



Public Comment, Case File T3-2026-0007 (11499 NE McLoughlin Pkwy, Cascade Locks)

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As the neighbor directly to the west of the subject property, I have some concerns regarding the proposed cell tower and associated ground disturbance proposed at [11499 NE McLoughlin Pkwy, Cascade Locks](#).

Of primary concern: "Proposed Compound Plan A-2.1" shows that there are an additional three "future lease" areas on the lot, presumably for three more towers to be built. Approval by Multnomah County of the currently proposed tower not only opens the door for additional towers; it seemingly invites them, because county policy favors the expansion of previous or existing utility sites over developing entirely new locations. So, I'm worried that we're not just talking about a single tower, but four.

The current proposal involves the moving of land within a hazard zone, which has seen multiple large debris flows in recent history. This area has further been impacted by burn scars from the Eagle Creek Fire, resulting in a 2020 landslide which killed a neighbor. Developing the remainder of the lot means even more significant associated ground disturbance in a known hazard zone.

In Section 10.1.3 addressing residential noise, the planner has stated that the "only anticipated noise will be from the backup generator." Cell towers (or their supporting equipment) often emit a humming or buzzing sound. Are we taking the word of the applicant that the mechanical or electrical parts won't generate audible sound? What if it does? What is the process for remediation?

Section 10.1.2 (4) addresses fire hazard and fire suppression. Cell tower sites have been known to catch fire from electrical faults, backup batteries and arson. The proposed cell tower site is at an un-manned location, meaning a fire would likely spread to neighboring property before discovery. The area provides limitless sources of fuel and is adjacent to a residential area. Additionally, if a fire were to disable the cell tower, residents would likely be unable to call for help.

Corbett Fire District reviewed and signed off on compliance and flow for this proposal. However, according to Multnomah County's own Community Wildfire Protection Plan, Corbett Fire District does not officially contract to protect the Dodson/ Warrendale area. Rather, the area is referred to as (the) "structurally unprotected area east of Corbett Fire's service area, including the unincorporated communities of Dodson and Warrendale." While we are extremely grateful for instances of Corbett Fire's assistance (most notably during the Eagle Creek Fire), response times from Corbett volunteers are at best 25-30 minutes. There is no public water supply, and firefighters would need to access the property's well-water. Additionally, it is my understanding that power to the tower would need to be cut before water could be applied (involving another agency.) A fire originating from the equipment on a windy day could jeopardize a significant portion of our community and spread to the forest before help even arrived.

I appreciate your consideration of my concerns. If the county approves this proposal, perhaps you can assist our community with some protections and mitigations?

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