

FW: Citizen Comment opposing NEXT diesel facility at Port Westward

Deborah Jacob <Deborah.Jacob@columbiacountyor.gov>

Fri 1/21/2022 8:48 AM

To: jeanmavery@gmail.com <jeanmavery@gmail.com>; Jacyn Normine <Jacyn.Normine@columbiacountyor.gov>; Jesse Winterowd (jesse@winterbrookplanning.com) <jesse@winterbrookplanning.com>; Robin McIntyre <Robin.McIntyre@columbiacountyor.gov>; Robert Wheeldon <Robert.Wheeldon@columbiacountyor.gov>



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Effective January 2022 Land Development Services office has moved to a new location at 445 Port Avenue, St. Helens.

From: Jean M. Avery <jeanmavery@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 7:52 AM
To: Deborah Jacob <Deborah.Jacob@columbiacountyor.gov>
Subject: Citizen Comment opposing NEXT diesel facility at Port Westward

To Columbia County Commissioners:

After listening to the January 19 hearing, I have an additional comment. I am concerned that the following were found not significant:

- Section 1185 - Natural Area Overlay
- Section 1120 - Sensitive Bird Habitat

This area near Clatskanie is close to two wildlife refuges, where bird habitat would be adversely impacted:

- Lewis & Clark National Wildlife Refuge (OR)
- Julia Butler Hansen National Wildlife Refuge (WA) -- a worldwide-designated Important Bird Area, "essential to healthy, long-term bird populations."

Apparently there was no outreach to the Audubon Society to determine "sensitive bird habitat." I recently was on Puget Island for a bird-watching trip. This area is wonderfully natural--almost magical.

Also of concern is the increased vessel traffic to and from the Port. Per Jesse W.'s presentation, the staff report does not address spill containment. Any spills on the Columbia River would adversely impact waterbirds and shorebirds.

Please preserve this natural area. Please deny the permits for NEXT's renewable diesel facility.

Thank you,
Jean M. Avery
Vancouver, WA