



Planning and Sustainability Commission
City of Portland, Oregon
RE: Support for Pembina Pipeline Corp. proposal

January 13th, 2015

Good morning. My name is Joe Westby. I am the NW Oregon/SW Washington Director of Operations for Ferrellgas. We are an "Employee Owned" propane retailer with approximately 1 million customers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. I have worked in the propane industry for 24 years. I am also the current president of the Pacific Propane Gas Association. The P.P.G.A. is an association that is made up of many different size propane retailers and vendors, from the states of Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii. I am here today to show our support of the upcoming Pembina facility proposal.

Retail propane is a vibrant industry in the state of Oregon, employing approximately 250 people and serving approximately 30,000 residential, industrial/commercial, and agricultural customers. Many citizens of the state of Oregon rely on propane every day in their homes, at their businesses, and on their farms. Odorized propane's contribution to the state economy is \$238 million per year, including both direct and indirect economic effects.

Propane, which is often referred to as "autogas" when used as an engine fuel, powers more than 15 million vehicles in more than 38 million countries, making it the most widely used alternative fuel in the world. For many years, fleets here in Oregon have also enjoyed the economic and environmental benefits of this clean-burning "green" fuel.

One of my company's larger end users is the public school bus fleets. The Portland School District currently operates a fleet of approximately 400 propane buses. The fleet managers at this school district did their homework. They researched the alternative fuels that were available to them, and, like many other fleet managers throughout the state, they chose propane autogas.

Why propane Autogas? The school districts in Oregon who have begun using propane powered school buses, or use a company that provides such buses - Portland, for example, have found that the buses are dependable, as well as cost effective. They have been proven to hold up in the harshest of weather environments. They have become very popular with bus drivers, as they are cleaner burning, they do not have that "diesel exhaust" smell and they are quieter than a diesel powered bus, thus allowing them a better feel for traffic conditions in rainy weather. Not to mention once again, the cost-saving on both the fuel itself and the maintenance improvements for each vehicle that uses cleaner burning propane.

When you think of all the other alternatives available to the populations for an energy source and then look at the benefits of cleaner burning propane, it only makes sense that we continue to support the distribution of propane to other countries, as well as our own.

Thank you for your time.

Joe Westby
Ferrellgas
Portland, Oregon