

Subject: Support for Application CU 25-169 – NW Natural Mist Gas Storage Project

To: Columbia County Board of Commissioners

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of CalPortland, I am writing to express our support for Northwest Natural's application (CU 25-169) seeking approval of a conditional use permit for the expansion of its Mist Gas Storage Fields.

This project represents an important investment in regional energy reliability and economic development. Expanding natural gas storage capacity will help ensure that homes and businesses across the region continue to receive dependable and affordable energy, particularly during periods of peak demand.

The project will also deliver meaningful local economic benefits. Construction and operation are expected to create family-wage jobs, support local contractors and suppliers, and generate additional tax revenue for Columbia County. As a regional supplier of aggregate materials, CalPortland recognizes the direct positive impact this project will have on local industry and workforce stability.

We believe this is a well-planned project that aligns with the County's economic priorities while supporting essential energy infrastructure. For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Board of County Commissioners to approve Application CU 25-169.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Hostettler



Vice President/General Manager

Glacier Northwest dba CalPortland