

brows over many decades” reality of a true rural environment. Many are unpainted, or faded beyond recognition of the original color. None are fancy. And almost all have the original farmhouses tucked in tight next to the fields of trees or close by the barn. Those are houses in which the children who were born and raised there went on to care for not just the land, but their aged parents as well . . . and raising their own children right there all the while.

RURAL, NOT IMPORTED

This is a true rural community. Not a destination resort to be ‘explored’ over a hurried weekend as an escape from a harried life in the city. It’s obviously not a city of millions, It’s not even a burg of one stoplight. It’s a ‘baked from scratch’ rural community where neighbor helps neighbor. Heck, my wife and I even installed gates through the fences on both sides of our own property to allow our neighbors on foot and loaned-to-a-neighbor small equipment to move around more easily in a true neighborly fashion.

This community is a deeply embedded, grown-from-the-soil web of shared ideals, common goals, and real relationships. We work the land together, worship together, care about other together, and many have even fought wars together.

Of course, there have been a very few overly ‘citified folks’ who’ve moved out here. They build houses that have carefully curated colors and overly tidy yards, and put up stupid-bright lights that irritate everyone. They let their dogs drive the old folks next door crazy, they drive big rigs with shiny wheels. But those folks are not the rule. They don’t understand the ‘real world’ as it is actually lived out here. They don’t understand *community*. It’s kinda sad to see how they, for all their money and seeming sophistication, miss out on the best parts of the community. Wanting to get away from something, they just bring it with them. As the old saw says: “Wherever you go, there you are!”

RURAL IS NOT INDUSTRIAL, NOR IS PWB A GOOD NEIGHBOR

The idea of building what is now (as of the latest budget requests) a \$2 billion water treatment plant and associated stuff out here is simply ludicrous. Quick reality check: that’s \$1 million spent *every single day for 5 years* . . . with funds left over. Any one of the families out here would

gladly take a single day of that pay, or even a few hours worth. You see, we are not rich in money, but we have heart and community, which the PWB has elegantly proven they lack. They have not been, nor will they be, good neighbors.

Case in point:

It's offensive that at the first community meeting they had out here (roughly two years ago) they took no questions and focused solely on the beautiful design of the buildings and the colors that hired consultants said reflected the character of the area. How quaint. [sarcasm]

That's NOT the character of this area. That's a big city approach to quieting down the natives with trinkets mildly of interest only to the 'magnanimous' giver. Pshaw!

A second case in point:

PWB has land in the city on Powell Butte where they can build this plant. They even reviewed the idea. But, the PWB, in *their own Technical Memorandum* stated this in regards to the Powell Butte site:

The Zoning and Land Use Review Analysis for Bull Run Water Treatment

*Plant Siting TM concluded that larger Powell Butte land use reviews (such as Reservoir 2 and CUMP) in the past have been appealed to LUBA by the neighborhood association and other public members, creating **additional monetary costs, approval delays, and political scrutiny for the project and for PWB.***

[emphasis added]

So they opted instead to try and plop it into a rural community that they perceive doesn't have the resources to fight to the hilt and won't expose them to public review. Disgusting!

IN CONCLUSION:

5 years of construction ripping along at a million-dollar-a-day pace to build an 'oh-so-pretty' industrial plant to serve a city that's 25 miles distant in what is prime farmland, that is zoned EFU, and is in a rural

reserve, that has been farmed for generations is offensive, dangerous, out of place, and will harm this area for generations to come.

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Excerpt from:

Technical Memorandum

September 11, 2018

Bull Run Filtration Project

David Peters, PE, and Michelle Cheek, PE – Portland Water Bureau

Christopher Bowker – Portland Water Bureau Pierre Kwan, PE,

Aparna Garg – HDR

Dan Speicher – Jacobs

Phillippe Daniel, PE – HDR Andy McCaskill, PE – HDR

Filtration Plant Site Alternatives

From: Debra Westcott

Address: 38685 SE Hudson Rd, Boring, OR 97009

Re: Portland Water Bureau's Water Filtration Plant, T-3-2022-162220

I live approximately 1.5 miles from the proposed site. I believe this industrial plant will negatively impact the overall peaceful rural atmosphere of our beautiful area.

We enjoy a variety of wildlife, teaming with Quail, Canadian Gueese, Robin's and Hummingbirds. We also have Red Tailed Hawks and occasionally a person may be rewarded with sighting an American Bald Eagle, with their nests high atop a fir tree.

We routinely see Deer, but a rare sight is the Herds of Elk. These large yet peaceful and quiet creatures would be especially impacted by this intrusion on their habitat.

We also have predators: Bear, Bob Cats and Mountain Lions. Rabbits are plentiful as are Racoons. All of these creatures form an established ecosystem, which will be harmed due to increased noise pollution from a five year construction project. Once the plant would be operating, the industrial noise and activity would continue 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This is unacceptable.

Finally our night sky allows us to gaze at the expanse of the heavenly stars. With lights from your proposed facility our night sky will be negatively impacted.

I hope that my description of our area helps you to realize that the placement of this industrial facility is ill-conceived. The character of our area is extremely important to be maintained for future generations and must be protected.

Sincerely

Debra Westcott

Character of the Area

[Case File: T3-2022-16220]

Deborah Wilson
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Debwilson226@gmail.com

This area is so peaceful, quiet and beautiful which is why I moved out here after the death of my husband. I love listening to the eagles calling to each other and listening to the Sandy river as it rushes below my home.

I love watching the nurseries out here in the different seasons. The beginning of spring and summer with the fresh new leaves and the fall colors of the trees in the nurseries.

I go out at night, watch the jets flying over with their lights, I stargaze, especially during the meteor showers. It is so lovely and dark here, I have the perfect location for watching falling stars.

I love listening to the robins early in the mornings, when there is no or little traffic. I have my coffee outside each morning.

I appreciate knowing my neighbors here and their vehicles. It makes me feel safe. I know families, the kids, the cars.

Having several hundred additional vehicles, noises and too much confusing traffic will upset my hard won peace. If this goes in, it will ruin the atmosphere of the area. More dust, more potholes, more noise, more traffic and noisy trucks.

It will be less safe for all of us that live here. Even those of us that are not biking or walking. I am 66 and would like to live here for some time. What happens if I need police or an ambulance, especially during the daylight hours?

What will it do to our herds of deer and elk that are not used to additional traffic and noise pollution? What about our national treasure, the eagles?

I am very concerned about the chemicals, potential spills and effects on the kids and wildlife here.

Teenagers learning how to drive and passing slow moving traffic are prime for accidents. I have seen them on the road! The additional traffic will cause potholes that will affect all of our vehicles. I worry about our beautiful neighborhoods and our way of living.

RURAL FILTRATION PLANTS - OREGON (Sampling)

RURAL	Customers	mgd	Filtration	Source	Zoning	Acres	Pipelines
<i>Bull Run Filtration Proj</i>	960,000	145	Conventional	<i>Bull Run Res.</i>	<i>MUA-20</i>	95	7+ Miles/8' Diameter, HDD Drilling
Joint Water Commission	400,000	85	Conventional	Upper Tualatin R.	EFU	62	
City Salem -Geren is.	200,000	45	Ozone / Slow Sand	N. Santiam R.	Public Land		
Medford Water	140,000	30	Chlorine	Rogue R./ Springs	Open Space		
N. Clackamas Co. Water	80,000	20	Sand/ Membrane	Clackamas R.	Rural/ Residential	4	
City of Bend	67,000	11.8	Membrane	Ground/ Surface	Rural/ Residential	14	
Springfield Utility Board	60,000			Ground Aquifer M.			
Corvallis-Rock Creek		3	Rapid Sand	Rock Creek Watershed	Residential	5	
Hillsboro Water Dept.		3	Slow Sand	Upper Tualatin R.	Exc. Forest		
Albany -Millersburg	1300	1	Membrane	Santiam R.	Farm Forest	7.3	

* These Rural sites were the exact ones the PWB used to compare to their proposed Bull Run Filtration Project.

Observations and Comments on Bull Run Filtration Project

- Joint Water Commission facility is currently the largest treatment plant in Oregon. Less than half the size of the proposed Bull Run Filtration facility.
- The rest of the rural treatment plants are clearly much smaller.
- The other plants draw their water from a direct river, groundwater, or spring source.
- Note the number of miles the 8' diameter pipes necessary to bring the water to Bull Run Filtration Project site. Cost and disruption to environment.
- With such an immense facility, the cost factor is undeniably salient and must be a factor in a decision since there are other options for sites.
- The current plan does not include the Ozone treatment which is exactly the reason PWB gave for needing the plant in the first place. The pipeline has also been reduced to one pipe. Those future costs must be evaluated and questioned .