Outlook

Testimony: Port of Columbia County Rezone

From Alice Wang <moonstar123@everyactioncustom.com>
Date Fri 10/30/2026 11:17 AM
To Jacyn Normine <Jacyn.Normine@columbiacountyor.gov>

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Dear Board Office Administrator Jacyn Normine,

I oppose the Port of Columbia County's effort to rezone 837 acres of high-value farmland at Port Westward, in the heart of the Columbia River Estuary.

The Port's plans conflict with Oregon's land use laws that protect farmland. Major industrial uses like liquid fuel production and storage are high risk for the Columbia River Estuary, neighboring wetlands, and family farms at Port Westward:

The Port's rezone of petroleum refineries, coal export facilities, ammonium nitrate fertilizer plants, explosive weapons storage facilities, wood pellet plants, and liquid tank farms greatly impacts county's prime agricultural lands adjacent Columbia River.
- locals express concerns health, safety, and impacts to farmland and water quality.
- locals seek to protect high-value farmland & follow Oregon's land use process
- proposal missing effects to surrounding farms, livelihoods and culmulative impacts to County's thriving agricultural economy
- The Port's desire to industrialize wetlands would create pollution downstream, impacting Columbia River Estuary and sensitive water resources.
- communities have greatly invested restoration of critical salmon habitat the rezone affects
- liquid bulk fuel & other hazardous industrial uses could greatly undermine salmon restoration
- request for Port consider diverse sustainable adaptive technologies outside of fossil fuels which protect County's job creation, workers, & sustainable, long term market benefits

For these reasons I urge the Port and the Columbia County Board of Commissioners to reject this attempt to rezone this land. Thank you for your time & considerations.

Sincerely,
Alice Wang

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