OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

ORS 195.300 to ORS 195.336 (MEASURE 49) SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW OF MEASURE 37 CLAIM
Preliminary Evaluation

November 3, 2009

STATE ELECTION NUMBER: E129674

CLAIMANTS: Anna and Wolfgang Sterr[1]
1570 Country Club Road
Hood River, OR 97031

MEASURE 37 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: Township 2N, Range 10E Section 9
Tax lots 2300, 2400 and 2600[2]
Hood River County

I. ELECTION

The claimants, Anna and Wolfgang Sterr, filed a claim with the state under ORS 197.352 (2005) (Measure 37) on July 14, 2006, for property located at 1570 Country Club Road, near Hood River, in Hood River County. ORS 195.300 to ORS 195.336 (Measure 49) entitles claimants who filed Measure 37 claims to elect supplemental review of their claims. The claimants have elected supplemental review of their Measure 37 claim under Section 6 of Measure 49, which allows the Department of Land Conservation and Development (the department) to authorize up to three home site approvals to qualified claimants.

II. SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY EVALUATION

Based on the department's preliminary analysis, it appears that the claimants are qualified for one home site approval on the Measure 37 claim property. The claimants' property, including both the Measure 37 claim property and all contiguous property in the same ownership, currently appears to consist of four lots or parcels, which are developed with six dwellings. The number of lots, parcels and dwellings currently in existence on the Measure 37 claim property and the contiguous property under the same ownership is equal to or exceeds the maximum number of home sites the claimants could qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49. However, because the

[1] Information obtained by the department indicates that claimant Wolfgang Sterr passed away on March 14, 2008. Under Measure 49, if a claimant dies on or after December 6, 2007, entitlement to prosecute the claim passes to the person who acquires the claim property by devise or by operation of law.
[2] In the Hood River County Measure 37 report, the county states that the three tax lots comprising the Measure 37 claim property, tax lots 2300, 2400 and 2600, are one legal parcel. In reliance on that report, this preliminary evaluation considers the Measure 37 claim property as one legal parcel

claimants otherwise qualify for relief under Section 6, the claimants appear to qualify for one home site approval on the Measure 37 claim property. After taking into account the number of lots, parcels and dwellings currently located on the Measure 37 claim property and the contiguous property under the same ownership, it appears that the one home site approval will allow the claimants to establish one additional lot or parcel and to authorize or replace one of the existing dwellings on the Measure 37 claim property. The lot or parcel must contain an existing dwelling.

III. THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF HOME SITE APPROVALS FOR WHICH THE CLAIMANTS MAY QUALIFY

Under Section 6 of Measure 49, the number of home site approvals authorized by the department cannot exceed the lesser of the following: three; the number stated by the claimant in the election materials; or the number described in a Measure 37 waiver issued by the state, or if no waiver was issued, the number of home sites described in the Measure 37 claim filed with the state. However, if the number of lots, parcels and dwellings currently in existence on the Measure 37 claim property and the contiguous property under the same ownership is equal to or greater than the maximum number of home sites a claimant could otherwise qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49, a claimant may qualify for only one home site approval.

The claimants have requested one home site approval in the election material. The Measure 37 waiver issued for this claim describes 190 home sites. Because it appears that the Measure 37 claim property and contiguous property in the same ownership contain three or more lots or parcels that are developed with dwellings the claimants may qualify for a maximum of one home site approval.

IV. PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF QUALIFICATION FOR HOME SITE APPROVAL

1. Preliminary Analysis

To qualify for a home site approval under Section 6 of Measure 49, a claimant must have filed a Measure 37 claim for the property with either the state or the county in which the property is located on or before June 28, 2007, and must have filed a Measure 37 claim with both the state and the county before Measure 49 became effective on December 6, 2007. If the state Measure 37 claim was filed after December 4, 2006, the claim must also have been filed in compliance with the provisions of OAR 660-041-0020 then in effect.

The claimants, Anna and Wolfgang Sterr, filed a Measure 37 claim, M129674, with the state on July 14, 2006. The claimants filed a Measure 37 claim, 06-M035, with Hood River County on July 14, 2006. The state claim was filed prior to December 4, 2006.

It appears that the claimants timely filed a Measure 37 claim with both the state and Hood River County.

In addition to filing a claim with both the state and the county in which the property is located, to qualify for a home site approval under Section 6 of Measure 49 the claimants must establish each of the following:

(a) The Claimant is an Owner of the Property

Measure 49 defines "Owner" as: "(a) The owner of fee title to the property as shown in the deed records of the county where the property is located; (b) The purchaser under a land sale contract, if there is a recorded land sale contract in force for the property; or (c) If the property is owned by the trustee of a revocable trust, the settlor of a revocable trust, except that when the trust becomes irrevocable only the trustee is the owner."

According to the deed and trust documents submitted by the claimants, Anna and Wolfgang Sterr are the owners of fee title to the property as shown in the Hood River County deed records and, therefore, are owners of the property under Measure 49.

(b) All Owners of the Property Have Consented in Writing to the Claim

It appears that the claimants are the sole owners of the property. Therefore, no additional consent is required.

(c) The Measure 37 Claim Property Is Located Entirely Outside Any Urban Growth Boundary and Entirely Outside the Boundaries of Any City

The Measure 37 claim property is located in Hood River County, outside the urban growth boundary and outside the city limits of the nearest city, Hood River.

(d) One or More Land Use Regulations Prohibit Establishing the Lot, Parcel or Dwelling

As stated in Section III above, the claimants may qualify for one home site.

The property is currently zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) by Hood River County, in accordance with ORS chapter 215 and OAR 660, division 33, because the property is "agricultural land" as defined by Goal 3. Goal 3 requires agricultural land to be zoned exclusive farm use. Applicable provisions of ORS chapter 215 and OAR 660, division 33, enacted or adopted pursuant to Goal 3, generally prohibit the establishment of a lot or parcel less than 80 acres in size in an EFU zone, and regulate the establishment of dwellings on new or existing lots or parcels.

The claimants' property consists of 56.05 acres. Therefore, state land use regulations prohibit the claimants from establishing on the Measure 37 claim property the one home site the claimants may qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49.

(e) The Establishment of the Lot, Parcel or Dwelling Is Not Prohibited by a Land Use Regulation Described in ORS 195.305(3)

ORS 195.305(3) exempts from claims under Measure 49 land use regulations:

> (a) Restricting or prohibiting activities commonly and historically recognized as public nuisances under common law;
> (b) Restricting or prohibiting activities for the protection of public health and safety;
> (c) To the extent the land use regulation is required to comply with federal law; or
> (d) Restricting or prohibiting the use of a property for the purpose of selling pornography or performing nude dancing.

Based on the documentation submitted by the claimants, it does not appear that the establishment of the one home site for which the claimants may qualify on the property would be prohibited by land use regulations described in ORS 195.305(3).

(f) On the Claimant's Acquisition Date, the Claimant Lawfully Was Permitted to Establish at Least the Number of Lots, Parcels or Dwellings on the Property That Are Authorized Under Section 6 of Measure 49

A claimant's acquisition date is "the date the claimant became the owner of the property as shown in the deed records of the county in which the property is located. If there is more than one claimant for the same property under the same claim and the claimants have different acquisition dates, the acquisition date is the earliest of those dates."

Hood River County deed records indicate that the claimant Wolgang Sterr acquired the property on July 1, 1956, and claimant Anna Sterr acquired the property on January 28, 1960. Therefore, for purposes of Measure 49, the claimants' acquisition date is July 1, 1956.

On July 1, 1956, the Measure 37 claim property was not subject to any local or state laws that would have prohibited the claimant from establishing the one home site for which the claimant may be eligible. Therefore, the claimant lawfully could have established the one home site the claimant may qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49.

2. Preliminary Conclusion

Based on the preliminary analysis, it appears that the claimants, Anna and Wolfgang Sterr, qualify for one home site approval under Section 6 of Measure 49.

V. NUMBER OF LOTS, PARCELS OR DWELLINGS ON OR CONTAINED WITHIN THE PROPERTY

The number of lots, parcels or dwellings that a claimant is authorized to establish pursuant to a home site authorization is reduced by the number of lots, parcels or dwellings currently in

existence on the Measure 37 claim property and any contiguous property under the same ownership according to the methodology stated in Section 6(2)(b) and 6(3) of Measure 49. If a claimant otherwise qualifies for relief under Section 6 of Measure 49, the claimant will be able to establish at least one additional lot, parcel or dwelling, regardless of the number of dwellings currently in existence.

Based on the documentation provided by the claimants and information from Hood River County, the Measure 37 claim property appears to currently include one lot or parcel and four dwellings. As demonstrated by the supplemental information submitted by the claimants and information from Hood River County, the claimants also own tax lots 3000, 3001 and 3200 (Township 2N, Range 10E, Section 4) which are contiguous to the Measure 37 claim property. The contiguous property under the same ownership appears to include three parcels and two dwellings. Together, it appears that the Measure 37 claim property and the contiguous property in the same ownership include four lots or parcels and six dwellings. Therefore, the one home site approval the claimants appear to qualify for will allow the claimants to establish one additional lot or parcel and authorize or replace one existing dwelling on the Measure 37 claim property. The additional lot or parcel must contain an existing dwelling.

VI. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF PROPOSED LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS ON THE NUMBER AND SCOPE OF HOME SITE APPROVALS

The department has identified the following limitations and conditions that may affect the scope of the home site approval that the claimants would otherwise be entitled to under Section 6 of Measure 49. This list may not be comprehensive and does not preclude the possibility that other considerations, not yet identified by the department, may affect the establishment of a land division or dwelling authorized by the home site approval.

1. The establishment of a land division or dwelling based on a Measure 49 home site authorization must comply with all applicable standards governing the siting or development of the land division or dwelling. However, those standards must not be applied in a manner that prohibits the establishment of the land division or dwelling, unless the standards are reasonably necessary to avoid or abate a nuisance, to protect public health or safety, or to carry out federal law.

2. A home site authorization will not authorize the establishment of a land division or dwelling in violation of a land use regulation described in ORS 195.305(3) or in violation of any other law that is not a land use regulation as defined by ORS 195.300(14).

3. A claimant is not eligible for more than 20 home site approvals under Sections 5 to 11 of Measure 49 regardless of how many properties a claimant owns or how many claims a claimant filed.

4. Statements in this preliminary evaluation regarding the number of lots, parcels or dwellings currently existing on the Measure 37 claim property and contiguous property are not a determination on the current legal status of those lots, parcels or dwellings.

5. Temporary dwellings are not considered in determining the number of existing dwellings currently on the property. The claimants may choose to convert any temporary dwelling currently located on the property on which the claimants are eligible for Measure 49 relief to an authorized home site pursuant to a Measure 49 home site approval. Otherwise, any temporary dwelling is subject to the terms of the local permit requirements under which it was approved, and is subject to removal at the end of the term for which it is allowed.

6. A home site approval only authorizes the establishment of a new lot, parcel or dwelling on property on which the claimants are eligible for Measure 49 relief. No additional development is authorized on contiguous property for which no Measure 37 claim was filed or on Measure 37 claim property on which a claimant is not eligible for Measure 49 relief. A lot or parcel established pursuant to a home site approval must either be the site of a dwelling that is currently in existence or be the future site of a dwelling that may be established pursuant to the home site approval.

7. The claimants may use a home site approval to convert a lot, parcel or dwelling currently located on the property on which the claimants are eligible for Measure 49 relief to an authorized home site.

8. The claimant may not implement the relief described in a Measure 49 Home Site Authorization if a claimant has been determined to have a common law vested right to a use described in a Measure 37 waiver for the property. Therefore, if a claimant has been determined in a final judgment or final order that is not subject to further appeal to have a common law vested right as described in Section 5(3) of Measure 49 to any use on the Measure 37 claim property, then any Measure 49 Home Site Authorization for the property will be void. However, so long as no claimant has been determined in such a final judgment or final order to have a common law vested right to a use described in a Measure 37 waiver for the property, a use that has been completed on the property pursuant to a Measure 37 waiver may be converted to an authorized home site.

9. A home site approval does not authorize the establishment of a new dwelling on a lot or parcel that already contains one or more dwellings.

10. Because the property is located in an exclusive farm use zone, the home site authorization will not authorize new lots or parcels that exceed five acres. However, existing or remnant lots or parcels may exceed five acres. Before beginning construction in one of these zones, the owner must comply with the requirements of ORS 215.293. Further, the home site authorization will not authorize new lots or parcels that exceed two acres if the new lots or parcels are located on high-value farmland, on high-value forestland or on land within a ground water restricted area. However, existing or remnant lots or parcels may exceed two acres.

11. Because the property is located in an exclusive farm use zone, Measure 49 requires new home sites to be clustered so as to maximize suitability of the remnant lot or parcel for farm use. Further, if an owner of the property is authorized by other home site approvals to subdivide, partition, or establish dwellings on other Measure 37 claim properties, Measure 49

authorizes the owner to cluster some or all of the authorized lots, parcels or dwellings that would otherwise be located on land in an exclusive farm use zone, a forest zone or a mixed farm and forest zone on a single Measure 37 claim property that is zoned residential use or is located in an exclusive farm use zone, a forest zone or a mixed farm and forest zone but is less suitable for farm or forest use than the other Measure 37 claim properties.

12. Once the department issues a final home site authorization, a home site approval granted under that authorization will run with the property and will transfer with the property. A home site approval will not expire, except that if a claimant who received a home site authorization later conveys the property to a party other than the claimant's spouse or the trustee of a revocable trust in which the claimant is the settlor, the subsequent owner of the property must establish the authorized lots, parcels and dwellings within 10 years of the conveyance. A lot or parcel lawfully created based on the home site authorization will remain a discrete lot or parcel, unless the lot or parcel lines are vacated or the lot or parcel is further divided, as provided by law. A dwelling lawfully created based on a home site approval is a permitted use.

VII. NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

A claimant or a claimant's authorized agent, a county and any third party may submit written comments, evidence and information in response to the preliminary evaluation. The comments, evidence and information must be filed with the department no more than twenty-eight (28) calendar days after the date this evaluation is mailed to the claimant and the claimant's agent and notice of this evaluation is mailed to third parties.

The department will mail a copy of all materials timely filed by a county or a third party with the department to the claimant and the claimant's agent. A claimant or a claimant's authorized agent may then file written comments, evidence or information in response to the materials filed by the third party or county. That response must be filed no more than twenty-one (21) calendar days after the date the department mails the materials to the claimant and the claimant's authorized agent.

All comments, evidence and information in response to the preliminary evaluation and all responses to materials filed by a third party or a county shall be delivered to Supplemental Measure 49 Claim Review, 635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150, Salem, Oregon 97301-2540 and will be deemed timely filed either (1) if actually delivered to the department before the close of business on the final eligible calendar day, or (2) if mailed on or before the final eligible calendar day.

Note: Please reference the claim number and claimant name and clearly mark your comments as "Preliminary Evaluation Comments." Comments must be submitted in original written form only. Comments submitted electronically or by facsimile will not be accepted.