

**October 30, 2017**

TO: County Planning Department

cc: Board of Supervisors and Analysts

RE: Comments on Draft EIR

FROM: Julia Gaudinski, resident of Bonny Doon

I have written and spoken to you before about the profound and intense impact cannabis growing has had in my rural neighborhood. I have discussed at length why the unregulated dispersive growing model we currently have does significant harm to wildlife and the environment, neighborhoods and youth, and must not be allowed to continue.

Unfortunately, the findings and the approach of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) submitted to the Board of Supervisors on the proposed Commercial Cannabis Ordinance SCCC 7.128 does exactly that – it further codifies and allows for entrenchment and expansion of the destructive dispersive model of cannabis growing in this county.

I am extremely disappointed by the quality of this report, which often relies on faulty and inconsistent logic, unreliable or no data, and weak analysis to reach conclusions that are not only unsupported, but also contradicted by available evidence and our local experience. The central finding of this report is that a much more permissive policy framework than was carefully and painstakingly outlined in SCCC7.128 is environmentally sound. This finding is faulty and must be unequivocally rejected and replaced.

This DEIR threatens to undermine the hard-fought progress that had been made towards a compromise policy that went a very long way towards accommodating the interests of the cannabis growers, while providing a basic level of protection for the community and the environment.

Acting on the findings of this DEIR will fundamentally undermine the trust of many in the community in our local government's ability to provide the leadership we need on this issue.

I still believe the county can provide the leadership we need and find the way forward that allows the cannabis industry to exist in this county—but not via this DEIR and not without standing up to the relentless pressure of the cannabis industry.

The county must develop a reasonable policy proposal that takes commercial cannabis cultivation out of our neighborhoods, timber-zoned properties and watersheds. You must put real enforceable and enforced restrictions on this industry. They must be treated like the commercial, extremely profitable, recreational drug producing businesses that they are, and not given special legacy treatment as a result of past medical marijuana legislation.

Respectfully,

Julia Gaudinski