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DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS

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Vicki Walker
Director of the Department of State Lands
775 Summer St. NE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301-1279

To the members of the:

Elliott State Forest Research Advisory Committee

As the Secretary of state and a voting member of the state Land Board, I am writing to express my sincere desire to ensure that the Elliott Forest is maintained as a key asset of the state and managed in a way to maximize the contribution of resources to the common school fund.

I remain concerned that the OSU proposal may not be the optimal way to accomplish maximizing the return on the Forest, and also have concerns that the OSU long term management may result in a continued burden rather than having the asset be generating revenue for the children of our state.

If in fact OSU is unsuccessful in managing the forest in a sustainable fashion, knowing the revenue source of covering a potential shortfall should be determined in advance.

The consideration of a lease with a county or counties, the tribes, or a private company does not seem to have been considered or explored after the Lone Rock deal terminated. I hope that we do not regret failing to consider all possibilities.

Maximizing the revenue to the common school fund for our children is paramount, but I am also very interested in knowing that we have done all we can to maximize the long term benefit to local communities, counties and tribes that have an economic interest in the Elliott.



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I am reluctant to transfer ownership of an asset that was entrusted for the benefit of Oregon's children since the 1930's. I am extremely concerned about policy decisions like the proposed decoupling resulting in a deepening of the Urban/Rural divide.

I have every hope that the committee will be thorough in considering all of the implications of the OSU proposal. Asking tough questions is the most important part of the job for a group like yours.

Thank you for your willingness to serve.

Respectfully,

Secretary of State Bev Clarno