



August 1, 2009
Letters, Oregon

Protecting the Blues is critical for many reasons

Protecting the Blue Mountains and its foothills from industrial development — in this case wind turbines — is so much more than just protecting a pretty view. It's fulfilling our responsibility to protect and manage wildlife and their habitat!

Development of wind farms in the foothills of the Blues will eliminate vast areas of winter range required by deer, elk and bear for their survival. Development is also a very real threat to the watershed, threatening to pollute our rivers and streams.

Every hunter who has thrilled at the hunt, every fisherman who has cast his line in a clean river, every wildlife lover who has found joy at the sighting of a wild animal must be concerned about the proposed development of the Blues and its foothills. We must not be negligent, for this will affect not only us but future generations of both humans and wildlife.

I strongly encourage you to support the Blue Mountain Scenic View and Open Space Goal 5 Amendment! Read the proposed plan on the Blue Mountain Alliance Web site (www.bluemountainalliance.org).

Time is growing short and the Umatilla County Planning Commission must soon make a decision regarding the future of the mountains and foothills. Let them know what you think. Contact the Umatilla County Planning Commission at their website (e-mail: planning@co.umatilla.or.us) or by mail (address: 216 S.E. 4th St., Pendleton, OR 97801). Plan to attend the next meeting of the Planning Commission on Aug. 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Pendleton Convention Center.

Let us not wake up some morning and discover that by doing nothing, we have lost everything!

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Milton-Freewater

[The East Oregonian](#) ^[1]

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[1] The East Oregonian:

<http://eastoregonian.com/main.asp?SectionID=14&SubSectionID=50&ArticleID=96029&TM=30838.17>

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