

12/14/2020

Edcgov.us Mail - Comments on Agenda Item #27 (#20-0565) Emergency Hemp Growing Moratorium

Public Comment #34



20-1481

EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

BOS RCVD 12/14/2020

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**Comments on Agenda Item #27 (#20-0565) Emergency Hemp Growing Moratorium**

1 message

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**District4Voters Alliance** <district4voters@gmail.com>

Sun, Dec 13, 2020 at 6:49 PM

To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Cc: bosone@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, BOS Four <bosfour@edcgov.us>, bosfive@edcgov.us, Lori Parlin <lori.parlin@edcgov.us>

Please see the attached Comments on your Agenda Item #27 for Tuesday, December 15, 2020 Meeting.



**District Four Voters Alliance Comments to Board of Supervisors re Hemp Moratorium 12.115.2020.docx**

15K

December 13, 2020

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

Re: District 4 Voters Alliance Comments on Agenda Item # 34. 20-1481

Dear Members of the Board:

We have previously expressed our support for establishing a moratorium on the cultivation of Industrial Hemp ("Hemp") until the County can develop appropriate rules.

- 1). We agree with the recommendation by County staff and the Hemp Ad Hoc Advisory Committee that there should be a moratorium on new Hemp plantings until the County can adopt comprehensive rules governing the growing of Hemp.
- 2). When Hemp cultivation is permitted, it should require an actual County permit to ensure compliance with all the rules. Those rules should include rigorous testing so that Hemp may not be grown as a "cover crop" for unpermitted Marijuana. The Sheriff in the past has indicated his strong interest in being involved in the testing process. We believe that is a good idea.
- 3). Substantial signage should be required to inform observers regarding the nature of the Hemp crop. We understand that "signage" is required by the State. However, we believe the County permit should require minimum size of sign and lettering, as well as requirements about placement -- to accomplish the signs' purposes.
- 4). The permitting process should also include appropriate, site-specific limits on size and proximity to neighboring parcels, schools, parks and other sensitive sites. It should also require the grower to establish they have an adequate water supply available and that their cultivation practices won't result in runoff that may pollute. Hemp is an annual crop. In marked contrast, the vast majority of commercial agricultural crops grown in El Dorado County are perennial crops (see Agenda Item #21. 20-1516 --2019 Agricultural Crop & Livestock Report). Thus, Hemp grows require annual tillage that results in soil disturbance and the resulting potential for winter run-off. In this latter regard, Hemp growers should also be required by their permit to satisfy the requirements for the Irrigated Lands Management Program prescribed by the Regional Water Quality Control Board of the State of California, just like any other irrigated commercial agricultural operation in El Dorado County.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter and our comments.

District 4 Voters Alliance



EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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## Hemp moratorium

1 message

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**Deb Heart** <debheart58@gmail.com>

Sun, Dec 13, 2020 at 8:26 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

My name is Deb Heart and I live on Los Robles Road directly above the hemp grow at the Winje property at 5661 Thompson Hill Road. During the latter part of the growing season, the smell from the grow is nauseating. The winds blow it up to our house and it permeates everything from the interiors of my vehicles to the interior of my house. I'm unable to use my deck for 2 months because of the smell. If you drive on Thompson Hill from Lotus Road, the smell is overwhelming as you cross the bridge! Additionally, I suffer from migraines and the odor has exacerbated the problem, leaving me ill for two days at a time. Please strongly consider the moratorium as this grow is inappropriate for this area. Thank you.

Deb Heart  
1125 Los Robles Road  
Placerville, CA 95667  
(916) 730-8439

Sent from my iPhone



EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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## Hemp

1 message

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**Tom Van Noord** <tom.vannoord@gmail.com>

Mon, Dec 14, 2020 at 3:21 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: Thomas Van Noord <tom@tvnlaw.com>, Dave Bolster <David.Bolster@c21selectgroup.com>

Supervisor Palin suggested sharing this dialogue and my additional comments with the Board:

Lori:

Hi Tom, I see what you're looking at. Yes, the Ag Dept is not taking a position, it is following direction from the BOS based on a recommendation from the ad hoc committee.

Tom:

Got it. One of my concerns is that my license/registration with the state goes through July 2021 so I will be planting in the spring and harvesting at the end of summer. I don't want a moratorium preventing me from harvesting the crop I plant under my existing entitlement. And I'm not sure what the 45 day moratorium will actually accomplish since no one will be planting until the spring anyway. Maybe the moratorium should address the issuance of new registrations - and leave existing alone.

Finally.... :). I'm not at all convinced any actual "nuisance" has been established based on what I heard at the public ad hoc meeting. One person complained about an odor in her horse barn. No complaints about the other 5 farms. Our personal observations seemed to indicate if 50-100 feet away basically no smell. The odor from 6 pot plants (with no setbacks) as allowed by the county produces more smell than a crop of hemp (as I think you said was true from your sister's single plant...). Maybe there are more complaints via emails, etc. than I know about?

Let me know if there is anything I can do to assist in this process. And Thank You for your efforts!

Tom

Tom Van Noord  
530-306-5611c/t