

I have lived in the Coos Bay/Bandon community for the last 17 years, and have enjoyed the neighborly quality of our culture, and the beauty of the area. I walk on our beaches, kayak in our waters, and hike on our public lands.

It shocks me that a destructive proposal like the LNG pipeline exists in our precious area. It is clear that the creators of that evil proposal prey on small communities where people do not tend to have a voice. Citizens are bamboozled before they know it. That is criminal because it destroys not only the environment, but also lives. Environmental justice is an American value. We have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. At the most basic level, that includes clean air and clean water.

Different groups are affected differently. Sometimes the differences are because of income, race/ethnicity, or where they live. In this case, we are addressing environmental justice issues— they may be because of natural events like the recent wildfires, or they may be human-caused like pollution from factories or petroleum refineries. Everyone needs to be represented in these crucial matters. No one should be excluded. Whatever the causes, every person needs to be represented fairly. Please vote YES on SCR 17, because this will let all Oregonians have a voice at the table.