

From: [John Williams](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: Mezzrow Farms, Record Number PLN 2020-16621. May 5 hearing
Date: Tuesday, May 03, 2022 5:02:28 PM

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Dear Friends,

I am writing to oppose the proposed Mezzrow Farms application for a permit for even more cannabis greenhouses on several grounds: housing for the workforce; demand for electricity, and most importantly, the cumulative impact of cannabis cultivation on the community.

Housing: Proper housing is very scarce in the Mattole Valley, and many workers at existing cannabis operations are living in trailers without proper septic systems. Making this public health menace worse by adding ten new employees is unwise. The county should instead crack down on existing substandard housing.

Electricity: Our understanding is that existing operations are unable to get as much service from PG&E as they require, and are using polluting diesel generators on that account.

Cumulative impact: The bigger they are, the harder they fall. It is no secret that the cannabis industry in the Mattole Valle and other remote areas is in crisis; growers have asked for tax relief on that account, in effect asking the rest of us to pick up the increased costs to the county from wear and tear on the roads, etc. In the past, when cannabis was quasi-legal, growing in remote areas was advantageous, despite the increased costs from trucking in 'dirt,' etc. Now, prices are down, presumably from overproduction, but some growers are responding to lower profit margins by increasing production. This will not end well, and areas like the Mattole Valley will end up holding the bag.

Sincerely,

John Williams

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