OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

ORS 195.300 to ORS 195.336 (MEASURE 49) SUPPLEMENTAL REVIEW OF MEASURE 37 CLAIM
Final Order and Home Site Authorization

STATE ELECTION NUMBER:	E133983
CLAIMANTS:	Jacob and Norma Jean Leichty 34830 SE Goltra Road Albany, OR 97322
MEASURE 37 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION:	Township 11S, Range 3W Section 22, Tax lot 800 Section 23, Tax lot 500 Section 27, Tax lot 100 Linn County
AGENT CONTACT INFORMATION:	Kent Hickam, P.C. PO Box 1041 Albany, OR 97321

The claimants, Jacob and Norma Jean Leichty, filed a claim with the state under ORS 197.352 (2005) (Measure 37) on December 4, 2006, for property located at 34830 SE Goltra Road, near Albany, in Linn 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.

This Final Order and Home Site Authorization is the conclusion of the supplemental review of this claim.

I. ANALYSIS OF CLAIM

A. Maximum Number of Home Sites 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 four home site approvals in the election material. No waiver was issued for this claim. The Measure 37 claim filed with the state describes four home sites. Therefore, the claimants may qualify for a maximum of three home site approvals.

B. Qualification Requirements

To qualify for a home site approval under Section 6 of Measure 49, the claimants must meet each of the following requirements:

1. Timeliness of Claim

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.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions

The claimants, Jacob and Norma Jean Leichty, filed a Measure 37 claim, M133983, with the state on December 4, 2006. The claimants filed a Measure 37 claim, M37-327-06, with Linn County on December 4, 2006. The state claim was filed on December 4, 2006.

The claimants timely filed a Measure 37 claim with both the state and Linn County.

2. 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."

Findings of Fact and Conclusions:

According to the deed submitted by the claimants, Jacob and Norma Jean Leichty are the settlors of revocable trusts into which they conveyed the Measure 37 claim property and, therefore, are owners of the property under Measure 49.

Linn County has confirmed that the claimants are the current owners of the property.

3. All Owners Have Consented in Writing to the Claim

All owners of the property must consent to the claim in writing.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions:

All owners of the property have consented to the claim in writing.

4. The Property Is Located Entirely Outside Any Urban Growth Boundary and Entirely Outside the Boundaries of Any City

The Measure 37 claim property must be located entirely outside any urban growth boundary and entirely outside the boundaries of any city.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions:

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

5. One or More Land Use Regulations Prohibit Establishing the Lot, Parcel or Dwelling

One or more land use regulations must prohibit establishing the requested lot, parcel or dwelling.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions:

The property is currently zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) by Linn 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. Those provisions also regulate the establishment of dwellings on new or existing lots or parcels and include restrictions on establishing more than one dwelling on a single tract.

The claimants' property consists of 348.88 acres that make up a single tract. Therefore, state land use regulations prohibit the claimants from establishing on the Measure 37 claim property the three home sites the claimants may qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49.

6. 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.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions

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

7. 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."

Findings of Fact and Conclusions

Linn County deed records indicate that claimant Jacob Leichty acquired tax lot 100 (24.62 acres), tax lot 800 (62.96 acres), and the southern portion of tax lot 500 (227.10 acres) on July 26, 1955, and claimant Norma Jean Leichty acquired tax lot 100, tax lot 800, and the southern portion of tax lot 500 on December 15, 1965. Therefore, for purposes of Measure 49, the claimants' acquisition date for tax lot 100, tax lot 800, and the southern portion of tax lot 500 is July 26, 1955.

Linn County deed records indicate that the claimants acquired the northern triangular portion of tax lot 500 (34.20 acres) on November 2, 1981.

On July 26, 1955, the Measure 37 claim property consisted of 314.68 acres and was not subject to any local or state laws that would have prohibited the claimants from establishing the three home sites for which the claimants may be eligible. Therefore, the claimants lawfully could have established the three home sites the claimants qualify for under Section 6 of Measure 49 on tax lot 100, tax lot 800, and the southern portion of tax lot 500.

The claimants acquired the northern triangular portion of tax lot 500 of the Measure 37 claim property after adoption of the statewide planning goals, but before the Commission acknowledged Linn County's comprehensive plan and land use regulations to be in compliance with those goals pursuant to ORS 197.250 and 197.251. At that time, the Measure 37 claim property was zoned Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) by Linn County. However, the Commission had not acknowledged that zone for compliance with the goals when the claimants acquired the property on November 2, 1981. Accordingly, the statewide planning goals, and in particular Goal 3 and ORS chapter 215 applied directly to the Measure 37 claim property when the claimants acquired the northern triangular portion of tax lot 500.

To determine whether a use of property that was not subject to an acknowledged zone at the time the claimant acquired would have complied with Goal 3 and ORS 215, OAR 660-041-0110 provides that DLCD will apply the first acknowledged local land use regulations, unless the evidence in the record, including but not limited to, county Measure 37 waivers or local land use determinations issued at the time the property was acquired, establishes that a greater number of lots, parcels or dwellings would have been lawfully permitted.

In 1981, Goal 3 was "to preserve and maintain agricultural lands. It required the adoption of exclusive farm use zones pursuant to ORS chapter 215, and required that "[s]uch minimum lot sizes as are utilized for any farm use zones shall be appropriate for the continuation of the existing commercial agricultural enterprise within the area."

On July 18, 1985, the Commission acknowledged the application of Linn County's EFU zone to the Measure 37 claim property. The Commission's acknowledgement of Linn County's EFU zone confirmed that zone's compliance with Goal 3 and ORS chapter 215. Linn County's acknowledged EFU zone required 40 acres for the creation of a new lot or parcel on which a dwelling could be established.[1] The claimants were lawfully permitted to establish more than one dwelling on a tract on their date of acquisition. The claimants' property consists of 348.88 acres. Therefore, the claimants lawfully could have established the three home sites for which the claimants may be eligible on the claimants' date of acquisition of the northern triangular portion of tax lot 500. The claimants, therefore, are qualified for three home sites under Section 6 of Measure 49.

II. COMMENTS ON THE PRELIMINARY EVALUATION

The department issued its Preliminary Evaluation for this claim on December 30, 2009. Pursuant to OAR 660-041-0090, the department provided written notice to the owners of surrounding properties. No written comments were received in response to the 28-day notice.

III. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis above, the claimants qualify for the three home site approvals.

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 Linn County, the Measure 37 claim property includes three lots or parcels and three dwellings, all of which are

[1] While the EFU zone did not generally have a specific minimum lot size, the zone did specify a minimum acreage requirement of 40 acres for the development of a farm dwelling on a lot or parcel.

located on tax lot 500. There is no contiguous property under the same ownership. 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, the three home site approvals will allow the claimants to establish no additional lots or parcels, to authorize or replace the existing dwellings, and to alter the configuration of the lots or parcels currently in existence on the Measure 37 claim property so that each dwelling is sited on a separate authorized lot or parcel. No additional dwellings will be authorized under Measure 49.

IV. HOME SITE AUTHORIZATION

Based on the analysis set forth above, this claim is approved, and the claimants qualify for three home site approvals. As explained in section III above, after taking into account the number of existing lots, parcels or dwellings, the claimants are authorized to establish no additional lots or parcels, to authorize or replace the existing dwellings, and to alter the configuration of the lots or parcels currently in existence on the Measure 37 claim property so that each dwelling is sited on a separate authorized lot or parcel. No additional dwellings will be authorized under Measure 49. Measure 49 relief is subject to the following terms:

1. Each dwelling must be on a separate lot or parcel, and must be contained within the property on which the claimants are eligible for Measure 49 relief. 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. If the claimants have developed the limit of twenty home sites under Measure 49, the claimants are no longer eligible for the home site approvals that are the subject of this order.

4. Statements in this final order 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 claimants may not implement the relief described in this 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 this Measure 49 Home Site Authorization is 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. If the claimants transferred ownership interest in the Measure 37 claim property prior to the date of this order, this order is rendered invalid and authorizes no home site approvals. Provided this order is valid when issued, a home site approval authorized under this order runs with the property and transfers with the property. A home site approval will not expire, except that if a claimant who received this 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 lot, parcel or dwelling within 10 years of the conveyance. A lot or parcel lawfully created based on this 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.

11. 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.

12. 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 or forest 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.

13. To the extent that any law, order, deed, agreement or other legally enforceable public or private requirement provides that the subject property may not be used without a permit, license or other form of authorization or consent, this home site authorization will not authorize the use of the property unless the claimants first obtain that permit, license or other form of authorization or consent. Such requirements may include, but are not limited to: a building permit, a land use decision, a permit as defined in ORS 215.402 or 227.160, other permits or authorizations from local, state or federal agencies, and restrictions on the use of the subject property imposed by private parties.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this Final Order and Home Site Authorization is entered by the Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development as a final order of the department and the Land Conservation and Development Commission under ORS 197.300 to ORS 195.336 and OAR 660-041-0000 to 660-041-0160.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND THE LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:

Judith Moore

Judith Moore, Division Manager
Dept. of Land Conservation and Development
Dated this 18th day of February 2010

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL OR OTHER JUDICIAL RELIEF

You are entitled, or may be entitled, to judicial remedies including the following:

1. Judicial review is available to anyone who is an owner of the property as defined in Measure 49 that it the subject of this final determination, or a person who timely submitted written evidence or comments to the department concerning this final determination.

2. Judicial review under ORS 183.484 may be obtained by filing a petition for review within 60 days from the service of this order. A petition for judicial review under ORS 183.484 must be filed in the Circuit Court in the county in which the affected property is located. Upon motion of any party to the proceedings, the proceedings may be transferred to any other county with jurisdiction under ORS 183.484 in the manner provided by law for change of venue.

3. Judicial review of this final determination is limited to the evidence in the record of the department at the time of its final determination. Copies of the documents that comprise the record are available for review at the department's office at 635 Capitol St. NE, Suite 150, Salem, OR 97301-2540. Judicial review is only available for issues that were raised before the department with sufficient specificity to afford the department an opportunity to respond.