

From: Elizabeth Lindsey eaglsing@gmail.com
Subject: Re: State Board of Agriculture Resolutions
Date: May 18, 2020 at 5:55 PM
To: Karla Valness kvalness@oda.state.or.us



PS To the Board: As I am researching this, I can see that solar can out compete agriculture for farmland i.e. pay more for farmland. The situation, the demand has changed rapidly since 2018 since climate solutions are being more vigorously sought now.. Some farmland (non EFU land that is productive and actively farmed) isn't protected. This needs to be addressed before we have a disaster.

On Mon, May 18, 2020 at 3:17 PM Elizabeth Lindsey <eaglsing@gmail.com> wrote:

Karla,

Thank you very much for locating this Resolution for me.

Are you able to give my feedback to the Oregon Board of Agriculture?

I am grateful for this Resolution and there are more factors making this a critical issue with the need for more attention: activity to solve climate change that has picked up since this 2018 Resolution is encouraging the move toward more local food and the move towards renewable energy but the urban people making these pushes often don't have a system-wide perspective and don't recognize the major potential for growing conflict between these objectives. Farm lands potentially will be displaced extensively as local governments and people seek local green power as is happening in my area (Clackamas County). There is a large number of people, many of them trained through extensive farming internships, seeking to enter farming as I observed at Rogue Farm Corps/CCC Small Business farm succession workshop in Feb and through Friends of Family Farmers newsletters and Farmer to Farmer events; these people are unable to find available and affordable farmland. The problem is especially severe on great, close-in farmland (exception land) that doesn't have EFU protections but is the most suitable for new farmers (being near urban customers and part-time jobs and being of an adequate size for a beginning farmer without capital to buy equipment who will do the work largely themselves with their own labor). These lands are in short supply because our land use law has directed that growth uses them up first and they have largely been used up. It is devastating to have farmland converted to solar uses -- increasing the lack of farmland and displacing carbon-fixing crops and the source of local food. Please recognize the value of all our remaining farmlands and protect them from solar displacement. (Climate activists would thank you if they understood the big picture).

Thank you.

Elizabeth Graser-Lindsey
Beavercreek, OR

On Mon, May 18, 2020 at 1:09 PM Karla Valness <kvalness@oda.state.or.us> wrote:

Elizabeth—

Per our conversation, attached is the State Board of Agriculture Resolution 318 Siting of energy transmission and generation facilities on agricultural land.

You may find a document including all active Board Resolutions and other information about the Board on our website at <https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture>

Regards,

Karla

Karla Valness

Special Assistant

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Director's Office

635 Capitol St NE, Salem OR 97301

Main: 503 986 4554, Fax: 503 986 4750

Web: oregon.gov/oda