

## McClenagan, Laura

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**From:** Sara March <smarch13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2021 11:49 AM  
**To:** Planning Clerk  
**Subject:** 16766 North Fork Mattole Farms, LLC

16766 North Fork Mattole Farms, LLC  
APN: 105-051-009  
Record Number PLN-2020-16766

I am writing to comment on the proposed cannabis cultivation site above.

I have serious concerns about agricultural runoff affecting wildlife and specifically water quality in the Mattole River. Most cannabis operations have tremendous inputs of fertilizers and nitrogen is a huge source of water pollution. The potential impacts to the river and riparian area from fertilizer and pesticide runoff have not been properly addressed in the permitting process as this property is flanked on two sides by the river.

The project absolutely presents substantial changes to the current and past uses of the property. Many large plastic buildings, diesel generators, and new buildings and roads constitute a large difference from cattle grazing. The land will no longer constitute "open space" under this project; it will be covered in water tanks, plastic greenhouses, a huge barn, and vehicles. Wildlife will be adversely affected by light and noise pollution, especially the use of diesel generators and grow lights at night.

The project is very large and immediately adjacent to the Petrolia school, Mattole Valley Community Center, and the downtown square of Petrolia. It will adversely impact the children at the school and walking to and from it, community functions, and neighbors, due to strong odors, visual blight, and loud noises. This location is literally central to the downtown community of Petrolia and all the functions that occur therein. More large trucks on the roads downtown from associated with the project will present more danger for people walking and biking downtown. These impacts to the community have not been properly addressed in the permitting process.

This is not an appropriate location for diesel generators. There are already too many in this part of Petrolia. The proposed project is huge. It is way too big for the location, in the heart of a tiny community such as Petrolia. Rows of large plastic greenhouses will detract from the beauty of the area, and the other main economic engine of the community, tourism.

Who is going to be monitoring for unpermitted groundwater usage? There is a well (or more) on the property, if the proposed rain catchment were to run out, wouldn't the operation be utilizing this resource? What is to preclude the operators from pulling water from the Mattole River directly?

There is already a housing crisis in Petrolia, where are the workers for this farm going to live?

Please do not approve this project unless you fully address the above concerns of so many members of the community.

Thank you



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