From: <u>Jeffrey Delapena</u>

To: Justin Burger; Cnty 2025 Comp Plan; Bart Catching; Jose Alvarez; Sue Marshall; Karen Bowerman; Michelle

Belkot; Glen Yung

Cc: <u>Oliver Orjiako</u>

Subject: RE: Public Comment on Mining overlays.

Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 10:06:42 AM

Good day, Justin,

Thank you for submitting comments regarding the proposed Surface Mining Overlay for the referenced parcels in Yacolt.

I have forwarded your comments to additional Staff, and these will be entered into the Comprehensive Plan Index of Record.

Regards, Jeff Delapena

From: Justin Burger <j@justinburger.com> **Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 9:46 AM

To: Cnty 2025 Comp Plan <comp.plan@clark.wa.gov>; Bart Catching <Bart.Catching@clark.wa.gov>; Jose Alvarez <Jose.Alvarez@clark.wa.gov>; Sue Marshall <Sue.Marshall@clark.wa.gov>; Karen Bowerman <Karen.Bowerman@clark.wa.gov>; Michelle Belkot <Michelle.Belkot@clark.wa.gov>; Glen Yung <Glen.Yung@clark.wa.gov>

Subject: Public Comment on Mining overlays.

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I am strongly opposed to adding a surface mining overlay to parcels 247859000, 247858000, 247860000, and 247849000, as I live and farm nearby. These parcels are surrounded by homes and timberland, and introducing blasting and increased traffic from mining would severely impact the residents, local wildlife, and the overall character of the area. The limited single-lane roads in this area are already severely impacted by housing developments in Yacolt, and they cannot realistically support additional traffic from large mining trucks. Sunset Fall Road, in particular, is not equipped for such heavy traffic, which would further disrupt this rural community.

These parcels also contain waterways that drain directly into the East Fork Lewis River, a protected area. Runoff from mining activities could cause irreversible damage to this vital waterway. Instead of allowing such destructive and industrial use of our limited forest and farmland, we should focus on promoting sustainable tourism activities like hiking, nature

viewing, and agritourism. These uses support the local economy while preserving the natural beauty that makes this area unique.

For all these reasons, this area is entirely unsuitable for mining, and a surface mining overlay should not be granted for these parcels.

Justin Burger

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