Tally Ho Farms PTSP PO Box 830, Merrill OR 97633 Ph (541) 723-2600/fax (541)723-2606



February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Re: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Tricia Hill and I am a fourth generation farmer and landowner in the Klamath Basin. As an active member of the Klamath Water Users Association (KWUA) I am writing today to express my opposition to House Bill 4064.

After receiving my degree in Environmental Law and passing the Oregon Bar, I returned home to the Klamath Basin to ensure the legacy of my family's years of farming were protected and nourished to provide a life for my children and their children to come. I have spent many hours away from my family working with the members of the KWUA to solidify this reality as we put our efforts towards preserving, protecting and defending the water and power rights of landowners in the Klamath Basin. House Bill 4064 and its unachievable scientific burden will undo the water right regulation submitted in 2013 by the Oregon Water Resource Department in its Findings of Fact and Order of Determination for the Klamath Adjudication. Not only will this legislature have wasted my time, but thousands of man hours and millions of dollars invested by the State of Oregon.

The legislation proposed in House Bill 4064 will be costly for the department to satisfy a "call" for water. It will turn the prior appropriations doctrine and Western Water Law upside down. Irrigators with junior water rights upstream would be allowed to irrigate while harm will be done downstream to senior water right holders. After years of collaboration and debate to provide fair and achievable process to a complicated region of water rights and stakeholders, we would see devastation to our community and its future.

I urge you to oppose House Bill 4064 and protect the future of the Klamath Basin.

Sincerely,

Tricia Hill Partner



800-683-0546 * P.O. Box 830 Merrill, OR 97633 * 30203 Micka Rd Malin, OR 97632 * www.golddustfarms.com

February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Bill Walker and I have been a farmer in the Klamath Basin since 1975, and am a current senior water rights holder in the Bureau of Reclamation's Klamath Project. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

HB 4064 could have devastating and lasting financial and economic impacts on the entire state. The processes that this bill is proposing to overrule are the result of over 30 years of work between the State of Oregon, the United States and a multitude of other stakeholders. Such an extended period of time and effort means that a considerable investment was made for the current system. As an Oregon taxpayer, knowing that 18 elected representatives intend to walk away from such a huge investment of tax dollars is, simply, appalling and inexcusable. It also does not appear that the supporters of this bill, or even the sponsors themselves, are willing to accept that this legislation would require a considerable budget increase for the Oregon Water Resources Department for implementation of the bill. I fail to understand how any of this supports the economic integrity of the state of Oregon, or even the platforms upon which these elected officials were sworn into office.

The sponsors of HB 4064 have also failed to provide any proof that their proposed processes will be successful. In my opinion, presenting legislation that rescinds established rights and reallocates to others appears to be an irresponsible and knee-jerk reaction by elected officials who would rather be seen doing something rather than the right thing. The current adjudication process has been in place for over 100 years, and the bill's sponsors have yet to address how or why they believe the process isn't working in the big picture for the majority of those affected. I believe that this legislation is completely unnecessary and will result in expensive, time-consuming and, frankly, impossible loopholes for the Oregon Water Resources Department to navigate in order to fulfill future calls for water.

In conclusion, it is my opinion that this bill will accomplish nothing but a waste of taxpayer dollars through wasted time, increased department budgets, and the loss of landholder revenue.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

BA Wollen

Bill Walker President



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is John Walker and I have been a farmer in the Klamath Basin since 1975, and am a current senior water rights holder in the Bureau of Reclamation's Klamath Project. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

The sponsors of HB 4064 have failed to address how they believe the existing and long-established processes and standards are not working. The current adjudication is over 100 years old, and the Order of Determination is the result of over 30 years of cooperation and negotiations between the State of Oregon, the United States, and numerous other water rights stakeholders. There are too many questions left unanswered by this bill as to the effectiveness its proposed processes, and there has yet to be any evidence presented demonstrating similar legislation in other parts of the country that have proven successful. As an affected senior water rights holder, I object to being treated as one of many guinea pigs in a poorly planned experiment carried out by politicians who are seemingly disregarding the opinions of those who matter in this situation.

From a financial reasoning, restricting the water rights for downstream users could have a devastating economic and fiscal impact for not only the Klamath Basin but also for the State of Oregon. In terms of fiscal policy, the State of Oregon has invested millions of dollar in the adjudication process, and this legislation would result in a devastating loss that would likely be perceived in public opinion as preventable. In addition, this legislation would require a considerable budget increase which would come in direct conflict with the department budget cuts that have been called for by the very same individuals who support this bill. In terms of economic impact, this bill could result in revenue losses for innumerable farmers, which would obviously directly impact all aspects of the state's economy.

HB 4064 is a bill that may have begun as a well-intentioned effort to help the farmers of the Basin. Unfortunately, it appears the bill has spiraled into something that will not only fail to solve any of the current water issues, but will likely lead to further conflicts that could be avoidable if we act now.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

John R. Walker Vice President



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Necia Phillips and I am the HR and Safety Manager for Gold Dust Potato Processors, Inc. and J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

If HB 4064 passes, I too will be forced to face the possibility of unemployment, which is something I had hoped to never have to do when I made the decision to live and work in the Klamath Basin. Maintaining the established water right priorities is essential for the economic livelihood of not only my household, but also those of anyone with even the slightest affiliation to an agricultural or food production operation in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Necia Phillips

HR and Safety Manager



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Rich Wright and I am the logistics manager for Gold Dust Potato Processors, Inc. and J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

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Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Rich Wright Logistics Manager



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Trish Briones and I am an accounting technician for Gold Dust Potato Processors, Inc. and J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

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Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Trish Briones



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Sarah Mendez and I am an accounting technician for Gold Dust Potato Processors, Inc. and J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

If HB 4064 passes, I too will be forced to face the possibility of unemployment, which is something I had hoped to never have to do when I made the decision to raise my family in the Klamath Basin. Maintaining the established water right priorities is essential for the economic livelihood of not only my household, but also those of anyone with even the slightest affiliation to an agricultural or food production operation in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Sarah Mendez



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Derin Jones and I am a shed and farm supervisor for J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

If HB 4064 passes, I too will be forced to face the possibility of unemployment, which is something I had hoped to never have to do when I made the decision raise my family in the Klamath Basin. Maintaining the established water right priorities is essential for the economic livelihood of not only my household, but also those of anyone with even the slightest affiliation to an agricultural or food production operation in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Derin Jones Supervisor



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Lexi Crawford and I am the business manager for Gold Dust Potato Processors, Inc. and J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

If HB 4064 passes, I too will be forced to face the possibility of unemployment, which is something I had hoped to never have to do when I made the decision to return to the Klamath Basin after college and start my family. Maintaining the established water right priorities is essential for the economic livelihood of not only my household, but also those of anyone with even the slightest affiliation to an agricultural or food production operation in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Lexi Crawford Business Manager

-i Crawford



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Colorado Marciel and I am an equipment operator for J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

If HB 4064 passes, I too will be forced to face the possibility of unemployment, which is something I had hoped to never have to do when I made the decision raise my family in the Klamath Basin. Maintaining the established water right priorities is essential for the economic livelihood of not only my household, but also those of anyone with even the slightest affiliation to an agricultural or food production operation in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Colorado Marciel



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Angel Narvaez and I am a mechanic for J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

If HB 4064 passes, I too will be forced to face the possibility of unemployment, which is something I had hoped to never have to do when I made the decision return to work in the Klamath Basin. Maintaining the established water right priorities is essential for the economic livelihood of not only my household, but also those of anyone with even the slightest affiliation to an agricultural or food production operation in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Angel Narvaez

ANGEL - NARVATE



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Bart Crawford and I am the farm manager for J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

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Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Bart Crawford

Farm Manager



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Salvador Vera Valenzuela and I am the shed and farm manager for J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

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Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully AWADON VERA V.

Salvador Vera Valenzuela Shed and Farm Manager



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Matthew Thompson and I am the plant manager for Gold Dust Potato Processors, Inc. and J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

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Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Matthew Thompson

Plant Manager



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

House Bill 4064 RE:

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Mark Smith and I am a tractor mechanic for J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

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Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064. Respectfully, Mark In Smith

Mark Smith



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Don Sconce and I am a mechanic for J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

If HB 4064 passes, I too will be forced to face the possibility of unemployment, which is something I had hoped to never have to do when I made the decision return to live and work in the Klamath Basin. Maintaining the established water right priorities is essential for the economic livelihood of not only my household, but also those of anyone with even the slightest affiliation to an agricultural or food production operation in the State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Don Sconce Mechanic



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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

RE: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Toby Turner and I am an operator and supervisor for J&W Walker Farms, Inc. The intent of this letter is to voice my opposition to HB 4064 and to present my opinion regarding the matter.

It is my opinion that the bill could have devastating impacts on Oregon's entire economy. Fewer fields will be able to be planted and harvested, which would result in not only increased food prices but also higher unemployment rates for anyone in all aspects of food production. Farm and food production workers will be forced travel to other states with available work, and their economic contributions will leave Oregon with them.

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Thank you for your time, and I respectfully ask that you please oppose HB 4064.

Respectfully,

Toby Turner

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