

News Release**For Immediate Release****Contact: Tom Ivancie (503) 333-4233****Energy Coalition Slams Columbia Riverkeeper Distortion on Natural Gas Pipeline**

(Portland, OR, February 26, 2009) Energy Action Northwest (EANW), a business and labor coalition that advocates for rational energy policy, today sharply criticized statements made earlier this week by Columbia Riverkeeper which claimed that developers of the proposed Bradwood Landing natural gas terminal have no intention to build its proposed 36-mile pipeline through Cowlitz County.

Energy Action's statement today was prompted by regional media coverage of the claim by Columbia Riverkeeper and the subsequent rebuttal by NorthernStar Natural Gas, developer of the Bradwood Landing project.

Today's statement, made by EANW Executive Director Ed Finklea, is as follows:

"In December, this organization committed itself to monitor public discussion of energy issues and to clarify and correct misinformation as it occurred. This latest incident only serves to reinforce the importance of this commitment.

Our organization is nothing short of shocked at the brazenness exhibited by Columbia Riverkeeper in trying to create, yet again, inaccurate information and wild claims about the Bradwood Landing project.

We have carefully reviewed the statement made by Brett VandenHeuvel concerning the need for the Cowlitz County pipeline and can find no shred of credible evidence to support a claim that is, at best, wildly speculative and, at worst, a deliberate attempt to mislead the public.

We find nothing in the public record that would support this claim. Columbia Riverkeeper's assertion that NorthernStar Natural Gas intends to use only the Palomar pipeline and is thus engaging in some sort of 'bait and switch' ploy represents a baffling level of conspiracy paranoia. The reality is that the Cowlitz pipeline is absolutely needed to provide access to important gas-consuming markets for Bradwood Landing—on the Oregon side of the Columbia River and in Cowlitz County, Washington.

*(continued)****The Job Keepers.***

Columbia Riverkeeper is employing 'weapons of mass disinformation' in its continued pursuit of narrow ideological goals that are at odds with the economic interests of Oregon and its citizens. The truth is that Bradwood Landing terminal and the pipeline that connects it to the Williams interstate line in Cowlitz County, Washington will provide critically needed energy to Oregon and Washington until the promise of a future 100% reliant on clean renewable energy becomes reality.

We appeal to the leadership of Columbia Riverkeeper to become a responsible participant in the important debate about our energy future. Our citizens should demand accuracy and truth from every participant in this debate."

Energy Action Northwest is a public policy advocacy group representing businesses and labor organizations in the Pacific Northwest that are concerned about the reliability and affordability of electricity and natural gas. Its members are energy stakeholders who recognize that the Northwest needs to promote energy efficiency, renewable resource development and additional energy infrastructure and supply.

The principal objectives of Energy Action Northwest are to provide accurate information and context needed to correct misinformation created by certain opponents to the development of new energy infrastructure in Oregon and Washington, and to recommend energy policies based on sound economics, science, rational environmental stewardship and competitive cost.