

April 12, 2025

Multnomah County Hearings Officer  
1600 SE 190th Ave.  
Portland, OR 97233  
LUP-Hearings@multco.us

Re: Portland Water Bureau Filtration Facility and Pipelines County  
Case File T3-2022-16220 - Remand

Dear Hearings Officer,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the noticeable decline in wildlife sightings in the vicinity of the proposed Portland Water Bureau (PWB) Filtration Facility and associated pipelines. As a resident of this community since 1991, I have had the privilege of observing a rich variety of wildlife, including owls, small mammals, and the majestic bald eagles that are a hallmark of the area. Unfortunately, I have noted a significant reduction in these sightings since late summer 2024, raising serious concerns about the ecological health of East Multnomah County in relation to the operation of the filtration plant.

Over the years, I have enjoyed watching the early morning feeding of elk and deer in the nursery fields and have delighted in the eagles soaring above my home. However, this vibrant wildlife presence has diminished, impacting their migration patterns and feeding areas. The operation of the filtration plant is likely to further exacerbate these disruptions, affecting the local wildlife and their habitats.

Under Multnomah County Code MCC 39.7515(B), provisions are in place to protect and preserve our local wildlife habitats. However, it appears that these measures may not be adequately safeguarding the wildlife that once thrived in our region. The alarming decline in species sightings suggests that their habitats are being adversely affected by the proposed facility, and these detrimental impacts cannot be mitigated.

Wildlife population declines in rural areas are often linked to infrastructure development, which fragments habitats and hinders wildlife migration, mating, and access to essential resources. The recent removal of a hedgerow comprising over 350 trees has devastating consequences for the birds and mammals that depended on this shelter along Dodge Park Blvd., contributing to a broader loss of biodiversity and ecosystem integrity.

Furthermore, the PWB has not conducted a comprehensive inventory of the natural resources in the area, demonstrating a lack of respect for the functioning natural systems that support our community, including streams, wildlife habitats, and valuable

landscape resources. By depleting groundwater, the PWB risks creating shortages for nearby wells and natural springs.

Given the ecological sensitivity of the proposed site, both the location and scale of the PWB filtration facility are inappropriate. The lack of a thorough inventory and the damage inflicted on our natural resources violate MCC 39.7515(B) and the Multnomah County Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 5. Therefore, I respectfully urge that the conditional use permit for the PWB be denied.

Thank you for your attention to these critical matters concerning our local wildlife and environment.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hart  
38200 SE Lusted Rd.  
Boring, OR 97009  
503-467-8733  
sandyjen23@gmail.com



Lisa Estrin <lisa.m.estrin@multco.us>

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## PWB Remand Case File: T3-2022-16220

1 message

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**Jennifer Hart** <sandyjen23@gmail.com>

Sun, Apr 13, 2025 at 8:52 AM

To: LUP-Hearings@multco.us

Cc: Lisa Estrin <lisa.m.estrin@multco.us>

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Multnomah County Planning-

Please add this to the record: PWB- Remand Case File: T3-2022-16220

If there are any problems opening the file please let me know.

Thanks,

Jennifer Hart

[Sandyjen23@gmail.com](mailto:Sandyjen23@gmail.com)



**Wildlife Final PDF.pdf**

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