

FW: NWP-2020-383 NEXT application

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Wed 1/26/2022 4:28 PM

To: Jacyn Normine <Jacyn.Normine@columbiacountyor.gov>

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From: Gary Wallace <gbwallace1209@outlook.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 3:54 PM

To: ePermits - Planning <planning@columbiacountyor.gov>

Subject: NWP-2020-383 NEXT application

To the Columbia County Commissioners :

As an interested party, I have several concerns regarding this application and the associated process taken by yourselves.

It is my observation that, due to your actions, you have violated both Columbia County codes---referring to CCZO 1503(3), 1503(5) and CCZO 1558 and ORS 547.305-310 which authorizes, at the state level, the district to have the final say of acceptance or denial of any proposed usages within its defined district.

The Beaver Drainage Improvement Company, Inc. has already submitted their letter of objection. You apparently have knowingly chosen to disregard their state authorization of their dominant position.

Based upon these failures and the failure to open the application process with a well communicated public hearing, you have failed to follow SOP.

Such actions and disregard must invalidate this entire application. You cannot operate by violating your own rules and requirements. If you do choose to continue, you will force this into court. You have personal liability for violation of your offices duties and responsibilities. The public is not served well when their elected individuals fail to perform properly and take actions contrary to the public's right to know and the general public's involvement as ultimate authority for your legitimacy. As County Commissioners, you have no right or authority to usurp, bypass, ignore or in any fashion disregard and/or fail to heed the aforementioned Drainage Company's position.

This project should be halted and reconsidered following the required procedures and given adequate time for consideration by the public; with honest information provided and questions answered by the Applicants known as NEXT.

I have listed—briefly—a list of other concerns.

- 1) Rail safety; upgrading all RR crossings
- 2) Emergency Services for communities as well as site
- 3) True economic impacts on towns, communities and small agricultural business
- 4) Increased heavy truck traffic on Hwy. 30 (already known as a "deadly highway") and safety
- 5) The risk of liquefaction at the site---due to a bottomless bog, as I understand the geology of this site
- 6) The unsavory business history of the individuals on staff of NEXT (Othello, WA.)
- 7) The lack of need for water access; several like refineries successfully operate without it
- 8) The TRUE carbon footprint---from the beginning of the fuel stocks, through transportation of all types, and ending with the end usages. The impacts extend beyond your county and have measurable impacts on communities throughout the Lower Columbia River region and the coast towns.

You have not met your due diligence and allowed public input and questions.

The application should not be granted and has multiple objections from your local constituents and the Drainage Company.

Gary Wallace
Kalama, WA.

Lifelong Citizen of the Lower Columbia River

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