

From: [Daniel Berger](#)
To: [Holtermann, Michael](#); [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: North Fork Mattole Farms, LLC], Record or Case number PLN-2020-16766 hearing [9-16-2021] (Assessor's Parcel Number) 105-051-009.
Date: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 4:34:12 PM

Dear Mr. Holtermann, and others to whom this may concern,

As a property owner within half a mile of several new greenhouse installations near the Petrolia School, I want to voice opposition to any new greenhouse installations. I never consented to listen to machinery running all night before the present fans became operational. I bought a place to retire with the expectation of normal agricultural sounds, animal sounds, occasional machinery or construction, and children playing in the nearby schoolyard.

Being subjected to the constant hum of industrial machinery like fans and generators for months on end is not what I desire in residential living. No one that owns a mixed residential/agricultural property expects machinery running in the background day and night 24/7. Being surrounded by numerous installations of this type not only destroys the peace of a natural setting, it will destroy the value, livability, and character of our neighborhood. The sound travels unusually well up from the valley floor to my property on Chambers Rd. Even with only the existing installations there is an audible hum that fills what was once a lovely quiet natural environment that was ideal for both families, retirees and normal agriculture. Sometimes they run day and night.

With the number of permits filed, the valley might easily become filled with the constant sound of machinery. A 300 foot setback does nothing to mitigate it. There is no county official out here to monitor or enforce the regulations that do exist. I am told that a three decibel increase above background noise is acceptable and three decibels amounts to a doubling of the naturally occurring ambient sounds. In a nighttime environment like ours the ambient level is essentially zero. So the sound of fans running is what we hear.

I'm sure you have run into this issue before. I hope you will consider the interests and reasonable expectations of existing property owners in regard to their enjoyment of their homes ahead of the recent arrivals and the proliferation of their noisy business model. I am offended when the owners of these job sites who often live elsewhere, in their quiet environs, talk about how they bring valuable jobs to our area. Many seasonal workers trek here from all parts of the world. And growers often spend winters elsewhere. They are busy destroying the true value of this location which is inherent and obvious to those of us who actually reside here year round.

The pastoral view of our landscape should also be considered. We are a tourist destination. People have always vacationed here for the natural beauty and the profound peace. They help the local economy and enjoy the valley without harming it. In the eight years I have lived here I have seen a proliferation of plastic tanks and plastic greenhouses that can best be described as a desecration of a sacred place. The installation in question will be visible from and on the same parcel as the iconic

Pioneer Graveyard of Petrolia.

Many of my immediate neighbors have supported themselves and continue to do so with outdoor cultivation, but they do so quietly and with respect for the character of the neighborhood and each other. I have never had a problem with any of them. We all live right here and enjoy what we have.

In closing I ask you to not facilitate the destruction of Petrolia by noise and plastic on a scale that is unprecedented.

Thank You, Dan Berger 9/15/2021
330 Chambers Road Petrolia