

Submitter: Brian Everest
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors
Measure: SB4

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Semiconductors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed siting of a semiconductor plant in Wilsonville, Oregon, specifically in the French Prairie farmlands south of the Willamette River, where development has been prohibited in recognition of the value of that land as agricultural uses. While I understand the economic benefits such a plant could bring to the region, I believe that Wilsonville is the wrong place for such a development.

A Semiconductor plant should be paired with a willing city that can guarantee the property infrastructure and oversight that would be required. I don't believe that the infrastructure needed, especially that of water and sewer is available at this site. Prohibitions of additional necessary sewage outfall points into the Willamette River would make this location unfeasible. The city is not equipped to handle the increased traffic at the Boones Bridge crossing on I-5, nor the additional pollution that a semiconductor plant would bring. Additionally, there are concerns about the impact of the plant on the local environment, including the potential for groundwater contamination and other ecological issues. The French Prairie farmlands have a storied and rich history that has been protected by local and statewide bi-partisan coalitions for generations, including agreements as recently as 2010 not to develop south of the Willamette River.

I urge you to reconsider any decision to include Wilsonville in Section 10 of SB 4. Instead, I ask that you work with local communities and stakeholders to identify a location that is better suited for a semiconductor plant, one that has the necessary services, infrastructure, and oversight to ensure the safety and well-being of both the environment and the community.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.