

1800 NE 17th Ave #1
Portland, OR 97212
April 28, 2011

Oregon Department of Aviation
3040 25th Street, SE
Salem, OR 97302-1125

Chair Gardiner and Board Members:

I am writing about the proposal that is before you today to transfer the Cape Blanco Airport from the state to Curry County. I urge you not to agree to this transfer until people in the county have had at least a limited amount of additional time to be made aware of this transfer, and what the costs – both financial and potential impacts on the surrounding area – will be.

I divide my time between Portland and Langlois, the town closest to the Cape Blanco Airport. My family has a ranch a few miles south of the Airport, at the mouth of Elk River, and another ranch a few miles north east of the Airport, and has been in the area for over 130 years.

My concerns, and those of others in the area, center around the burden it would put on Curry County to take on the management and maintenance of this airport. Curry County has had to cut many services and continues to face significant financial difficulties already. This would add to the County's costs. I am also concerned that it is not at all clear what would happen to the agriculture and natural resource land around the Airport if the facility is transferred to the County.

I urge you to consider these concerns before moving forward with such a transfer, and not to approve the transfer at this time.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

/s/ Mary Wahl

Mary Wahl