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Subject: Cannabis Comments for EIR

My concern is that growers MUST have areas for growing larger than 5 acres. A lot of cannabis can be grown in a much smaller plot of land. To demand that only larger land owners will be allowed to legally grow is going to foster a lot more illegal and unregulated growing (no taxes revenue for county this way).

This is much like requiring only large corporations be allowed to participate in selling their products.

Does the current proposal mean to close out persons who are of lower income and force them to participate in the 'black market' sales?? Is this what the county feels is appropriate??

or is it that the county just does not want to be bothered with persons who do not provide large amounts of tax revenue?

Does this really reflect what Santa Cruz is about - only larger and wealthier operations are welcome? This feels WRONG to me.

If the county wants more local participation by LOCAL folks, then let them also be able to grow legally.

The 'discouragement' of grows under 5 acres will only invite the large and often out-of-the-county and out of state land owners to be the only 'legal' growers.

Will this sort of thinking filter down to the local Farmer's Markets so that the only persons

legally allowed to grow food must have plots of land over 5 acres?

I hope that my comments will be read and thought about before the EIR processing and finalizing of the proposals for Santa Cruz County.

Thank you

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