

## **Character of the Area**

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**1. Please describe the “character of the area” of where you live, and what do you like about it?**

We chose to move our family out of town 17 years ago. It's a rural environment, quiet and peaceful. We hear birds and frogs during all hours of the day. There are wild quail that run up and down the roads and lanes. Deer freely roam the fields between one neighbor and the other.

The nights are dark. I purchased a telescope several years ago to be able to look at the stars. I can see Jupiter and some of the moons, Saturn, you can actually see the rings! My grandkids, who live in the city, come out to spend time with Grammy and Granpy to look at the stars at night. They can't get that in the city. At night, it's so quiet it makes my ears hurt, and you can hear the Sandy River running over the hill. Yes, you really can! I couldn't believe how cool it was when I first figured out what I was listening too. It's so peaceful. Of course, until the owls start their dualing hoot calls back in the trees. We have eagles and hawks doing fly bys routinely, keeping an eye on my chickens. One of my passions is gardening. I have very large gardens, vegetable and flowers and take great pride in how beautiful and green they are. Our orchard and veggie garden is all organic along with our blueberry field. Construction up the hill will create an endless amount of dust that will settle down on everything. Who knows what will be in all that dust with construction smells polluting the air. And not just the flowers, but roofs, vehicles, fruit trees, equipment and livestock. We will never get any of that back, never. It will be gone from our neighborhood forever.

In addition to all of this, we live “downhill” from the proposed plant. Any release of gases or materials will head downhill and settle in our area below Dodge Park Rd. The fire department has already stated that they don't have the capacity to handle emergencies of this nature which will leave ourselves and our neighbors, who are mostly aged, vulnerable to the effects of whatever is released. Having this manufacturing water plant in our neighborhood will forever change our area. We already experience water bureau trucks speeding by our driveway in the mornings on Lusted. With the plant we'll have them on Dodge Park too. Nights won't be dark anymore. There will always be that glow up the hill and the humming noise that will emanate 24/7.

**2. How would the proposed water filtration facility be inconsistent with what you described in #4?**

No longer would we be a rural location, with a water manufacturing plant up the street from us. No matter what PWB says there will be noise and light pollution. Traffic, construction trucks will see an endless parade up and down our road, dirt, mud and whatever would fall off the trucks is going to create road hazards for vehicles also traveling to and from home, as well as any walkers, of which there are many. Multnomah County DOES NOT maintain the roads now, just drive up Dodge Park to see for yourself and potholes are everywhere.

But the real question is WHO IS GOING TO HAVE TO DIE ON THE ROADS BEFORE THIS ISSUE IS TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY. The guy who walks his collies up and down the road? The kids on their bikes? The couple who stop to pick blackberries or the lady who jogs up and down the road. There are no shoulders and construction trucks flying up and down the road will blow people off the sides. Oh, and I know you'll say, "Oh, they'll follow the speed limit." Do you really believe that, on a Friday afternoon when everyone's headed out for the weekend???

Well I could go on, but I think you get the idea. This is a rural farming area, quiet, peaceful and we are blessed to live where we do. This proposed facility has no business in a farming community.