



Dear Chair Heimuller and Comissioners,

I appreciate the chance to comment on File #CU-21-04/DR 21-03 & V-21-05 & ask for this statement to be included in the record.

1. I object to the County's decision to skip the Planning Commission hearing on the Applications and believe it is a violation of our rights and request to appeal the decision.
2. I also do not feel that Columbia County is in need of jobs due to the many positions county wide that remain unfilled.
3. I am also concerned that the community was not given a chance to speak our concerns that fall outside the application criteria. Where in this process was my concern about NEXT Renewable Inc. management history allowed to be addressed? My concerns about the wetlands mitigation site were only considered when the proposal was 10-15% complete during DEQ public comment.
4. I am also concerned about the proposed "branchline" not meeting the criteria for a branchline under OAR 660-012-0065(3)(j). Next Renewable Fuels Inc. lease with the Port of Columbia County states water dependency. I do not believe this is any longer the case.
5. I also encourage a "farm impacts test" ORS 215.296. The applicant fails to adequately address the agricultural impacts of their project.
6. This project is a massive risk, located on a critical bend of the Columbia river, the county should not take on the liability of such a dangerous project.
7. I also do not feel this project aligns with the mission, values, and vision of Columbia County. The quotes below are taken from the Columbia county Board of Commissioners Mission Statement:
".....We innovate with resourcefulness to promote a healthy and prosperous Columbia County."

Our Vision:

".....We envision a peaceful community in which our residents are safe, healthy, and secure."

".....We will engage the public in decision-making, and our community can expect that their contributions will guide decisions."

".....We envision a vibrant economy that supports a high quality of life for present and future generations".

Our Values:

Accountability

"We believe that safeguarding public assets is paramount, and hold ourselves accountable for the public resources entrusted in our care. We take our obligation to account for our activities, policies, decisions, and spending seriously. We are answerable to our stakeholders for our actions and results."

Livability

“.....We also act with the utmost care for our natural, historic, and aesthetic resources, and work to preserve and enhance them within our rural character for future generations.”

It is clear through skipping over the planning commission, destroying wetlands, allowing a railspur on prime agriculture land, and forever changing the character of our rural landscape at Port Westward, the Columbia County Board of Commissioners would NOT be following their mission statement by approving this project.

8. I second 1000 Friends of Oregon and Columbia River Keepers in saying the applicant fails to meet these criteria (see their comments for a detailed description of why the application does not satisfy the criteria listed below):
 - a. CCZO 1175(A) and (B): Permitted Uses in Riparian Corridors
 - b. CCZO 1184(E): Permitted Uses in Wetlands
 - c. CCZO 306(9): Transportation Improvements Under OAR 660-012-0065 as Conditional Uses
 - d. CCZO 1503(5XC): Suitability of Site for Proposed Use
 - e. CCZO 681(4): Proposed Use Must Complement Surrounding Area
 - f. CCZO 307(1XA): Use Must Not Force Changes in Accepted Farm or Forest Practices
 - g. CCZO 1503(5XE): Use Must Not Limit Use of Surrounding Properties

Sincerely,

Jasmine Lillich