



THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

April 15, 2008

Commissioner Tony Hyde
Columbia County Courthouse
230 Strand Street
St. Helens, OR 97051

Dear Commissioner Hyde,

Your request to designate the Vernonia Schools Project as an Oregon Solutions project has crossed my desk. Based on everything I know about the project, I believe it is that a collaborative process will assist the citizens of Vernonia in restoring your school system. By this letter I am designating this project as an Oregon Solutions project and appointing you and Tom Kelly as the co-conveners.

This project is important to me and my staff. The problem of relocating and funding Vernonia's schools needs to be addressed immediately. Education is one of my highest priorities and with that comes the need to provide our students with a safe and healthy environment in which to learn.

I'm pleased that you are engaging the public, private and civic sector to work towards a solution. My hope is that your work will help you bring together the potential partners in a collaborative way to address issues and needs early-on, leverage state and other investments, and gain commitments to help implement the project.

Thank you for your hard work, enthusiasm and your commitment to Vernonia. Please keep me updated on the progress of this project.

Sincerely,

THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

cc: Tom Kelly, Oregon Business Association
Ray Naff, Governor's Economic Revitalization Team
Steve Greenwood, Oregon Solutions
Mark Ellsworth, ERT Regional Coordinator
James Sager, Governor's Education Policy Advisor