

LUP Hearings < lup-hearings@multco.us>

Comments on water filtration facility on farmland

From: **Amy Houchen** <ahouchen@comcast.net> Date: Thu, Apr 17, 2025 at 8:21 PM Subject: Comments on water filtration facility on farmland To: Hearings Officer <LUP-hearings@multco.us>

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Dear Hearings Officer,

Dear Multnomah County,

Do not allow the proposed water filtration facility to be completed on farmland east of Gresham. I'm a Portland and Multnomah County resident who believes that we should put urban services on urban land, within the UGB, not on farmland where it will negatively affect agriculture and forestry.

Continued work and ultimate operation of this facility as scoped would cause irreparable harm to nearly 95 acres of agricultural natural resources, and LUBA has determined that the county failed to consider how the building process would affect these. Multhomah County staff themselves have said these natural resources include "functioning natural systems, … agricultural resources, and forests." The area is rich with some of the world's best soils, which are a limited resource we should not permanently remove when better options are available.

This LUBA decision remanding a portion of the conditional land-use permit provides our community an opportunity to set right this misplaced facility. Now is our chance to make a better choice. I urge Multnomah County to vote to hit reset – let's instead move forward with a work session to update the project's scope and budget to determine the best solution for our entire Multnomah County community.

Thank you for considering my comments and allowing this opportunity for public input.

Sincerely, Amy Houchen 2419 SW Richardson St. Portland, OR 97239

Exhibit S.3