**[Your Name]**
[Your Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Your Email]
[Date]

The Honorable [Representative/Senator/Governor’s Name]
[Office Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]

**Subject: Urgent Need for State Support to Protect Stayton’s Water Supply**

Dear [Representative/Senator/Governor’s Last Name],

I am reaching out as a concerned resident of Stayton regarding the impending water quality crisis our community faces due to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ (USACE) planned sediment release from Detroit Dam in the fall of 2025. While this federal action is beyond state control, its impact on Oregon communities—including Stayton and other cities relying on the North Santiam River—demands immediate state-level involvement and support.

The City of Stayton’s water treatment system, like that of several neighboring communities, relies on slow sand filtration, which cannot effectively process high levels of turbidity. Previous drawdowns on the South Santiam River resulted in prolonged turbidity levels as high as 2,500 NTU—far exceeding the 10 NTU threshold our filtration system can handle. If similar conditions occur in the North Santiam, our water treatment plant could be rendered inoperable, jeopardizing access to clean drinking water for thousands of Oregonians.

While we continue to advocate at the federal level for changes to the drawdown plan, Stayton and other affected cities urgently need state assistance in identifying and funding mitigation measures, including:

* **Emergency pre-treatment solutions** to prevent catastrophic water system failures.
* **Exploration of alternative water sources** to reduce dependence on a compromised supply.
* **Infrastructure upgrades** to enhance treatment capacity and resilience against future events.

Addressing this crisis requires significant financial investment—an unjust burden for local ratepayers to bear alone. We need the state’s help in securing funding and resources to protect our water supply.

I urge you to work with local leaders, state agencies, and legislative colleagues to prioritize this issue. Oregon communities should not have to face prolonged water shortages due to a federally mandated action without adequate support. Your leadership in securing mitigation funding and advocating for emergency preparedness will make a critical difference in protecting public health and economic stability.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and look forward to your support in safeguarding our water supply.

Sincerely,

**[Your Name]**
[Your Address]
[Your Email]