



595 Main St. Aumsville, Oregon 97325
(503) 749-2030 • TTY 711 • Fax (503) 749-1852
www.aumsville.us

Dear Governor Brown,

Aumsville City Council is writing this letter to express our urgent concerns about the potential impacts of three industrial poultry operations that are currently in the planning and permitting process in Marion and Linn counties near Aumsville, Stayton, and Scio.

The proposed facilities, which will each house between 3.4 and 6.5 million birds per year, will have a profound negative economic, social, and environmental impact on the region. There are multiple direct impacts on Mid-Valley COG members, Oregon Cascades West COG members, and other regional partners including:

- The City of Aumsville
- The City of Salem
- The City of Scio
- The City of Stayton
- The City of Sublimity
- Marion Soil and Water Conservation District
- Aumsville Rural Fire District
- Marion and Linn Counties
- The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde

These are our main concerns:

1. These factory operations appear to be taking advantage of Oregon's overly permissive stock watering exemptions that were not intended for this scale of commercial operation.
2. The scale of these factory operations will damage regional recreation, tourism and promotion in Aumsville, Stayton, and Scio (i.e., Aumsville Corn Festival, City of 6 Bridges or Summer on the Santiam).
3. These industrial animal operations will constantly degrade air quality in and around Aumsville, Stayton, and Scio in a manner inconsistent with traditional farming, including large scale ag.
4. A pipe that provides water for the City of Salem runs under the Aumsville site.
5. Oregon's exemption for ammonia discharge means these sites – all of which sit in high water table areas – will have negative impacts on the Santiam River and its tributaries. All three sites are adjacent to or nearby irrigation systems, rivers or creeks that feed into the Willamette.
6. One of the sites would affect Wiseman Island, a unique lamprey and cutthroat spawning ground on the Santiam, mostly owned by ODFW and Marion County.

Aumsville City Council hopes that you will direct your agencies to take whatever actions are available to them to prevent these facilities from going forward, and to review Oregon laws and policies that permit these kinds of operations in the Willamette Valley.

Sincerely,

Derek Clevenger, Mayor

on Behalf of the Aumsville City Council