

ATTACHMENT 6

Public Comments



Lost Coast Ranch® PO Box 157, Petrolia, CA 95558

November 27, 2022

**RE: Xotic Flavorz, LLC: Honeydew, record number PLN-2022-17861 Filed 7/22/2022); Assessors parcel number 107-272-007
Hearing: December 1, 2022 10 am
Humboldt County Zoning Administrator Meeting.**

Dear Planning Director/Zoning Administrator Ford and your Staff,

I have become aware of the above permit application and wish to comment as part of the affected public.

1

What is wrong with the County? Announcing a hearing and not providing the Staff Report until nearly the hearing date! That should be illegal and, if legal, you must take steps to make public participation meaningful by allowing the public a chance to review the project and the Staff Report of public's hired agency.

With that in mind, I respectfully demand that the hearing be re-scheduled to allow for meaningful public comment. Two weeks or more advance notice following publication of the County's Staff Report would be essential to maintain public trust in the process.

2

Once again, the county is encouraging the rezoning of the Mattole watershed's scant prime agriculture land as Industrial Drug Manufacturing. The applicant is not proposing to grow plants in the soil for sale, but rather to house plants in intensive environments and then extract their medicinal and psycho-active ingredients.

Permitting temporary plastic covered greenhouses is an affront to the neighbors, an affront to the planet already drowning in plastic waste (all plastic seems to be very long-lived and distributed throughout the living biosphere to life's detriment), and an affront to long term planning for the lower Mattole.

3

Temporary plastic covered greenhouses must not be allowed. It is time to realize that if cannabis is going to be a “sustainable” crop, then the infrastructure must reflect the long-term view that “sustainable” means self-perpetuating and long-lived. Enough of these toxic plastics in a 303d listed watershed!

4

Plastic greenhouses require vent fans while permanent structured ones, like glassed-in greenhouses, with engineered openings both high and low to use the natural flow of air to perform the same function as fans. Vent fans, despite the County’s position that the noise is undetectable or at a level a neighbor can live with, are a cause of great environmental damage (many species cannot succeed with that constant noise) and neighbor harassment. You try living next to these fans. See how long it takes before you realize what kind of pain and torment you have perpetrated on neighbors.

The electrical requirement of these fans is yet another impact that has not been considered adequately. PG&E tells us it will not allow more hook-ups in the outer south County. Who won’t get to build, or conduct a new business when these unnecessary electrical-demanding greenhouses use up all the juice? Have you considered the impact to future electrical needs of neighbors and region as well as diminished economic growth?

Many times I’ve seen that you give the operators a grace period to generate their power needs by solar or other non-grid means. Why is that? The need is in the present and operators need to come to the table with operational generating capacity in place before commencing operations. The County should not have to monitor after the fact. That is an unnecessary use of County resources.

5

What about light pollution? What are the penalties if light escapes these plastic eye-and-environmental sores? Perhaps you need to take a page out of Texas’ playbook and let neighbors enforce all regulations and reward them for the service by extracting fines for violations from the perpetrators and splitting it with the neighborhood “staff” who are doing the County’s work.

6

Why don’t you hold community meetings to find out how affected people feel by the granting of new or expanded permits? It’s past time for a moratorium. The Planning Department must be responsive to the community and neighborhood and not decide what is best for us without our consent. Loading up our river valley with cannabis greenhouses is the kind of tyranny our nation’s forefathers rose up against with the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Great Britain enacted laws that did not have the consent of the governed. It was defined as tyranny and resisted.

7

The Water! All water is connected to the river at some point in its journey to the sea. Paid professional geologists use language to confuse the Planners and coat the facts with conclusions that a subsurface water source is independent of the river. That’s not how it works on this planet because water flows downhill. Gravity is the one force we can all agree exists

that affects all physical matter. If a geologist claims that the waters are not connected, that geologist must present evidence to demonstrate that it appears somewhere else before it joins the sea. It is absurd to think it disappears. Bureaucratic or professional language is often employed to state the impossible by coating language with terms that sound authoritative, but only serve to confuse or create doubt in the permitting authorities. Common sense has no place in such a process. It is your job to use your common sense – the sense that is common to all people – and not depend on uncommon sense conflated with pseudo- and real scientific terminology.

One thing about residents in this County you can depend on is that we are not easily hoodwinked by power players who seem to bend the bureaucracy to their will.

C'mon, stand up to the power bullies and create the conditions for healthy human communities to thrive, where families can raise children to be honest and self-sufficient, and not despondent over the un-caring of government agencies that work to facilitate extraction of valuable living and natural resources (air, peace of mind, water, land). The damaging extraction has been going on since the 1850s and it is time to put land use on more solid, long-term footing.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Evenson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lost Coast Ranch®
PO Box 157
Petrolia, CA 95558

From: [Roxy Kennedy](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#); [ADA Coordinator](#); [Jim](#)
Subject: Xotic Flavors expanding in Hindley Ranch Road neighborhood
Date: Monday, November 28, 2022 7:38:55 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

RE: Project title: Xotic Flavors,LLC
Record number PLN Dash 2022-17861

Dear Planning and Zoning,

Once again we in the Hindley Ranch Road neighborhood are asked to accept the EXPANDING number of greenhouses, cultivation, water and electrical use, smell, fire dangers, traffic, noise of generators, fans, worker music and hollering on our road, day and night.

We are asked again and again, and again, to compromise because these businesses wish for more and more expansions. In fact a number of expansions have popped up that we were never asked about, simply because we don't share borders. But we do share the same neighborhood and are greatly impacted.

We fought long and hard to hold the line, and made some progress in preventing the 40 greenhouse on one property plan. But the neighborhood kept expanding here and there to fill up anyway. We have complied again and again with compromises as well as acceptance of promises not kept, hoping it would stop at some point.

Unfortunately it appears that Planning is willing to continually step on the neighbors living here, in order to promote the industrial farms. We ask you once again, to stop expanding the farms on our road. We are already enduring an unbearably large number. It is not reasonable to expect us to endure more.

Sincerely,

Roxy Kennedy & Jim Bowdoin