

# Basin Program Exception Request

Sandy Basin Program  
City of Tualatin – PC 917

Martin Sanchez

March 13, 2025



# Why are we here?

- The City of Tualatin recently applied for a minor hydroelectric project within their municipal water system.
- The source of water the City uses is from the Bull Run Watershed in the Sandy Basin.
- Use of water for purpose of generating power is not classified as an allowed use under the Sandy Basin Program.
- The City of Tualatin has requested an exception to the Sandy Basin Program to allow hydroelectric power generation.

## Slide 2

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**GW0** Font sizes need to be larger on all and consistent throughout. 24 pt font is preferred if possible.  
GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:45:45.091

# Basin Programs

- Administrative rules establish water management policies and objectives, and which govern the appropriation and use of surface and groundwater.
- Water Right Review-Minimum Standards and Public Interest.
  - ORS 543.017

GW0

## Slide 3

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**GW0** from Laura H.: slide 7 add ORS in front of 543.017  
GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:45:10.122

# Application Overview

- Project Number PC 917: Filed August 8, 2024
- Source: Bull Run
- Use: Municipal & Hydroelectric Generation
- Cubic Feet per Second: 4.5 CFS



## Slide 4

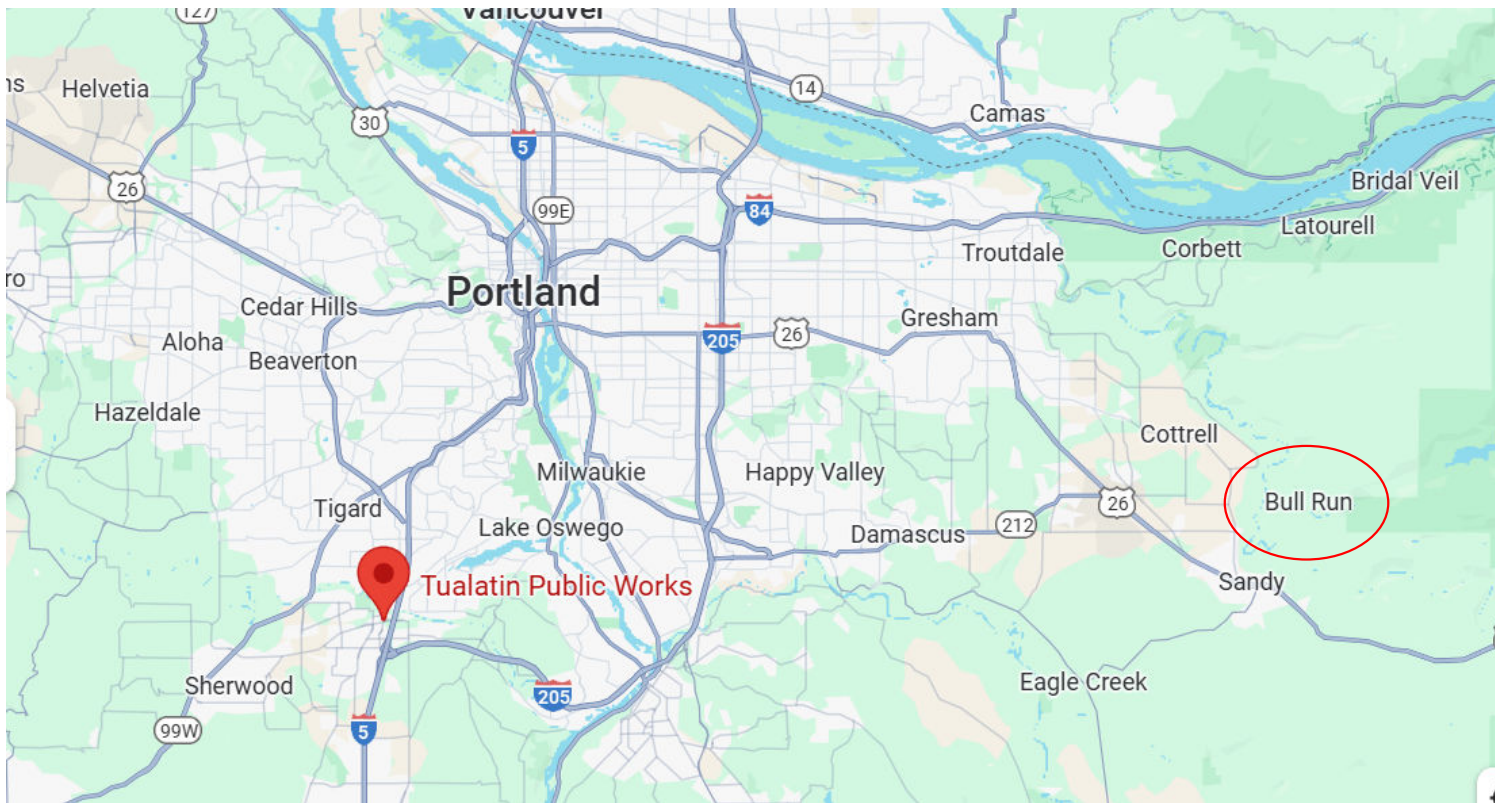
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**GW0**

From Laura H.: spell out CFS

GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:46:17.795

# Project Location





# Basin Plan Exception Process

## 1. Does the request meet one or more of the criteria of ORS 536.295 (1)

(c) "is largely non-consumptive in nature and not likely to be regulated for other water rights"

(f) "The project will also provide a public benefit such as riparian or watershed improvement"

## 2. Is the use consistent with the general policies of the Sandy Basin Program?

## Slide 6

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**GW0** Laura H.: slide 10 move question next to the numbers  
GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:46:36.795

# Issue One

1

Does the request meet one or more of the criteria of ORS 536.295 (1)?

## Slide 7

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**GW0** From Katie: should be "one or more" instead of "one of more"  
GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:46:56.265

**“Is largely nonconsumptive in nature and not likely to be regulated for other water rights.”**

The City of Tualatin currently diverts water into their municipal water system. The hydroelectric project will be in parallel to their Pressure Reducing Valve within their Municipal water system.

## Slide 8

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**GW0** on these add ORS in front of the statutory reference

GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:47:38.281

**GW1** From Annette: recommend moving the statute refence to the bollom

GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:47:57.078

# **“The project will provide a public benefit such as riparian or watershed improvement”**

The hydroelectric project will serve to reduce water system operating costs and improve water affordability for the population of the City of Tualatin.

# Issue one

1

- Does the request meet one or more of the criteria of ORS 536.295 (1) ?
- Conclusion: Yes



# Issue Two

2

Is the use consistent with the general policies of the Sandy Basin Program?

# Policies

## Sandy Basin Program (OAR 690-503-0020)

- The applicant's proposed point of diversion is not within an instream water right reach or minimum perennial streamflow.
- Instream water rights below the proposed project will not be affected by this diversion since the use is primarily non-consumptive.
- The applicant has applied for water from a source that has no history of regulation.
- The proposed use will not result in over-appropriation.

# Issue two

2

- Is the proposed use consistent with the general policies of the Sandy Basin Program?
- Conclusion: Yes

## Slide 13

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**GW0** Laura H. :slide 16...question needs to go at top to match question 1

GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:48:59.720

# Alternatives

1. Approve the request for a basin plan exception.
2. Deny the request for a basin program exception.
3. Take no action and direct staff to continue to work with the applicant.

## Slide 14

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**GW0** from Kim: You want the options to be exactly what is in the staff report  
GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:51:07.176

**GW1** From Kim: And then there will be a slide that says "the Director Recommends"  
GONZALEZ Danielle L \* WRD, 2025-03-06T21:51:37.958

# Director's Recommendation

- The Director recommends Alternative 1, that the Commission approves the request by the applicant for an exception to the Sandy Basin Program as the use is largely non-consumptive in nature.

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WATER RESOURCES  
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# Thank you!

**Martin Sanchez**

Martin.sanchez@water.Oregon.gov |  
971-375-6414



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