

Case # T3-2022-16220

1 message

Andrea Culver <culversixpack@gmail.com>
To: LUP-comments@multco.us

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 11:54 AM

**External Sender** - Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links, and Requests for Payment or Login Information.

Response to I.80

MCC 39.7515(A) through (H)

39.7515 APPROVAL CRITERIA

In approving a Community Service use, the approval authority shall find that the proposal meets the following approval criteria, except for transmission towers, which shall meet the approval criteria of MCC 39.7550 through 39.7575, wireless communications facilities, subject to the provisions of MCC 39.7705, and except for regional sanitary landfills, which shall comply with MCC 39.7600 through 39.7625.

(A) Is consistent with the character of the area; and (C) The use will not: (1) Force a significant change in accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm or forest use; nor (2) Significantly increase the cost of accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm or forest use.

Mr. Bruce Prenguber's Response to H.7 Written Testimony of Andrea Culver, Exhibit I.80, page 55-56

I have prepared accepted farm practices for blueberries, beef production, and chicken egg production in the Operations Report. In addition, I was raised on a farm and am familiar with farm practices regarding berry production, dairy milk production, and rabbit production. The Culvers are located on Bluff Road approximately 0.4 miles from the proposed filtration facility site.

Existing vehicle travel along Bluff Road, including the roads passing by the Culver's small farm, have the same noise type and volume as the trucks which will be hauling construction materials. Based on the testimony, the Culver's farm animals are accustomed to the existing traffic-generated noise and apparently are now yielding acceptable amounts of milk, eggs, meat, and any other products. Noise from the construction activity will be more frequent for the temporary construction period, but not louder than existing truck traffic. As noted above, I have been in contact with an Oregon State University Extension specialist concerning the sensitivity to noise of farm animals. Based on that conversation with the specialist, I understand that farm animals adapt to general traffic noise of the type which the construction vehicles produce, which the Culvers' animals are already accustomed to hearing.

Since roaming chickens are not currently an issue, there is no expectation that this will become a problem with additional construction traffic on Bluff Road.

Therefore, there will be no significant change in accepted farm practices and no significant increase in the cost of accepted farm practices for the Culvers.

Response:

In addition, I was raised on a farm and am familiar with farm practices regarding berry production, dairy milk production, and rabbit production.

With all due respect, even though Mr. Prenguber was raised on a farm, that does not mean that he is familiar with the way we choose to manage our farm. There are many different ways of farming. Mr. Prenguber has never spoken with us about our farming practices and values.

Existing vehicle travel along Bluff Road, including the roads passing by the Culver's small farm, have the same noise type and volume as the trucks which will be hauling construction materials. Based on the testimony, the Culver's farm animals are accustomed to the existing traffic-generated noise and apparently are now yielding acceptable amounts of milk, eggs, meat, and any other products. Noise from the construction activity will be more frequent for the temporary construction period, but not louder than existing truck traffic. As noted above, I have been in contact with an Oregon State University Extension specialist concerning the sensitivity to noise of farm animals. Based on that conversation with the specialist, I understand that farm animals adapt to general traffic noise of the type which the construction vehicles produce, which the Culvers' animals are already accustomed to hearing.

Response:

While there may be existing traffic on Bluff Road, it is not continual. There are times of influx, but most of the day is quiet and void of traffic noise and vibrations. I have already submitted two videos demonstrating that fact. (Exhibits E.38.k and E.38.l)

The article '**Short Communication: Contribution of Vibration and Noise During Milking to the Somatic Cell Count of Milk**' in the Science Direct Journal of Dairy Science, Volume 89, Issue 7, July 2006, pages 2499-2502 states that, 'We investigated the hypothesis that somatic cell counts (SCC) in milk are influenced by the vibration and noise experienced by dairy cows during milking.' The article concludes with, 'In a previous study, [Head et al. \(1993\)](#) found no influence of noise on behavioral parameters reflecting well-being or on production (milk yield and milk composition) in dairy cows faced with aircraft noise several times a day independently of milking times. In our study, we found a clear interrelationship between high SCC values and vibration. This seeming difference in comparison with the results of [Head et al. \(1993\)](#) may be due either to the simultaneous exposure to vibration and milking in our study or to the extension of our investigation to structure-borne sonic waves (vibration) in addition to acoustic noise. It may be that the negative effect of vibration on SCC is mediated by reduced oxytocin levels under stressful conditions, leading to a reduced milk yield.'

In an article on [DairyGlobal.net](#), titled '**Effects of Noise on Cattle Performance**', dated November 23, 2017 states that, 'Frequent exposure to noise may affect the secretory activity of the adrenal cortex. In this way, the animal may have little motivation to eat due to the resulting slower passage of digested feed, distension of the foregut, and the delayed entry of digested feed into the small intestines, thereby contributing to a lower-than-expected rate of body weight gain.'

Also, 'Free radicals such as malondialdehyde (MDA), superoxide dismutase (SOD), and glutathione peroxidase (G-Px) are produced during normal metabolism. Under excessive noise, however, the levels of these free radicals may increase to the point where the enzyme antioxidative capacity is insufficient to alleviate their effects. The increased level of such products is an indication of the damage to polyunsaturated fatty acids, which initiate the lipid peroxidation reactions to other metabolic changes that might be toxic to cellular components.'

Lastly, 'With high-intensity noise, the somatic cell count (SCC) increases, indicating a damage to milk-producing tissue in the udder caused either by toxins or loss of epithelial

cells. The increased cell count is also an indicator of the keeping ability of milk, its taste, and how well it can be made into other dairy products such as yogurt or cheese. In extreme cases, i.e. milk with an SCC of more than 400,000 the milk is considered as being unfit for human consumption by the European Union.

As owners of livestock, we strive to provide our animals with the best lives that we can. Exposing them to the unavoidable changes that the proposed filtration plant would bring is not in line with the purposeful choices that we have made in raising livestock and farming in our rural community.