Description of proposed change: (Please attach any draft or permanent rule or ordinance)

Amendments to administrative rules to clarify the process and standards for siting irrigation reservoirs on farmland.

Description of the need for, and objectives of the rule:

The applicability of current statutory and rule provisions regarding the siting of impoundments on farmland to irrigation reservoirs is limited and standards are unclear. Water impoundments are currently defined as a farm use under ORS 215.203(2)(G), but such impoundments must lie in or adjacent to and in common ownership with land in farm use. This definition limits the availability of impoundments at a time when declining groundwater levels around the state are likely to increase requests for irrigation reservoirs on farmland. Irrigation canals and delivery facilities are allowed under ORS 215.213(1)(w) and 215.283(1)(t), but this does authorization does not clearly include dams, reservoirs or impoundments. Rulemaking is necessary to clarify the permit process and standards for irrigation reservoirs on farmland. This rulemaking does not affect housing costs.

List of rules adopted or amended:
OAR chapter 660, division 033

Materials and labor costs increase or savings:
The proposed amendments to rule are not expected to affect housing materials or labor costs.

Estimated administrative, construction or other costs increase or savings:
The proposed amendments to rule are not expected to affect administrative, construction or other costs relative to housing.

Land costs increase or savings:
The proposed amendments to rule are not expected to affect land costs for housing.

Other costs increase or savings:
* Typical-Single story 3 bedrooms, 1 ½ bathrooms, attached garage (calculated separately) on land with good soil conditions with no unusual geological hazards.

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