



3 June 2026

Columbia County Board of Commissioners
Columbia County Courthouse
230 Strand Street
St. Helens, Oregon 97051

RE: Support for the NW Natural MX3 Mist Storage Expansion Project

Dear Chair and Members of the Board,

My name is Ian Wynn. I am an I&E Project Manager and industrial electrician at JH Kelly with 15 years of industry experience, the last 6 of which have been with JH Kelly and have included work at Northwest Natural's Mist and Miller facilities. Before joining JH Kelly, my work took me through oil and gas facilities across Texas, Wyoming, Oklahoma, Colorado, and numerous other states, spanning greenfield and brownfield compressor station projects, natural gas transmission systems, and MAOP pipeline work. I bring that background to my current role at JH Kelly, where I most recently served as project manager on the GC700 and GC800 capital projects at the Mist facility, the two most recent in a sustained string of capital projects at the site. I have also been involved in multiple other capital projects at both Mist and Miller Station and have developed a detailed working knowledge of this facility and what Northwest Natural expects from its contractors.

I would note that the Mist facility operates at a level of construction and operational safety that stands apart from anything else I encountered in my years working across the oil and gas industry. The standards here are elevated well above what I observed at comparable facilities in Texas, Wyoming, Oklahoma, and elsewhere. Northwest Natural has built a safety and operational culture at Mist that reflects genuine commitment, and it is a meaningful part of what makes this facility a place where craft professionals want to work and continue to work.

What I would also add that from a local perspective, the quality of employment this project represents is excellent. The trades working MX3 are skilled professionals earning family-wage pay. That payroll flows into the local economy through housing, meals, and everyday spending. I have worked in enough communities to know the difference between a project workforce that is passing through and one that is genuinely connected to where it is working. JH Kelly's approach at Mist has always leaned toward the latter, and MX3 will be no different.

I respectfully support approval of the conditional use permit and thank the Board for its consideration.

Sincerely,

Ian Wynn
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