

April 15, 2025  
Multnomah County Hearings Officer  
1600 SE 190th Ave  
Portland, OR 97233  
LUP-Hearings @multco.us

RE: Portland Water Bureau Filtration Facility and Pipeline  
County Case File T3-2022-16220 – Remand

Dear Hearings Officer,

We are writing in opposition to the Portland Water Bureau's proposed water filtration facility on Carpenter Lane as it pertains to the degradation of natural resources on the proposed site and surrounding community. In June 2023, we submitted a letter for the first hearing (Exhibit E.11). In the letter we expressed concern for our natural resources, stating "Building a filtration facility in our rural residential neighborhood will negatively impact our deer and other wildlife. It will disturb the migration path and rob us of enjoying deer on our property." Our concerns and right to protect the degradation of our communities' natural resources was ignored by the hearings officer but our concerns have proven to be valid.

We live on 5 acres on Dodge Park Blvd, directly down the slope from the proposed filtration facility location. Deer and other animals, to include fox, racoon, coyote, skunks, possums, etc. migrate from Bear creek, through our property, and up the slope to the proposed water filtration facility location on Carpenter Lane on a daily basis. Multiple sets of deer migrate through our property throughout the day. We often have deer resting in the shade along the treed border of our property. We have been purposeful in making our property a haven for wildlife. We have kept our fencing low so it is easily traversable, kept areas of natural grasses and vegetation, and provide high protein food in the winter. This all stopped in the fall of 2024 due to the filtration plant. Our property has complete security video and trail cam video coverage. We have seen a steady decline of all wildlife on our property. We are now going on several months without capturing a single deer on video. While the absence of deer is the most noticeable, we aren't seeing other wildlife either. Wildlife is non-existent. Again, this isn't just what we are seeing when we are outside, our cameras aren't showing any wildlife migration and we have 24/7 video recording.

The Portland Water Bureau and Multnomah County both relied on written testimony from ESA Exhibit J.75 which stated "many wildlife species that use nearby wooded and open areas are anticipated to either habituate to construction activity after an initial period of acclimation or translocate to other nearby wooded and open fields." My property would be

considered another nearby wooded and open field and the deer and other wildlife are gone. Absent. ESA also states that “Wildlife species are expected to continue using the protected habitat areas at the edges of the filtration site as a movement corridor. Again, this expectation is FALSE. The wildlife is gone. ABSENT. In exhibit I.96, ESA identifies the slope from my property to the proposed filtration plant as “ the steep forested slope rising to the west contains areas mapped by Multnomah County as a district of Significant Environmental Concern for wildlife habitat.” The project has decimated the wildlife using this slope to traverse from a water source at Bear Creek to the upper slope location. ESA also states that “Medium or large mammals that may be using the filtration site as a movement corridor are expected to be found along the edge or just within the forest along the hillslope which would provide cover from human activity. The movement corridor on the hillslope and the top of the slope would be maintained.” Again, ESA’s expectations are incorrect. Wildlife has not continued to use neighboring areas. Wildlife has left. As a natural resource, wildlife has been adversely affected. During the brief pause of construction, we have not seen a return. Any continued degradation of the natural resources in the area must be stopped. Permanent damage to the environment is occurring. We would like to remind you of Multnomah County’s Land Use moto that is a prominent portion of the banner on their website “We ensure the preservation and protection of forest lands, farm and nursery production, wildlife, streams, scenic views, and the Columbia River Gorge”. Where are these protections now? This project is permanently degrading precious natural resources that can not be replaced.

Sincerely,  
Scott and Natalie Voruz  
37185 SE Dodge Park Blvd  
Boring, OR 97009



LUP Comments <lup-comments@multco.us>

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## Portland Water Bureau Remand Proceedings File T3-2022-16220

1 message

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**Natalie Voruz** <dogzlyf@msn.com>

Mon, Apr 14, 2025 at 6:14 PM

To: "LUP-comments@multco.us" <LUP-comments@multco.us>



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Please see the attached comments for file T3-2022-16220.



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