Ridge Variation and an assessment of the differences between the proposed pipeline route and the variation. This information was provided to you previously in Appendix R of the BA for the Project transmitted to your office on July 29, 2019 and was included in Appendix I of the final Environmental Impact Statement for the Project issued on November 15, 2019. I believe this information is sufficient for the FWS to reinitiate consultation. If upon further review, the FWS concludes additional information is needed, please provide in a timely manner, a detailed written request of information necessary for your office to reinitiate

consultation with us regarding the Jordan Cove Energy Project. As stated in our reinitiation request, we reiterate that no listed-species not previously considered in the BA would be affected by the incorporation of the Blue Ridge Variation. Furthermore, constructing the variation would reduce impacts on the northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) and the marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*). Additionally, a meeting among FERC, FWS, and Jordan Cove representatives was held on July 14, 2020 to discuss the reinitiation of consultation and the ensuing review process. Therefore, having addressed the issues described in your July 7, 2020 letter, I respectfully request a written response confirming reinitiation of consultation and addressing the review process and schedule for this consultation.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. John Peconom, Environmental Project Manager, at (202) 502-6352; or by email at [john.peconom@ferc.gov](mailto:john.peconom@ferc.gov).

Sincerely,

James Martin, PhD  
Branch Chief  
Gas Branch 3

Document Content(s)

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