

IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASCO

IN THE MATTER OF ADJUSTING MINIMUM EMPLOYMENT LEVEL REQUIREMENT PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 2 AND 3 OF HB 2343 (2121) FOR POWDERPURE

RESOLUTION #21-009

WHEREAS, the City of The Dalles and Wasco County are co-sponsors of The Dalles/Wasco County Enterprise Zone; and

WHEREAS, initial or continuing exemption of qualified property in the enterprise zone by the authorized/qualified business firm Powderpure is subject to denial or disqualification by the County Assessor due Powderpure's failure to meet requirements under ORS 285C.200(1)(c) for the number of its employees on or before date of filing initial exemption claim or for substantial curtailment under ORS 285C.210; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 522, Oregon Laws 2021 (Enrolled House Bill 2343-C, "HB 2343") allows enterprise zone sponsors to remedy such situations arising from distress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2021–2022 and 2022–2023 tax years by either suspending the exemption period to resume later under ORS 285C.203, or by temporarily waiving requirements and by setting a minimum employment level lower than normal statutory requirements the business firm must otherwise maintain, including but not limited to the remaining period of a resumed exemption; and

WHEREAS, sponsor resolution(s) must be adopted within 45 days of the law's effective date (September 25, 2021) for purposes of 2021–2022 tax year, or by June 30, 2022, for the 2022–2023 tax year, which is also the date when HB 2343 is repealed; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic-related reasons or criteria that prevented Powderpure from meeting employment requirements are established as described below:

- Compliance with mandatory public health safety measures or closures;
- Mandatory limitations on facility capacity;
- Disruption of the firm's access to markets or supply chains; and
- Difficulties in securing new employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE WASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HEREBY RESOLVES:

Section 1. Under HB 2324, due to COVID-19 impacts the number of employees Powderpure must have on average in the enterprise zone at a minimum consistent with ORS 285C.210, during the 2021-2022 tax year shall be no less than 50 employees.

Section 2. This resolution makes no such adjustment for the 2022-2023 tax year, and without further action, the conditions of the original enterprise zone agreement resume.

Section 3. The County Assessor, Department of Revenue, and Oregon Business Development Department shall receive copies of this resolution within 30 days of its adoption.

Dated this 20 day of October, 2021.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kristen Campbell, County Counsel

WASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Scott C. Hege, Commission Chair

Kathlun B. Schwart

Kathleen B. Schwartz, Vice-Chair

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Steven D. Kramer, County Commissioner