
From: Ellen E Taylor <ellenetaylor@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 7:41 PM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: RE:Record Number PLN-15888, Appeal of Honeydew Ranch, Record Number PLN-12256-CUP. Assessor's Parcel Number 107-272-005

Please include the attached letter in the Board Packet for the next meeting. According to instructions on the website, email comments can be submitted before the Agenda is published. Seeing that no Agenda for September 1, 2020 has been published on the Board website, this letter should be inserted into the Board Packet.

Please confirm its inclusion.

Thank You,

Ellen E. Taylor
PO Box 60
Petrolia, CA 95558
707-629-3500

Hon. Estelle Fennel
Hon. Rex Bohn
Hon. Virginia Bass
Hon. Mike Wilson
Hon. Steve Madrone,
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

August 24th 2020

Dear Estelle, Virginia, Rex, Mike and Steve,

I'm writing to you regarding the plight of my good friends Jim and Roxy Kennedy. I've known them for years. We are fellow Grange members and serve the Grange Pancake Breakfast once a month together. They are quiet, empathetic and funny. Roxy works for the Mattole Valley Charter School and they both make a lovely wine. They live by the river about 20 miles upstream from me.

They are pretty used to living in the middle of an expanding marijuana industry but now it has begun to destroy their right to the pursuit of happiness. A marijuana enterprise has landed next to them, which is industrial and on the verge of tripling in size. Even now it fills the ears with noise night and day, obliterates all natural smells native to warm riparian areas with a suffocating stench of marijuana, and covers their place with layers of dust due to the traffic it draws.

Jim and Roxy love their place and are more or less resigned to the currently existing unpleasantness. But they will most likely be driven out by an expansion.

This has happened to numerous small agricultural people such as Jim and Roxy, around the Mattole Valley. One moved down to Petrolia, my end of the valley. I am a Physician Assistant and, from my clinical experience, for country people to be thrust into that sort of noisy, stressful environment causes a reactive PTSD which is not necessarily temporary. The victims of these big, frequently remotely owned operations are intimidated by the power, money and well-demonstrated toughness. People are afraid of reprisals if they complain. They make maybe one stand and then fade, or resignedly attempt to adapt, like marbled murrelets in a garbage dump.

Roxy and Jim are the first people I know of who have stood up to them.

I have seen HRN's formal letter listing the illegalities related to this invasive enterprise. It sounds like the Honeydew Ranch Project has already been violating the grow rules on many counts. In this context what angers me particularly is the sightings of water trucks drawing water from the Mattole and then trucking it away to remoter sites which probably contract

with the Honeydew Ranch project. Even the legal take of this water is drastically affecting our fish and aquatic population survival. And in a drought year! The river has large quantities of algae in it, all the way to the mouth. This has never happened before in my experience.

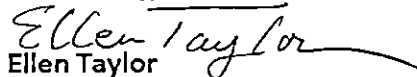
I cannot for the life of me understand why this formerly illegal project got relocated down into the populated riparian area. What did the regulators owe to these guys? If their cultivation was ecologically damaging, up in the mountains or wherever it was, it should simply have been snuffed! The county doesn't owe them compensation for the ecological damage they cause! It should be the reverse.

From Roxy's description, it sounds like the Honeydew Ranch is staffed by eastern Europeans. As such they are definitively exploiters, just like MAXXAM was a couple of decades ago, with another part of the Public Trust. Take the Money and Run.

You could almost say Roxy and Jim are part of this Public Trust. They are rooted and conscientious members of the community. I will not even begin to list people they have helped. They need to be protected and allowed to flourish.

Industrial zones were created for a purpose. They are located in areas where generally people don't live because of just such elements as are ruining Jim's and Roxy's life on the river. I know for a fact that our Supervisors love Humboldt and hold dear our very precious environment, rivers, soils, trees, wildlife. Please refer Honeydew Ranch to an industrial zone, or at least limit their destructive overreach into our Public Trust. It is contagious, and Jim's and Roxy's case is the place to stop it.

Yours Truly,


Ellen Taylor

From: Marcia <mne145@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2020 11:35 PM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Fw: An Appeal of the Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch , LLC

From: Marcia <mne145@yahoo.com>

Cc: RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us <rbohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; efennell@co.humboldt.ca.us <efennell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; mike.wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us <mike.wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; vbass@co.humboldt.ca.us <vbass@co.humboldt.ca.us>; smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2020, 11:27:49 PM PDT

Subject: An Appeal of the Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch , LLC

the Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application No. 1256, Case No. CUP-18030 and Ap16-461bAPN 107-272-005. Address: 665 Old Hindley Road, Honeydew.

My name is Marcia Ehrlich and I am a resident in the Mattole Valley for 35 years on Chambers Road in Petrolia.

I am writing in support of an Appeal of the Planning Commission's Approval of the Honeydew Ranch LLC expansion from 9 greenhouses to three times this size.

This permitted Special Use of this land adjacent to the river is negatively affecting the quality of life in a neighborhood of long established families, with whom I have been acquainted for decades. Rural Mattole Valley was and should continue to be an idyllic pastoral environment for a human community that interfaces and lives compatibly with wildlife, birds and the natural world of forests, streams and fish. Turning this floodplain area of the Mattole Valley into an industrialized agricultural zone is a travesty. It degrades the lives of people living in this community - people who moved away from congested cities and wanted to live in harmony with nature's bounty.

Rural real estate is definitely imperiled by rezoning the floodplain into industrialized agriculture usage. I understand it is zoned for agricultural use but the Special Use permit goes beyond what was intended as Ag Use.

Nine greenhouses are currently located on this Ranch and this is the outer limit of what is compatible with quality of life for the surrounding community. It impacts the health of the humans and wildlife therein. It takes the entire area out of the realm of a residential rural community.

In addition massive agricultural projects as this proposed increase for Honeydew Ranch LLC negatively affects the water tables of the surrounding valley. The trees are turning red and dying in huge numbers. The ground

water which is a function of the basically thin soil layer atop the new mountains being pushed up under us, is being reduced due to Climate Change and changes to the agricultural use. I live down river from Honeydew and have watched over the past 20 years as the water table under my acres has degraded. I can attest that I used to have 15 feet of surface water above a layer of blue clay 5 feet thick. My fruit trees were sustained by winter rains flowing in the surface aquifers, flowing from the mountains to the East to the ocean to the West. This no longer happens beyond June. My fruit trees have miniature fruit as a result. The huge demands of agriculture in the Eastern portion of the Mattole Valley are soaking up way more than their fair share of the precious resource of water. Winter rains, now reduced due to Climate Change, combined with changing land usage has created a whole new dynamic underground. I think the Supervisors should take into account the major climatic changes going on and respond accordingly.

The Mattole Valley should be able to sustain the human communities that have resided here for generations. It is important for the Supervisors to take the needs of the human community into account when granting Permits and Special Use Permits for massive agricultural projects. Yes huge ponds are planned for 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road but monitoring the impact of water usage on the river flow and on the aquifers in the surrounding hills clothed in precious trees is of vital importance. Core testing now and in the future should be required for such large industrialized agriculture, so that data can confirm or deny whether the planned ponds installed truly maintain the water needs of this agricultural project. *And if the needs are not met*, permission must be withdrawn. This should be checked biannually. The mountains and trees need water just as much as the human community and the agricultural community. Fire season is a dangerous time every year and most especially in low rain years. Witness the burning in the counties only a couple hundred miles to the south of Humboldt County. High temperatures and dry landscapes continue to burn out of control imperiling a way of life Californians love. Please do not bring such circumstances to Humboldt County by assuming the rain will always be abundant. We all must conserve our usage of water and collection of rain water in winter. There should be balance for all the competing needs for rainwater.

In addition I am concerned that greenhouse agricultural practices do not plant crops in the ground, rotating the crops and nourishing the land. Instead soil is imported with great damage to the surrounding roads, put in place for the whole community in the constantly uplifting mountains. This imported soil is replaced annually and most of it is not taken out of the valley. It is heavily laden with pesticides and rodenticides and is off loaded onto neighbors who do not realize what is in the soil. This washes into Mattole Valley streams and sickens wildlife, fish and birds. What should be a pristine, idyllic valley is no longer such. Humboldt County is being degraded by this form of agriculture. Huge marijuana grows that are managed this way are impossible to monitor in a vast county. With the best intentions rules are put in place but without oversight, our county is becoming as polluted as parts of Europe and Asia. Until county agencies have the capacity to monitor effectively throughout the entire county, it is wrong to give approval to Special Uses beyond what can be supervised.

To sum up I sincerely feel approval of massive agricultural expansions imperils the Mattole Valley. The health of residents and the viability of this valley to sustain wildlife, fish and birds is at stake. We are squandering a very precious resource of rural Northern California when the flatlands of the river floodplain are approved for industrialized agriculture. Our soil is relatively thin due to recently uplifted mountains. 70% of winter rains wash out to the ocean, unable to sink into loam hundreds of feet deep like is present in ancient valleys. Too much of the resulting groundwater is being diverted to one industry and this is unsustainable. Please reverse the Planning Commission's decision to expand agricultural projects on this scale in The Mattole Valley.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Ehrlich

From: Roxy Kennedy <hnydew@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2020 7:41 PM
To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>
Subject: Re: Honeydew Ranch LLC expansion

Re: Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

ZOOM HEARING Sept. 1st, 9 a.m. Comments.

This is to say that we would like to speak at the Zoom Hearing on the agenda item stated above, on the date listed above.

We have also mailed papers to the county clerk for the board packets, emailed each supervisor and the planning dept. our comments. And we have had a lawyer write up legal statement of our neighbors group. I think we have done everything per your instructions best we can.

Thank you very much,
Roxy Kennedy, Jim Bowdoin, and the "Hindley Ranch Neighbors"

From: Roy Construction <royconstruction@protonmail.com>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 4:45 PM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Cc: Fennell, Estelle <EFennell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bohn, Rex <RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bass, Virginia <VBass@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Re: Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005

Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit, Special Permit and Zoning Clearance Certificate APN 107-272-005: Record Number: PLN-12256-CUP.

The 9 RRRs will have a significant negative impact on the sensitive watersheds of the Mattole Community and River. By the relocation of remediated growsites from other areas of the County to an area of the Mattole that is already being heavily redeveloped with industrial agriculture.

Site descriptions and environmental conditions appear to be inaccurate. For one of many examples on page 4 of the

Initial Study and Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration The southern portion of the property is not near the North Fork of the Mattole(neither one). Not to pick out every detail, but to say that this project is not properly represented by the current documents.

Any large grow of this size is degrading to the environment and support the letter of appeal from others in the Old Hindley Ranch Road Association

Cedric Roy

Honeydew California

From: James Smith <jamesfranksmith@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 4:25 PM

To: Bohn, Rex <RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Fennell, Estelle <EFennell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bass, Virginia <VBass@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Cc: Roxy Kennedy <hnydew@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

Dear Board of Humboldt County Supervisor.

Dear Humboldt County Supervisors:

My partners Julia Cline Newcomb and Roger K. Warren and I have been co-owners of some 61 acres of unimproved land on the Old Hindley Ranch since 1978. We have spent many delightful stays there. We have been shocked at the exceptional proliferation of marijuana green houses. Our neighbors who have opposed additional permits are solid caring citizens for the land rights of all. I am convinced they have carefully researched the issues especially the fire dangers. I urge you to consider pausing the seemingly endless proliferation of permits in our region of already over-utilized resources. It feels like we are squandering our time on earth to not take steps to protect it for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration, James Frank Smith

Parcel Numbers 107-054-023-000; 107-272-002-000

From: Dan B <calcoastal2@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 3:49 PM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Re: Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

I would like to know which board members would vote to give their neighbor the right to install acres of industrial plastic greenhouses if they were adjoining that board member's home. This project is so out of character with the Mattole community that it should be denied without a second thought. People who bought homes in this area to live, work, and retire peacefully are outraged at the scale of what is being proposed and the impact it will have. No one should be forced to see, hear or smell industrial cannabis farms that show up right outside their homes after they have been living peacefully in an area for decades without them. Subjecting residents day in and day out to a grow of this size is unconscionable. Please vote NO. Thank You, Dan Berger 330 Chambers Rd. Petrolia, Ca

From: Abianne Prince <abiprince@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 4:58 PM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bohn, Rex <RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Fennell, Estelle <EFennell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bass, Virginia <VBass@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

Hello - My name is Abianne Prince Below is my comment for the Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

Dear Humboldt County Board of Supervisors :

I am writing in regard to the appeal from the planning Commission's approval of the Honeydew Ranch LLC, Conditional use Permit and Special Use Permit Application number 1256, Case number CUP-18030 and AP 16-461 APN number 107-272-005, 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew. If allowed to proceed, this expansion would negatively impact the Honeydew community, and pose a severe threat to the Mattole River and the salmon depending on clean water to survive. Last Fall I created this video that outlines my objections to the project, and I would like to share it with you. Please see this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MA10TY9YT3Q>

Or if you cannot open the link please google "youtube Stop the Honeydew Ranch expansion."

I have been a resident of Ettersburg for the past 10 years and have seen many changes in Southern Humboldt communities over that time. I applaud the Boards tireless efforts to keep the region's economy strong and allow for small farms to find a pathway to success during this difficult time. I understand that the Board has had to make many tough decisions over the past three years, however I urge you to not allow the reckless industrial expansion of an already questionable cannabis operation. The issues at stake are public safety, water quality, increased fire danger posed by industrialization, lack of appropriate county or state oversight over this sort of large operation, air quality for neighbors, light pollution, inadequate safe housing for workers and undue burden to community infrastructure related to roads and inadequate emergency resources.

The water source for this huge cannabis grow will negatively impact the Mattole Watershed. The residents of the Mattole Valley have fought for 40 years to rebuild salmon populations and have dedicated many state and local funds for this effort. The Honeydew Ranch LLC expansion would undue that success by creating an industrial pollution source on the main stem of the Mattole River. Wastewater runoff from this massive grow will inevitably leach into the Mattole River and negatively impact water quality. The water used to grow this extreme amount of product will be sourced from wells that are surly hydraulically connected to the Mattole River. This is said to be mitigated by the massive pond proposed in the project, but with climate change and drought affecting the regions rainfall, what will the owners do when their pond does not collect the water, they need to grow massive amounts of product? What will they do when the pond runs dry? If you think they will not just stick a pump in the river then you may be fooling yourself or at the very least unaware of the reality of what an operation of that size will do when money is on the line. The fine will just be the cost of doing business for them, at the expense of the Mattole Valley.

In addition, there will be an increased fire danger inherently tied to this large industrial site. Lights inside these massive unsecured greenhouses have thousands of watts of electricity pulsing through them, and the industrial needs of this site requires several huge propane tanks that are unsecured. This is a terrifying prospect for any Mattole resident already concerned about the increased threat of fire in the region. For adjacent neighbors, the unsightly development next-door only decreases property value and quality of life. Light pollution and noise pollution generated by the Honeydew Ranch LLC operation negatively impacts animal species and humans alike. The rural nature of the Honeydew community has already been altered, but to continue to go full speed ahead without consideration of the rural aesthetic and environmental values of the current neighborhood is negligent.

Beyond the concern for the industrialization of the community of Honeydew, this particular farm has other issues that go against the grain of what we want our community to become in the future. The Honeydew Ranch LLC is located on prime agricultural lands right next to the Mattole River, however the growing practices of this Honeydew Ranch LLC (which I have witnessed first-hand) could be done in a warehouse in New Jersey. They grow in pots, where the soil is discarded after use. As someone involved in the cannabis industry, I shudder at the thought of this. As a resident and farmer in the region I do not want this community to become known for large scale industrial grows. I want our future to be rooted in a small boutique sustainable tradition pioneered by this region. This is what makes our region so unique. When tourists come to Southern Humboldt, (which is the future of our economy) they do not want to see industrial greenhouses spread across acres. They do not want to see industrial facilities next to Schools. The Honeydew Ranch LLC is located directly across the Mattole River from The Honeydew School and is located along one of the most majestic roads in our region. What are we doing to our future if we cannot recognize how inappropriate this is for our community?

As an employee of a legal, compliant and permitted small farm, I have navigated the cannabis farm I work with through the legalization process and see hope in our region's future. However, I strongly feel the Boards consideration to expand the Honeydew Ranch LLC would be a huge mistake for the Honeydew community. It would be an environmental disaster for the Mattole River and be devastating for protected Salmon Species dependent on this river, and for the people who live on this land.

Thank You for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,

Abianne Prince
Resident of the Mattole Watershed

--
-Ad Astra Per Aspera

From: Ali Freedlund <ali.freedlund@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2020 8:34 PM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Appeal to expansion of Honeydew Ranch, LLC comment letter

Hello Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Please ensure the attached comment letter is included in the Supervisors board packet to review. Thank you, Ali Freedlund

August 21, 2020

To all the Supervisors for Humboldt County

Re: Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I, Ali Freedlund, resident of Petrolia, CA, am writing to you all as an individual who has lived and worked in the Mattole watershed since 1987-not exactly an old-timer, but long enough to raise a family, who all still live here as adults with their own children. Since the legalization of cannabis, I have witnessed the decline in our valley (which includes Petrolia and Honeydew) of what has always been a tight community ethic (albeit with its differences, we always did support each other with regards to privacy and mutual respect for property and boundaries none-the-less) that provided beautiful, rugged country living at its best. Now, fences and greenhouses separate properties almost like sprawling gated, perimeterized boxes. Thus I write today to oppose the approval of an additional Conditional Use Cannabis Permit for MORE greenhouses/facilities for Honeydew Ranch, LLC than has already been constructed for several reasons outlined below.

Quality of Life: I support the Hindley Ranch Neighbors. I have known most of them for decades and they are good people who live lightly on the land. Honeydew Ranch, LLC is not living lightly on the land. What they have ALREADY is a physical affront to the neighbors, their quality of life, and the watershed. That said, it is there and the neighborhood has humbly accepted it to THIS POINT. They need not accept an increase in the footprint that already impacts their quality of life.

Watershed Health: What kinds of fertilizers, amendments and sprays are being used or will be used so close to the river to safeguard this monocrop? Even little bits of organic fertilizer near waterways has been shown to increase algae, moss and other oxygen robbing plants in the river to the detriment of salmon and other aquatic life. Has the Regional Water Quality Board been consulted? Has the Department of Fish and Wildlife been consulted? How will the increase in footprint ensure that the business has enough water storage? Please, what is already there is enough of an impact to a watershed suffering from over-sedimentation, high temperatures and lack of oxygen.

Your Responsibility: Have you all been out to see this contentious proposal? Please do not approve of this mega-farm until you have visited both the area and the neighborhood. I urge you to represent the interests of all of us, not just the ones that can boost the County's coffers. You should also visit during many parts of the day and night to hear the noise, smell the smells and see the impacts that this business had had on the community.

In closing I want to dial it back a bit and have you imagine if it were your property. How would you feel if the place you created with your heart and soul over decades had changed so rapidly and largely as to feel assaulted?

I have a friend that went through a similar experience in Honeydew. She ended up selling her land and moving to another place where she could be in a neighborhood where residents support each other, but that is not easy to do when you have literally built your own home, raised your family, and created a lifetime of memories.

The Hindley Ranch neighbors have tried again and again to appeal to the workers' of Honeydew Ranch regarding their situation. There has been little give in their direction. What kind of neighbors and constant visitors could you put up with? Please do the kind thing and do not approve any expansion of Honeydew Ranch LLC.

Thank you for your compassionate consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ali Freedlund".

Ali Freedlund
PO Box 1
Petrolia, CA
95558

From: Claire Trower <honeydew@asis.com>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:31 AM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bohn, Rex <RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Fennell, Estelle <EFennell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bass, Virginia <VBass@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

I've lived in the Mattole near Honeydew since 1978 full time. Some Wilder Ridge properties in those days were available for \$320 an acre. Most of the neighbors who first bought into the Landergen subdivision have either passed away or sold to growers, and relocated with a substantial bank account. The same has happened to the Lower Hindley. The remaining neighbors have been living there almost as long as I've been here. Some of my newer neighbors are respectful of the community, and I'm not affected by what they do, because the land limits where grows can be placed up here, and I hear only a hum from the closest scene's fans. This isn't the case for those neighbors of the property in question today, and I'm not saying that I'm used to the fans that I hear either.

This property has been granted permission to accept some relocated cannabis permits which were removed from abated properties in the hills that have gone through restoration of those parcels due to errors in judgement by those land owners. The RRR ordinance written to give those landowners another space to take their permits is a ***flawed document***. The first requirement of this ordinance should be: ***Do no harm to the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhood***. Why should the neighbors suffer from the requirements of an industrial grow site? Yes, the land is zoned agricultural land, though the proposed permits don't need the native soil there to grow anything. I won't go into all the planned developments - they're all listed in the permit, but just because the ordinance requires ag land doesn't mean that this community needs such a huge blow-up of the industrialized production of cannabis. The Planning Commission's decision disregarded the community's complaints when approached by those citizens.

The neighbors of this property were under the impression told to them by the owner that what is there now would remain that size, but at the time they were told this, the permit in question was already being developed - for the previous 3 years. I'm sure that whatever work was done to remediate the abated properties was wonderfully restored, but that doesn't mean that those separate permits should be concentrated onto the piece in question.

My next concern is the fire danger. Huge amounts of plastic on fire is an explosion that would overwhelm our small fire company, and with the State of California on fire today, with the possibility of lightning becoming a common occurrence and fire season lasting all year, Cal Fire only staffs our Mattole Station in the worst fire danger months. They're stretched quite thin right now, with strike teams having been sent to places on fire. Since the river prevents access to 3 sides of this parcel, with only one way in and out, the properties across the river are at risk as well as the other neighbors next door. The owners or their associates haven't proven to be knowledgeable about how and when to burn

on their other properties on Wilder Ridge, and have been visited by Cal Fire and local crews several times, to put out fires caused by either cigarettes or burning weed debris in the dry summer, often at night. There was also a horrible house fire due to a faulty hot water heater at one of the associated parcels, causing the death of the landowner there, and burning 2 other people - all of whom had to be transported by helicopter. It was the most difficult incident for our local fire people to witness and respond to help.

The Board of Supervisors has the responsibility of having our neighborhoods' backs...to make sure our quality of life isn't degraded, or our property values increased only for those who come to grow cannabis. Buying out the neighbors isn't the way to improve the quality of life for the rest of us.

Sincerely,

Claire Trower, community member

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 10:29 AM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bohn, Rex <RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Fennell, Estelle <EFennell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bass, Virginia <VBass@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Re: Appeal of Honeydew Ranch LLC Expansion

Re: Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

Dear Clerk of the Board, and Board Members,

I feel we have been tolerant of the project next door. Bigger and then bigger again. Rarely have we been notified of any changes. Our promise of road repair has not arrived. Dust, Trash, smell, noise levels have not been addressed at current abhorrent levels. 8, 10, 12, 24 hours of industrial sounds for hundreds of days a year. No privacy fencing, no adequate fencing even to keep their dogs, and workers in their own property. Barking dogs, running on our property, chasing deer, and showing up at our back porch. This project has had a free run for years. But has not addressed the issues to make life tolerable to their neighbors. Less traffic, less noise, less lights and smell. Strange people driving around checking out people's homes, and trespassing. Security is an underdeveloped part of this project. A locked gate and horn honking constantly, is not enough, nor is it even effective. We have a lot of worry that we'll be caught up in a robbery. We also have a lot of worry we will be caught up in a fire. They had some hay fields harvested and left others unmowed, of 4'+ tall johnson grass around the barn and generator which runs constantly, and has smoke scorched stains up the side of the barn. In a previous year this was the very field that burned wildly into our property, saving our house only by CDF and the local volunteer companies' speedy efforts. Please say NO to this expansion. Please bring their current level of operations into compliance with health safety laws.

Jim Bowdoin

Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

From: Robert Van Horn <r.van_horn@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 1:38 PM

To: COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bohn, Rex <RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Fennell, Estelle <EFennell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bass, Virginia <VBass@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Re: Appeal from Planning Commission's Approval of Honeydew Ranch, LLC, Conditional Use Permit and Special Use Permit Application Number 1256 Case Number CUP-18030 and Ap16-461 APN 107-272-005 665 Old Hindley Ranch Road, Honeydew

We moved to Honeydew about 17 years ago because it was beautiful, quiet and remote. It was not convenient but we had neighbors who we knew we could count on. Those days are over thanks to policies that don't make a lot of sense to us. Now we listen to t-post pounders, backup beepers, and quads racing up and down the dirt roads that surround us. We used to sleep with our bedroom windows open or out on the porch in the summer. Now it's non-stop greenhouse fans, generators, and an unbearable odor of skunk. We currently sleep with our house closed up tight and run air filters all night during the grow season. My understanding is this addition to the ranch will be year round.

Increased fire danger:

We have already had one very close call with fire from the ranch property. The Cal Fire air crews saved us from a fire that burned across the ranch and was stopped just before it got to our property. At a time when fire is such an obvious threat adding so many people to our community is not going to help. The plan for the ranch is to light the greenhouses. This means generators will be running year round and we will listen to them and breath the fumes of both the generators and the cannabis and whatever chemicals they dump on their crops.

Here is an example of their generator hygiene:





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AUG 26 2020

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



AUGUST 24, 2020
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PO Box 157
Petrolia, CA 95558

APPROVE APPEAL – DENY CUP Record Number PLN-15888, Appeal of Honeydew Ranch, Record Number PLN-12256-CUP. Assessor's Parcel Number 107-272-005

Dear Supervisors,

I oppose the granting of a conditional use permit for a mega-grow in this neighborhood. When the present residents purchased their property and established a working vineyard and homestead, the county was fortunate in that their land use was perfectly compatible with the zoning. The county encouraged their specific uses and they were compliant with all regulations. This project is not compatible with the present character and legal use of the adjacent neighbor.

Then along comes the cannabis industry tsunami and the Board, seeking economic development, voted to zone nearly all rural land for industrial chemical manufacturing of cannabis. This appeal shows that it was not a good fit everywhere.

I have been to the site and am familiar with the situation. I personally know the annoyance of the noise, traffic, odors of a facility similar to what is planned here. It is not compatible with human habitations next door nor is it compatible with the rural nature of the area.

Many of us have dedicated 50 years of effort and expense in the recovery of ecological health of the Mattole watershed and its native salmon run. Industrial “farming” as proposed here will likely create long-term impacts that may take years to work their way through the soil into the nearby river. By then it will be too late. Industrial facilities like these need restrictions on the use of water soluble chemicals. They certainly do not belong adjacent to rivers or watercourses, or to human habitations where children and grand-children live and recreate.

Please deny this project.

Thank you for your consideration of great importance to the future of our valley.

I remain,
Sincerely Yours,

Michael Evenson

Michael Evenson