Cascadia Geoservices, Inc.

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March 19, 2025

State Senator David Brock Smith 900 Court Street, NE, S-316 Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Senate Bill 1047

Dear Senator Smith,

My name is Eric Oberbeck, and I am an Oregon Registered Geologist and Certified Engineering Geologist. Sas you know, I have lived in Northern Curry County for 35 years. In 2013, as part of the permitting process for the proposed golf course, I conducted a geologic site evaluation of the property. I fully support this project, including the plan to irrigate with onsite well water. Below are the key points that, in my view, underscore why this project deserves our support.

1. Economic Benefits for the Area

Looking to Bandon Dunes Golf Resort—less than 30 miles north—as an example, it's clear that a golf destination can generate significant financial benefits for the entire region. With a boost to tourism, Port Orford and surrounding communities will benefit from increased revenue, a fact also recognized in past economic studies by state and local agencies.

2. Opportunities for Our Youth

As a former president of the Rotary Club of Port Orford and a parent of two children who grew up here, I'm keenly aware of the limited employment and recreational opportunities available to local young people. A new golf course provides both, offering jobs and engaging activities that can help keep youth active and invested in their community.

3. An Excellent Use of the Land

In my opinion, golf course maintenance is analogous to farming. Instead of growing grass for livestock, you're growing it for golfers—yet the underlying principles of land care are much the same. This approach allows people to experience a world-class coastal setting in a safe, controlled environment, without causing significant harm or alteration to the site.

4. Responsible Irrigation Using On-Site Aquifers

Drawing irrigation water from the property's aquifers is both practical and efficient. Unlike treated wastewater, well water avoids introducing foreign chemicals or biological contaminants, and it also removes any risk associated with transporting effluent. According to a recent hydrologic study by Alpine Environmental Consultants, the targeted water table is confined. There will be no impact or drawdown of nearby wetlands or water wells, and the hydraulic gradient flows west toward the Pacific Ocean.

I know and have worked with the owner and developer, Mr. Jim Haley, who has been tireless in his efforts to bring this project to fruition. He has become an integral member of our community, and I believe he will continue to support Port Orford as his vision is realized.

For these reasons, I strongly urge a "Yes" vote on Senate Bill 1047

Sincerely,

Cascadia Geoservices, Inc.

Fric Oberbeck

Eric Oberbeck, RG/CEG Expires July 2025