

From: "[Forest Goodin](mailto:foresto@pacbell.net)" <[foresto@pacbell.net](mailto:foresto@pacbell.net)>  
To: [CannabisEIR](mailto:CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us) <[CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us)>  
Date: 10/2/2017 12:14:26 PM  
Subject: Required residence and electricity

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to urge you to consider these thoughts about the proposed cannabis licensing project:

1. Permitted Residence. I have asked several County officials about the necessity for a permitted residence and was told that it was for "security", and alternately, it would just be easier for the County somehow to confirm zoning, etc.

As to security, one has to question the breadth of the County's experience in protecting pot farms compared to those of us who have been doing it for years. A legal, permitted structure does nothing for security except place the guarding party in a soundproof box.

I have a large parcel with a spot to build a house, if I must, but it is a half a mile from my nearest growing area and a mile from the furthest. Forcing me to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars for a house I don't want, won't use, on a nature preserve I don't want to develop is unjust and onerous. Working with County Planning for a year to build one is worse than death. I am holding my property as a nature preserve and don't want to be forced to develop it.

People who don't grow, may not be aware that security is only an issue for a of couple weeks a year. Thieves don't sneak up and yank immature plants out of the ground. If they arrive at all, it is in the last week of flowering. It's easily monitored by a person, a dog and a cell phone (as long as they are not in a house).

2. Generators. Fire safety is a HUGE issue in the mountainous areas of Boulder Creek. Statistically, fires are largely caused by homeless and tourist campers trying to stay warm, trash burning, cigarette smokers, welders, and cars. Fires from generators are rare because the manufacturers have to make them fire-safe or be out of business. Statistics show that cars whizzing down the road full of gasoline are a far greater danger.

It is proposed that if I use electricity for fans or lights or whatever, I will have to build a 20 foot wide road and pave the grades, theoretically for fire trucks. Asking for equal protection under the law, no one else is required to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars just because they want to use electricity. Boulder Creek has tens of thousands of homes where no such road would be required or even possible to build. Many homes use generators and solar instead of running dangerous, expensive power lines cross our beautiful hills. All the proposed mega roads will cause more and more environmental damage and loss of habitat. We don't want to pave any more of Santa Cruz.

No one in my neighborhood wants the blight and fire danger of power poles coming up our road. We are all of the opinion that PG&E is an obsolete, dangerous and environmentally unsound way to distribute electric power. Solar with a small generator is a much cheaper, safer, and environmentally sound model for power in the Santa Cruz mountains.

One of the tools common to growers is the Atomist Sprayer. Because it does such a great job, with a very fine spray mist of around 22 microns, many of us can use relatively weak, safe organic products such as Safer's Insecticidal Soap. They don't make an Atomister with a gas engine. It requires electrical power.

Many mold and fungal diseases can be controlled with something as simple as a fan. You may notice all commercial greenhouses have fans. Fans require power. A gas generator can be easily operated safely by keeping it on an inflammable surface.

How do we pump water without electricity? How do we store water for fire prevention? How do we fight fires?

Pot farmers are justly asking for equal protection under the law. It will be wildly more effective to include fire safety checks and education as a mandatory part of periodic inspections. Fire safety is one thing we can all agree on, but prohibiting generators will accomplish nothing and render us helpless in the event of a fire.

Thank you,

Forest Goodin

---