

State Representative
Chuck Riley
House District 29



900 Court St, NE, H-274
Salem, OR 97301
503.986.1429
www.leg.state.or.us/riley

Press Release

For Immediate Release: January 11, 2010
Contact: Kevin Jeffries - 503.986.1429

Representative Chuck Riley Introduces the Domestic Resource Protection Act (HB 3616)

Salem: In keeping with Representative Riley's (D-Hillsboro) commitment to protect Oregon's property owners and natural resources, he has introduced landmark legislation that will stop energy speculation at the expense of all Oregonians. Riley's Domestic Resource Protection Act is in response to the three encroaching liquefied natural gas terminals and associated pipelines that are proposed for construction in Oregon - Bradwood Landing on the Columbia River, Oregon LNG in Astoria, and Jordan Cove in Coos Bay.

"These companies have yet to prove that we, in the Northwest, need imported foreign natural gas," Rep Riley said. "HB 3616 requires that prior to the state giving these companies the power to seize land from private citizens they must show that we do not have domestic natural gas resources to meet our needs."

An assessment proving need has been the desire of Oregonians at risk of losing their property as well as local green energy consultants who feel that these terminals undermine Oregon's progress towards greener, renewable, domestic energy sources. Under current law, all three terminals could be built and thus commence importation of liquefied natural gas from China and the Middle East without showing a need.

"We are also faced with each terminal's pipeline that will move the foreign imported gas through Oregon to California and Mexico. These pipelines will cut through our state's forests, our rivers and streams, our farms, our communities," noted Riley. "A 50-foot wide scar across our beautiful state is something no one should agree to without proof that we need it."

Along with an assessment proving need, the Domestic Resource Protection Act will require that all applicants who file for these permits compensate the State of Oregon for all costs associated with the review of the permits or the authorization of an application. "This is sound fiscal policy," said Riley. "The public should not have to pay the thousands of dollars required by these private corporations' business ventures."

Based on the currently number of applicants, HB 3616 could save Oregon tax payers nearly \$90,000 not to mention the millions of dollars in potential legal fees that the state would face once the permits have been issued and are appealed by private land owners.

###