From: <u>Indy Riggs</u>

To: Strickland, Abigail; Planning Clerk; jayrfenton@gmail.com; karenleongfenton@gmail.com

Subject: Organic Humboldt LLC PLN-2020-16475 APN 205-231-029

Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 2:48:36 PM

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Good afternoon Abbie and planning clerk.

My name is Indy Riggs and I live at 503 Stafford Road, the adjacent parcel to the property associated with this proposed project by Organic Humboldt LLC record number PLN-2020-16475 and hearing date set for April 21, 10:00 am.

I would first like to thank you for the notification of this project and for the opportunity to provide a comment before and during this hearing. Thank you!

That being said I have numerous valid concerns with this project as does every single resident of the small hamlet of Stafford. Many of the neighborhood concerns pertain to the road itself. Strafford Road is a single lane road with next to zero commercial activity associated with it. From our understanding this road is not qualified as a category 4 road and with such an intensification of its use it is also our understanding that it is a requirement for such a large project. There are very few places on this road that even allow for the turning off of it in order to allow oncoming traffic an opportunity to pass. With a large project of this nature a significant increase in traffic is unavoidable. Additionally the property itself is required to have a paved road apron at its driveway's confluence with Stafford Road. Obviously this has not been done.

I would next like to dive into some of the claims being made in this notification letter regarding the cultivation itself. I am a licensed cannabis farmer of outdoor cannabis. I specialize in dry farming various crops including full term cannabis plants. The claim of harvesting two light dep runs a season with the use of dry farming practices is complete bogus, at least as far as a second run goes. It is impossible to dry farm a second run of cannabis. By the time a second run is planted the water table would have receded so much that available wicking moisture from the water table will not be anywhere near the surface of the soil or the roots of newly planted plants. The proponent will be forced to irrigate or lose plants. As far as the claims being made about the water storage and collection system, they are also bogus. Even if true the near 6,000 sq foot propagation facility itself would use more than 10,000 gallons annually, or do they propose to dry farm cuttings and mother plants? As I'm sure you are aware, that too is impossible. To be quite honest with you guys everyone in the neighborhood was beginning to believe the property to be abandoned, as we have had squatters, thieves and other undesirable folks on this property to the point of numerous neighbors including myself, of having to call 911, which of no doubt there are records of these emergency calls. The unpermitted house on the property has every single window broken as far as we can see and as stated assumed to be abandoned. The gate has laid in shambles across the driveway for two years, that is until last month when several water tanks were brought in, placed around the unpermitted home, and a hastily constructed rain catchment system was thrown together. As witnessed by the opposing adjacent parcel and neighbor Jay Fenton, this system has since fallen apart, which means even right now it is not collecting water, nor has it ever. Additionally a massive project like this maxing out cultivation size on a parcel in such proximity to the Eel river is irresponsible at best and completely negligent at worst. I have yet to hear of any biological reports or assessments that have been done by a

licensed biologist and as it is my understanding they are also required for a parcel such as this and a project at such a size.

As you can see we have concerns which number more than i'd like to type at the moment, but I would like to end with a statement regarding the Humboldt County General Plan and specifically a statement regarding the community planning area of The Avenue of the Giants and Stafford itself. "1360 Community Issues: The Avenue communities, in their visioning work, described several common themes. The Avenue communities would like to maintain their character, and see themselves as small-scale, attractive communities with thriving cottage industry, tourism and businesses. The communities envision a healthy relationship with the river, working to restore and enhance the natural environment". I would like to reiterate this vision as it is one that all of Stafford holds dear. We are not anti cannabis, however we are pro community in Stafford. Thank you for your time in reading this and we all look forward to the meeting on April 21 at 10:00 am. Have a good day.

Cordially,

Indy Riggs (707) 498-0746