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November 30, 1994

Walter H. Drew
P.O. Box 617
Florence, OR 97439

Re: ***Request for Investigation***

Dear Mr. Drew:

I have received from you a request that I initiate an investigation in whether any state officials are acting improperly in responding to public records requests you have made concerning a mediation between the Heceta Water District and Lane County.

The Attorney General is legal counsel to the State of Oregon, including its agencies. His role in the public records process is to respond to specific petitions for release of public records when a state agency has denied access. Our records indicate that you filed a petition asking this office to order the Dispute Resolution Commission to produce whatever records it possesses concerning the mediation. This the Commission has done.

The Attorney General will not authorize an investigation. Your remedies are specified in the Public Records Law. If any other state agency denies you access to records you request, you may petition the Attorney General, and we will determine whether that state agency must release the records in its possession.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth S. Harchenko

ELIZABETH S. HARCHENKO
Special Counsel to the Attorney General

ESH:jpl/JAA01533.W51