

To Humboldt County Planning Commission
From: Bonnie Blackberry
For: March 3, 2022 Meeting
RE: Blocksburg Family Farms PLN 12265-CUP

Planning Commissioners,

Conditions have changed since 2016. Climate change/crisis/emergency is here now. The ongoing drought is demonstrated by the fires and depletion of the waters in the rivers, streams, springs and wells. Thinking that more rain during the "wet season" will somehow end the drought is not recognizing the reality of how serious the situation is.

Blocksburg is located in part of the county that is experiencing SEVERE DROUGHT conditions, heading into EXTREME DROUGHT conditions. Severe drought areas of southern Humboldt are showing the following effects of the drought.

1. October had the largest amount of rain at just over 13 inches, which was above normal for that time, unfortunately the months of January and February had very little precipitation, compounded by lack of rain last year And now we are in March, with chance of rain predicted to bring may be up to a tenth of an inch.

2. The South Fork of the Eel River has been steadily dropping after the early rains. On **January 26, 2022** it was at **616.44 CFS** , a little over one month later on March 2nd it is at **181.31CFS**. with little if any rain in the forecast. Looks more like a summer flow than the middle of the wet season.

3. Very low flows and no flow in many creeks in the area

4. Uprooted and snapped off woodland trees from December storm.

5, People aren't reporting their wells are drying up, even though we all know it is happening.

Where are the other grows and other properties using wells in the Lower Eel River Planning watershed getting their water? How many wells, using how much water for all purposes, not just cannabis? What are the possible cumulative impacts???

Other issues of concern include the transportation plan which won't succeed as planned because of the actual availability and location of possible workers. No emergency evacuation plan seems risky. No energy plan. How many hours of generator use during hot and dry months?

I question the sense of permitting six acres plus of new cultivation, with very little water storage relying on generators and a well located in a fairly remote area experiencing severe drought with accompanying fire risks, along with the market crashing and other farms failing.

Respectfully,
Bonnie Blackberry,