



March 12, 2019

Jerry Lidz, Chair  
Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission  
635 Capitol Street N.E.  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Lidz:

The Board of Agriculture would like to thank the Land Conservation Commission (LCDC) for its recent action to address the issues related to siting of solar energy generation facilities on Oregon agricultural land. We understand that the rules adopted by the Commission are temporary and we encourage and support making these rules permanent.

The rules adopted by the Commission are a good start. We encourage the Commission to monitor implementation of the temporary rules to ensure that issues of concern to the Board and to Oregon agriculture are addressed. These include the question of what agricultural lands require additional protection, and effectiveness of the concept of "dual use" as an incentive to better protect highly productive agricultural lands. We remain concerned that "dual use" cannot replace the limited amount of lands available to Oregon agriculture.

We appreciate the Commission's responsiveness to our concerns by taking an important first step in adopting these rules to protect Oregon's best agricultural lands, and we look forward to working with the Commission in the future to ensure farm and ranch lands remain a resource for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Tyson Raymond, Chair  
Oregon Board of Agriculture