

Joint Water Commission



February 27, 2023

Senator Sollman, Co-Chair
Representative Bynum, Co-Chair
Senator Knopp, Co-Vice Chair
Representative Wallan, Co-Vice Chair
Joint Committee on Semiconductors
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Water Infrastructure Support for the Future of Semi-Conductor Industry

Dear Co-Chair Sollman, Co-Chair Bynum, Co-Vice Chair Knopp, Co-Vice Chair Wallan and Members of the Committee:

Established in 1976, the Joint Water Commission (JWC) is an intergovernmental water supply agency formed under an Oregon Revised Statue (ORS) 190 agreement between the Cities of Hillsboro (Hillsboro), Forest Grove (Forest Grove), Beaverton (Beaverton), and the Tualatin Valley Water District (TVWD). With ownership shared between these four member agencies, JWC acts as the primary drinking water supplier to approximately 450,000 customers in the growing communities of Washington County, Oregon.

From its inception, the JWC has a long history of partner collaboration to build the infrastructure framework necessary for providing potable water to its sizeable and diverse customer base. The historic partnership of the JWC has resulted in the construction of the largest conventional water treatment plant in the State of Oregon, as well as 40 million gallons of operational storage and two major transmission lines, the largest a 72 and 66-inch pipeline that serves the current industrial area of north Hillsboro and surrounding areas.

Three of the four JWC partners are also continuing to partner together on a current \$1.6 billion dollar project to develop an additional water source for western Washington County. The new, state-of-the-art infrastructure will be comprised of seismically-sound components including: an intake, water treatment plant, reservoir, and 30+ miles of pipeline, which together form the Willamette Water Supply System (WWSS). This water system will be operational and delivering water in 2026 and will have capacity to serve industrial growth.

The JWC is poised and prepared to serve current and future water supply needs and will soon be allied with the WWSS system. Together, these two water systems are prepared to support and sustain chip manufacturing development in the region. Water providers are ready and willing to move forward and advocate for the State's innovative efforts and commitment to safeguard and expand the semi-conductor industry in Washington County.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Joint Water Commission

General Manager

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