LUP Comments <lup-comments@multco.us>

# Comment from: PWB Treatment Plant - 141350

1 message

**Webform via Multnomah County** <webmaster@multco.us> Tue, May 2, 2023 at 9:02 PM
Reply-To: Webform <webmaster@multco.us>
To: LUP-Comments@multco.us

Submitted on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 - 9:02pm

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Testimony:
May 2, 2023

Multnomah County Land Use Planning Division
Regarding the Portland Water Bureau (PWB) Treatment Plant (T3-2022-16220)

We are writing to express our support of the April 2023 resolutions submitted by the Pleasant Home Community Association and Cottrell Community Planning Organization to oppose the proposed PWB filtration project at SE Carpenter Lane in Multnomah County. Further to these resolutions, we offer the following additional statements in opposition to the location of PWB's industrial water treatment plant:

• For the past 43 years, our family has lived on SE Bluff Road, Clackamas County, and can be traced back over five generations. This rural area, interspersed with family homes and farms, provides a welcome tranquility that is likely to be shattered by pre and post heavy equipment traffic on our country roads resulting in the building of a large industrial complex such as the proposed PWB treatment plant. These roads, often in poor condition for residents, are certainly not designed to accommodate the movement of continuous heavy traffic, congestion, and movement of hazardous materials. If the proposed PWB filtration project is approved it will jeopardize the safety and security of residents, including children, which should be sharply evident with the PWB proposal to adjoin an access road between the facility and SE Bluff Road next to the Oregon Trail Academy (grades K-8). Furthermore, SE Bluff Road is used year-round by walkers, joggers (e.g., Hood to Coast Relay), and bikers who enjoy the scenic and less traveled country roadway between the City of Gresham and City of Sandy. Subsequently, the safety impact of the proposed filtration plant should concern both local and regional residents who live, work, and travers our county roadways.

• Johnson Creek, which has its headwaters about a mile up the road from our residence and traverses our property, functions as a wildlife corridor for the passage of a variety of species that we have enjoyed observing over the years. The abundant wildlife along the creek that we have observed has included to name a few: pileated and red-headed woodpeckers, hawks, pigeons, swifts, hummingbirds, geese, great blue heron, snowy egret, bald eagle, bats, and mallard and merganser ducks, coyotes, and deer. Within the creek, we have observed salamanders, freshwater mussels, crayfish, and small trout. Last year, we observed a river otter that made its way up Johnson Creek. There are probably many other species of wildlife that we have not observed and proposing to develop an industrial size plant so close to the Johnson Creek Watershed is a concern. That said, without a comprehensive environmental study focused on protecting Johnson Creek and the surrounding watershed should be cause enough to re-evaluate the location of the proposed PWB treatment plant.

• In Clackamas County, property zoning along SE Bluff Road is primarily designated either Rural Residential Farm Forest 5-Acre (RRFF-5) or Exclusive Farm Use (EFU). This is similar to property zoning in Multnomah County on and around the proposed PWB filtration site. The current zoning is not conducive to an industrial site such as the proposed PWB filtration plant and this ill-conceived location has been clearly articulated in the Multnomah County Rural Fire Protection District Resolution R-3-2022. Furthermore, no additional information has been provided to address the impact to residents of Clackamas County concerning public safety/emergency response support expectations, traffic analysis and road maintenance remediation due to construction and sustainment of heavy traffic, and surety to residents should a hazmat condition exist because of the proposed filtration plant operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in opposition of the proposed PWB filtration plant.

Andy Gale (33159 SE Bluff Rd..)
Sam Bacon (33067 SE Bluff Rd.)