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March 21, 2023

To: Cowlitz County Board of Commissioners

Re: Cardai Hill Surface Mining Overlay (Clark County case OLR-2022-00014)

Commissioners,

The City of Woodland is seeking help from Cowlitz County in opposition to the above referenced Clark County case. As you know, Clark County is reviewing a request to amend their Comprehensive Plan Map and their Zoning Map to allow for the designation of a property with the Surface Mining Overlay (SMO).

The site of this request is approximately a half-mile from the boundary of Cowlitz County and the City of Woodland which is in direct view of many city and county properties (Parcel #254798000). While you may be reluctant to get involved with Clark County's right to review development applications within their own jurisdiction, the citizens of Woodland beseech you to take action.

The application in question has the ability to lead to a surface mine that will have severe and long-term negative impacts on not only city residents, but the rural citizens of Cowlitz County that live near the mine or that commute on SR-503.

I fear that inaction by Cowlitz County leadership will be seen as a sign of approval or at least acceptance of the proposal, by Clark County's decisionmakers.

As the leadership of the City, the council and I have already authorized a letter of opposition to the project and have in fact filed an appeal of the SEPA decision. While we await the outcome of that appeal, we urge the County to take action before it is too late to get involved in the opposition to this proposal. Any action you can take to help protect the citizens of Woodland and the surrounding area, will be greatly appreciated.

For more specific information about the project and who to contact, please visit the "Clark County – Cardia Hill Rock Quarry" project page at www.ci.woodland.wa.us/projects.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at finnw@ci.woodland.wa.gov or at 360-225-7299.

Respectfully,

William A. Finn
Mayor
City of Woodland