April 15, 2025

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

Dear Hearings Officer,

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed construction of a 90-acre Portland Water Bureau (PWB) filtration plant in rural East Multhomah County. My concerns are primarily centered on the detrimental impacts this project would have on the local ecosystem.

The proposed site is situated near critical waterways, including the Wild and Scenic Sandy River, Johnson Creek Headwaters, Beaver Creek, and Bear Creek. These water bodies support a diverse array of wildlife, and it is imperative that we maintain their cleanliness and prevent siltation to protect the habitat and overall health of the ecosystem. I am particularly concerned about the river otters that inhabit these rivers and creeks, as they rely on clean, healthy waters for their survival.

The location of the filtration plant raises significant environmental concerns. Johnson Creek serves as a vital waterway and a crucial habitat for various wildlife species, including river otters, which are a protected species in Oregon. Currently, the PWB is discharging water into Johnson Creek, and several field tile lines are directing runoff into Beaver Creek, located across from the Lusted Road Pipeline intertie. This runoff has resulted in increased silt downstream, clogging culverts and clouding the streams and adjacent ponds. The discharge from the proposed filtration plant could further disrupt the delicate balance of this ecosystem, jeopardizing not only river otters but also countless other species that inhabit the area.

Furthermore, the operations and chemical usage associated with such a large industrial facility in a rural setting would alter the landscape and impact the tranquility and natural beauty of the region. The increased traffic, the transportation of hazardous chemicals, and the resulting noise and light pollution would disturb both wildlife and local residents who value the peace and serenity of their environment.

The long-term consequences of establishing this filtration plant extend beyond immediate environmental impacts. Approving this project would set a concerning precedent for future developments in our rural areas, prioritizing industrial expansion over environmental stewardship and community well-being. It is essential that we consider the legacy we leave for future generations and the importance of preserving our natural resources.

In conclusion, I urge the Hearings Officer to deny the application for a conditional use permit for the PWB filtration plant. There are alternative sites available for this facility

that would not pose a threat to our local ecosystems. Protecting our environment, particularly the habitats of vulnerable species such as river otters, must be our priority. The County has established codes, including MCC 397515(B), and a Comprehensive Plan for good reason. Let us collaborate to identify alternative solutions that safeguard our natural ecosystems while still providing necessary water services.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely, Jennifer Hart Black Gold Springs, LLC 38200 SE Lusted Rd Boring, OR 97009 Sandyjen23@gmail.com











LUP Hearings < lup-hearings@multco.us>

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

1 message

Jennifer Hart <sandyjen23@gmail.com> To: LUP-Hearings@multco.us Tue, Apr 15, 2025 at 11:31 AM

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Multnomah County-

Can you please add this testimony and pictures to the record Remand - Case File: T3-2022-16220

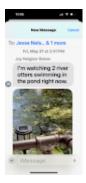
May 31, 2024

Facebook -Feb 19, 2025

Thanks,

Jennifer Hart Black Gold Springs, LLC 38200 SE Lusted Rd. Boring, OR 97009 Sandyjen23@msn.com

## 5 attachments



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