

Excerpt of the Visual Impact standard from the June 7, 2011 version of Draft Chapter 19. The Planning Commission adopted this language as its recommendation to the BOCC.

June 7, 2011 Draft Chapter 19 at pages 19-25–19-27, Draft LUDO § 19.030(C)(4):

Option 3 - Use standards more consistent with EFSC for Protected Areas & Scenic Resources - OAR- 345-022-0040:

- (1) Except as provided in sections (2) and (3), Wasco County shall not approve an energy facility located in the areas listed below. To approve an energy facility located outside the areas listed below, Wasco County must find that, taking into account mitigation, the design, construction and operation of the facility are not likely to result in significant adverse impact to the areas listed below.
- (c) Wilderness areas established pursuant to The Wilderness Act, 16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq. and areas recommended for designation as wilderness areas pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1782
- (e) National recreation and scenic areas, including but not limited to the Oregon Cascades Recreation Area, and Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
- (f) State parks and waysides as listed by the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
- (k) Scenic waterways designated pursuant to ORS 390.826, wild or scenic rivers designated pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq., and those waterways and rivers listed as potentials for designation;
- (o) Bureau of Land Management areas of critical environmental concern, outstanding natural areas and research natural areas
- (p) State wildlife areas and management areas identified in OAR chapter 635, division 8
- (2) Notwithstanding section (1), Wasco County may issue an approval for an electrical transmission line or a natural gas pipeline or for an energy facility located outside a protected area that includes an electrical transmission line or natural gas or water pipeline as a related or supporting facility located in a protected area identified in section (1), if other alternative routes or sites have been studied and determined by Wasco County to have greater impacts. Notwithstanding section (1), Wasco County may issue approval for surface facilities related to an underground gas storage reservoir that have pipelines and injection, withdrawal or monitoring wells and individual wellhead equipment and pumps located in a protected area, if other alternative routes or sites have been studied and determined by Wasco County to be unsuitable.

OAR 345-022-0080 - Scenic Resources

- (1) Except for facilities described in section (2), to issue an approval, Wasco County must find that the design, construction and operation of the facility, taking into account mitigation, are not likely to result in significant adverse impact to scenic resources and values identified as significant or important.

- (2) Wasco County may issue approval for a special criteria facility under OAR 345-015-0310 (Certain Natural Gas Energy Facilities) without making the findings described in section (1). However, Wasco County may apply the requirements of section (1) to impose conditions on a site certificate issued for such a facility.