



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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To Whom It May Concern,

As a Union County Commissioner, I am writing to express my strong support for the Blue Mountain Translator District's (BMTD) capital construction funding request to replace the electrical service to the Mt. Fanny radio site in Union County.

Mt. Fanny is a critical communications site that supports public safety, emergency response, and broadcast infrastructure serving Union County and the surrounding region. The existing electrical service, which is owned by BMTD, is aging and at risk of failure if not replaced in the near future. Failure of this service would pose significant risks to the continuity and reliability of emergency communications relied upon by public safety agencies such as, OSP and ODOT.

Union County is continually evaluating improvements to its public safety radio system to address coverage gaps and ensure reliable communications for first responders. Mt. Fanny represents a key location for these efforts due to its superior areal coverage. Reliable commercial electrical service at this site is essential to support current and future public safety communications infrastructure.

In addition, Mt. Fanny hosts critical broadcast infrastructure for Oregon Public Broadcasting and other commercial radio stations that play a vital role in the dissemination of emergency alerts and public information. These services are essential to public safety and equity, particularly in rural areas, and depend on uninterrupted electrical power to function reliably during emergencies.

This project also represents a responsible long-term investment. The local electrical cooperative (OTEC) has indicated a willingness to assume maintenance responsibilities for the electrical line once it is reconstructed to current industry standards, reducing future operational costs and limiting the need for ongoing public funding.

For these reasons, I strongly encourage your support of BMTD's capital construction request. This project will enhance the reliability of emergency communications, support critical broadcast services, and strengthen public safety for the residents of Union County.

Sincerely,

R. Matthew Scarfo
Union County Commissioner