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Ms. Laura Hartt  
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**CHRISTINE GOODWIN**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 4



**OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

June 11, 2024

Ms. Laura Hartt  
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Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
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Via Email: [laura.a.hartt@water.oregon.gov](mailto:laura.a.hartt@water.oregon.gov)

Dear Ms. Hartt,

I submit the following testimony in response to the Groundwater Allocation Rulemaking that was discussed at public hearings across Oregon this past April and May.

As the rules are currently written, they will make it nearly impossible for new agriculture users and other commercial users to obtain Water Rights permits. Clearly this will damage individual businesses' economic future and it will "fail up" causing widespread problems all over Oregon.

The scientific methods used to determine "the potential for substantial interference" with surface water sources appears to be woefully inadequate. Additionally, the one-size-fits-all approach that appears in the new rules does not take into account Oregon's diverse basins.

I am recommending that this rulemaking process be suspended until more accurate scientific methods can be developed for identifying the potential for interference with surface water sources.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Representative Christine Goodwin, HD4

**Received**

**JUN 18 2024**

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