



FW: Earthquakes and the NEXT Permit

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Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 4:23 PM

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

Subject: Earthquakes and the NEXT Permit

Commissioners:

The land that the proposed NEXT plant would be on is very susceptible to earthquakes and would not be a good place for a million gallon methanol tank, as requested in the planning documents.

The maps at: https://www.oregongeology.org/pubs/ofr/O-20-01/plates/O-20-01_platesOnly.pdf from the Washington State Department of Geology show how bad the area is.

The map for an 6.8 earthquake shows:

Perceived Shaking and Damage Potential Simulated Portland Hills Fault Magnitude 6.8 Earthquake

Perceived Shaking and Damage Potential Simulated Portland Hills Fault Magnitude 6.8 Earthquake Appendix D: Plate 6 Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale Damage Potential Perceived Shaking IV V VI VII VIII IX Light None Moderate Very light Strong Light Very Strong Moderate Severe Moderate/ Heavy Violent Heavy This map is intended to provide nontechnical users with an estimate of the geographic distribution of building damage. The damage categories are taken from the Modified Mercalli Intensity scale, which is based on observed effects on people, objects, and buildings. The damage potential categories are derived from the peak ground velocity developed for this project. The peak ground velocity breakpoints are established by Wald and others (2006). Further information is available at <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/topics/mercalli.php>

The perceived shaking is a class VII with a value of very strong and a damage potential of moderate.

The map for a 9.0 earthquake shows:

Perceived Shaking and Damage Potential Simulated Cascadia Subduction Zone Magnitude 9.0 Earthquake

Appendix D: Plate 5 Source Data: Hydrography: National Hydrography Dataset, 2018 Modified Mercalli Intensity for Washington and Multnomah Counties: Bauer and others, 2018 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic, EPSG 2913. Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale Damage Potential Perceived Shaking IV V VI VII VIII IX Light None Moderate Very light Strong Light Very Strong Moderate Severe Moderate/ Heavy Violent Heavy This map is intended to provide nontechnical

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The perceived shaking is a class IX with a value of violent and a damage potential of heavy.

These maps show that an earthquake of even lower magnitude would be dangerous. Moderate damage could easily destroy a methanol tank and rupture berms around the tank so methanol would leak into the surrounding blueberry fields, destroying them.

How much insurance does NEXT plan to carry?

Please deny this permit.

Thank You.

Thomas Gordon

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