



# CITY OF KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON

500 KLAMATH AVENUE - P.O. BOX 237  
KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON 97601



Sister City  
ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND

February 23, 2016

Representative Gail Whitsett  
900 Court St NE, H-474  
Salem, OR 97301

Senator Doug Whitsett  
900 Court St NE, S-311  
Salem, OR, 97301

Re: House Bill 4137

Dear Representative Whitsett and Senator Whitsett:

At the February 16, 2016 meeting, the Klamath Falls City Council discussed HB 4137 and voted to support the Bill which establishes a standard for measuring distance between proposed or existing well and surface water source for purpose of determining probability or existence of impairment of, or substantial or undue interference with, existing rights of others to appropriate surface water. The current process of the Water Resources Department is not transparent and the passage of this Bill would require that transparency.

The City of Klamath Falls was subject to well regulation in 2014. We hired a hydrogeologist to analyze the State's findings. It was unclear at the time how one of the wells in question would impact the Klamath Lake in a timely and effective manner. After a review, the State made changes to how they regulated our impacted wells. We believe this Bill would assist others and possibly the City in future dealings with the State.

Sincerely,

Todd Kellstrom  
Mayor

TK:edo

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Mayor & Council  
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City Attorney  
541.883.5323

City Manager  
541.883.5316

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