

From: [shirley.hillman](#)
To: [Johnson, Cliff](#)
Subject: Rising Goat Limited PLN-2020-16188
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2021 4:19:24 PM

Dear Mr. Johnson and Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to you once again to express further concerns generated out of the last Planning Commission meeting on February 4, 2021.

We learned at that meeting that the applicant was downsizing his proposed operation to one growing cycle, which automatically decreased his proposed well water usage considerably, on the macro scale, meaning over the course of the year. However, I was chagrined at some of the opinions voiced that now this project could be approved on that basis.

However good this total number of gallons used over the course of the year appears, it demands a more sophisticated analysis than a unidimensional look at a number. It is important to realize that the growing cycle which will be used runs from June to October. This is the driest period of the year and the time period with which we are most concerned. The total amount of gallons per day remains the same. The total amount of water removed remains the same during this most pressured time of the year. In a situation where we feel that the use of the well will impact our water dramatically and adversely, it will be akin to adding another parcel to the water users at the worst time of the year. Please remember that we who use the water have already been unable to access our full allotment of water per day in the dry months, for years now. The difficulties have only increased.

In the final analysis, the applicant has removed the growing cycles that would have had the least impact on the water and kept the cycle that will have the greatest impact. For us, the local neighborhood and water users, it is a net zero, there is no change to the impact with this plan as compared to the previous plan for growing cycles. Once again, I would like to insist that forbearance is the only answer in order to maintain the water environment, maintain property values and livability, and allow the applicant to proceed with a different game plan.

I would also like to address a couple of comments noted from the past two meetings. One in which it was posited that our concerns seemed to be based on "fear". This may well be correct. Unfounded fear based on hysteria and resistance is just that. Fear based on years of exposure to a situation and full knowledge of the data is reality-based and relevant. Second, there was a question about why there were no problems with this grow site prior to this. As we have said many times, the weather has changed, and may I add, significantly. There is less water available to all of us. And, in the past, there was no well sucking water out of the ground. And lastly, there was comment by one of the commissioners about neighbors fears vs use of data and science/experts. I refer again to the above. Reservation based on experience on the ground is relevant and I would ask that our commissioners endeavor to not overtly minimize or covertly disregard the real concerns of the community.

Thank you so much for your attention.

Sincerely,

Shirley Hillman
Overland Subdivision

Please add my letter to the attachments for the next meeting on Feb 18.