



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Rock & Roll campers take the stage

Kylee Peck of Pendleton, center, plays violin with the band Roanoke on their song “Without You” during the final concert for the 11th annual Pendleton Rock & Roll Camp on Friday in Pendleton.

Judge upholds rejection for coal dock

By **GEORGE PLAVER**
East Oregonian

An administrative law judge has sided with Oregon on several key issues behind the state’s 2014 rejection of a controversial coal dock at the Port of Morrow.

Lighthouse Resources — the company formerly known as Ambre Energy North America — wants to build a terminal at the port in Boardman that would ship 8 million tons of coal per year down the Columbia River for export overseas. The Oregon Department of State Lands, however, denied a remove-fill permit for the project over interference with tribal fisheries.

The company and its supporters have appealed that decision, including the states of Wyoming and Montana, which would feed coal to the terminal. A hearing is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 14-23, but Judge Alison Greene Webster dealt an early

blow to their case Friday when she ruled the state may consider impacts to fishing when issuing a permit.

Perhaps more importantly, Webster also found the state did not violate the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution when it denied the project. Wyoming Gov. Matt Mead had previously argued Oregon’s decision to block the terminal unconstitutional prevented coal producers in his state from accessing markets.

Environmental groups intervening in the case praised the judge’s decision.

“The state of Oregon got it right when it denied (Lighthouse Resources’) coal export project,” said Brett Vanden-Heuvel, executive director for Columbia Riverkeeper. “We applaud state leaders for upholding laws that protect what we as Oregonians hold dear — clean water and fishable rivers.”

Micheal Klein, general counsel for Lighthouse

Resources, issued a statement that made it clear the fight isn’t over yet.

“This is a ruling on the motion for summary determination, not a ruling on the merits,” Klein said. “We look forward to addressing the merits of our appeal at the hearing scheduled for November.”

A remove-fill permit is needed to build the Coyote Island Terminal in the Columbia River — part of the Morrow Pacific Project, which has spent years in limbo hurdling environmental permits while also fighting uphill against the developer’s own financial troubles.

The project was originally conceived by the Australia-based Ambre Energy, though shareholders sold off the company’s North American assets to a private equity firm in Denver in late 2014. Ambre Energy North America changed its name to Lighthouse Resources

and continues promoting the project, garnering plenty of local support for the promise of creating new jobs and spurring hundreds of millions of dollars in economic benefit.

Others are more skeptical about the long-term viability of coal. The Sightline Institute, an environmental think tank based in Seattle, has pointed out coal prices are on the decline after they peaked around 2011. Analysts there have also predicted the coal bubble in China may be about to burst.

There is one other coal export project still on the table in the Northwest. Millennium Bulk Terminals would send 44 million tons of coal to Asia annually, though one of the project backers, Arch Coal, recently sold its 38 percent stake after filing for bankruptcy in June. The buyer — Lighthouse Resources, which now has 100 percent ownership in the terminal.

HERMISTON EOTEC solicits bids on rodeo arena, again

Board removes bathrooms, lighting from bid package

By **ALEXA LOUGEE**
East Oregonian

The Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center board agreed to break its rodeo arena bid package into smaller pieces in hopes of getting a bid it can afford by early September.

The board amended the original package by asking for separate bids for restrooms and arena lighting. This means a company will have a base bid that does not include restrooms or lighting, and then two additional bids with those projects separately priced out.

At its last meeting the board had received two bids, one from Bothum Construction and another from Kirby Nagelhout Construction Company. Both bids were several hundred thousand dollars over the proposed \$4 million budget for the arena.

Because interested companies have already seen the plans and design, the bidding process should be quick. Revised bids are due Aug. 31 and the board hopes to vote on a bid Friday, Sept. 2.

Byron Smith, Hermiston city manager and EOTEC chair, is confident this will give the board the flexibility it needs to meet the \$4 million budget and move forward with construction. Because of the timeline, Smith said the board wasn’t able to do much in the way of re-design, but once they have someone under contract, they can work with

“The paint’s gonna be wet on the stalls and panels, but it’s going to be ready for next year’s rodeo?”

— **Kim Puzey**,
EOTEC board member

that company on cost-cutting redesigns. The board also has committed to reaching out and doing additional fundraising. If arena lighting isn’t included in the accepted bid, Smith said worst-case scenario would be transitioning to a daytime rodeo.

Before the motion went to a vote, board member Kim Puzey questioned whether the arena would be done in time for the 2017 Farm-City Pro Rodeo.

“The paint’s gonna be wet on the stalls and panels,” he asked. “but it’s going to be ready for next year’s rodeo?”

Smith responded, “Yes, that’s the plan.”

On Thursday, Jeff Deswert from Kirby Nagelhout Construction sent an email that said, “After a great deal of thought and consideration, I believe that the best course of action at this point is for us to allow the board to consider what is in the best interest of the project. We will no longer pursue the project nor will we protest any decision that is made.”

After Friday’s board meeting, Deswert said the company would be interested to see what the board sends out, but it would likely not persuade the company to submit another bid.

Corrections

The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

EAST OREGONIAN

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly sunny and very hot	Partly sunny and very warm	Sunshine and very warm	Very warm with plenty of sun	Sunny and very warm
97° 65°	95° 59°	92° 60°	94° 63°	93° 62°
101° 64°	99° 60°	96° 61°	99° 65°	97° 60°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	93°	56°
Normals	88°	58°
Records	105° (1971)	42° (1907)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.07"
Normal month to date 0.15"
Year to date 7.39"
Last year to date 5.00"
Normal year to date 8.14"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	97°	52°
Normals	89°	58°
Records	106° (1971)	45° (1966)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.05"
Normal month to date 0.08"
Year to date 4.99"
Last year to date 3.25"
Normal year to date 6.03"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:53 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:06 p.m.
Moonrise today	4:33 p.m.
Moonset today	1:25 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
Aug 18	Aug 24	Sep 1	Sep 9

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Areas of low clouds and fog, then sunshine today. Increasing clouds tonight.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Mostly sunny and hot today. Mainly clear tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow; hot.

Western Washington: Partly sunny today; however, areas of low clouds and fog at the coast.

Eastern Washington: Partly sunny today. Partly cloudy tonight.

Cascades: Mostly sunny and very warm today. Clear tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow.

Northern California: Clouds, then sun at the coast today; hot in central parts. Sunny elsewhere.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	70	58	pc	70	59	pc
Baker City	91	48	s	89	45	pc
Bend	93	54	s	88	50	pc
Brookings	68	54	pc	71	54	pc
Burns	95	51	s	91	48	pc
Enterprise	89	55	s	88	52	pc
Eugene	96	54	s	90	54	s
Heppner	95	56	s	92	52	pc
Hermiston	101	64	s	99	60	pc
John Day	97	64	s	94	57	pc
Klamath Falls	93	51	s	89	49	pc
La Grande	93	54	s	91	49	pc
Meacham	90	52	s	88	47	pc
Medford	105	65	s	99	63	s
Newport	64	52	pc	64	53	pc
North Bend	67	54	pc	68	55	pc
Ontario	96	61	s	96	64	pc
Pasco	99	60	s	98	59	pc
Pendleton	97	65	s	95	59	pc
Portland	93	61	s	85	61	pc
Redmond	95	52	s	92	48	pc
Salem	95	58	s	89	58	s
Spokane	90	63	pc	90	60	s
Ukiah	91	54	s	88	49	pc
Vancouver	92	59	s	84	60	pc
Walla Walla	98	67	s	95	65	pc
Yakima	99	62	s	98	59	s

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	95	77	c	90	72	sh
Hong Kong	87	79	sh	86	80	t
Jerusalem	88	68	s	86	68	s
London	76	56	pc	75	56	pc
Mexico City	76	55	t	76	56	t
Moscow	64	54	r	66	57	c
Paris	84	58	pc	85	60	pc
Rome	83	64	s	83	65	s
Seoul	92	77	pc	92	76	pc
Sydney	67	50	s	66	50	s
Tokyo	86	75	pc	85	77	pc

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Sunday
Boardman	SW 3-6	WSW 4-8
Pendleton	NW 4-8	W 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

1	4	6	6	4	1
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8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary:

Heavy thunderstorms will stretch from Texas and Louisiana northeast into Ohio and Pennsylvania today. The thunderstorms will be capable of producing flash flooding. The West will be mainly dry.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 108° in Laredo, Texas **Low** 30° in West Yellowstone, Mont.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sun.				Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W		Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	86	61	pc	85	60	t	Louisville	86	75	t	84	73	t
Atlanta	90	72	pc	91	73	pc	Memphis	88	74	pc	84	74	c
Atlantic City	89	80	s	91	78	t	Miami	91	78	pc	91	80	pc
Baltimore	98	78	pc	97	74	t	Millwaukee	84	66	pc	83	66	pc
Billings	83	58	s	90	60	pc	Minneapolis	82	63	pc	82	65	s
Birmingham	86	73	t	88	73	t	Nashville	87	75	pc	87	73	t
Boise	95	66	s	95	63	pc	New Orleans	86	77	t	88	77	t
Boston	78	71	r	93	72	t	New York City	94	80	pc	94	78	t
Charleston, SC	92	77	t	93	76	s	Oklahoma City	89	66	pc	87	67	t
Charleston, WV	90	73	pc	86	71	t	Omaha	86	66	s	88	67	t
Chicago	85	67	pc	85	68	pc	Philadelphia	97	82	pc	96	78	t
Cleveland	88	72	t	83	68	c	Phoenix	105	83	s	105	84	s
Dallas	93	76	t	88	74	t	Portland, ME	69	63	r	88	66	t
Denver	86	56	t	90	58	s	Providence	89	77	t	94	73	t
Detroit	85	68	t	85	67	pc	Raleigh	95	76	pc	95	76	pc
El Paso	90	69	t	90	65	c	Rapid City	97	55	pc	88	59	pc
Fairbanks	75	56	c	74	55	c	Reno	98	61	s	95	59	s
Fargo	78	57	pc	81	60	s	Sacramento	99	59	s	98	58	s
Honolulu	85	73	pc	85	76	pc	St. Louis	86	70	t	82	69	t
Houston	95	78	t	87	76	t	Salt Lake City	93	66	pc	99	71	s
Indianapolis	80	71	t	82	68	t	San Diego	79	69	pc	81	70	pc
Jacksonville	93	72	t	93	73	pc	San Francisco	72	55	pc	71	55	pc
Kansas City	85	64	pc	86	64	s	Seattle	88	60	pc	83	59	s
Las Vegas	108	82	s	110	85	s	Tucson	98	75	s	98	76	t
Little Rock	85	74	t	81	72	t	Washington, DC	99	81	pc	99	79	t
Los Angeles	86	67	s	89	69	s	Wichita	88	65	pc	86	65	s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.