

**Brianda Negrete**

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**From:** Anna Carrillo <annacarp@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2022 1:14 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Hartmann, Joan; Williams, Das; Nelson, Bob; Laura Capps; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Subject:** 22APL-00000-00028, 19CDP-00000-00015, Ceres Farm

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

December 9, 2022  
To: Board of Supervisors  
From: Anna Carrillo

As a long-time resident of Carpinteria Valley and a participant for the last 5 years in practically all of the public meetings regarding cannabis activities occurring here, I would like to make some important comments that I would like you consider regarding this project.

1. Please **deny this appeal** of the owners/operator of Ceres Farm due to their statement that they shouldn't have to install carbon scrubbers as conditioned by the Planning Commission in September 2022.
2. Though this is one of only two operators in the Carpinteria Valley using the Fogco vapor phase system, there are immediate residents suffering severe health problems because **there have been no long-term inhalation studies of spraying this chemical into the air in Carpinteria.**
3. On Oct. 4, 2022, when your board approved the appeal at their neighboring parcel at 5980 there admittedly had not been that many odor complaints received. Now I know for a fact that has changed and I've even seen the odor complaints made recently to the company's Primary Odor Contact. His few responses to the neighbor making the complaints have been very disheartening even though the owners/operator had signed the agreement with the Coalition about the 4 tiered response to odor complaints, needing to respond within the hour and move through the tiered response level. Eric Edwards, Headwaters' Compliance Officer, promised at the hearing before your board on 10/4/22 that because of the agreement they are obligated to respond within 2 hours. Planning Director Plowman even touted that agreement at the Oct. 4th meeting and stated that eventually the conclusion would be to get to carbon scrubbers, so why should the private agreement which includes all residences have to be utilized?
4. Filing a complaint is quite a laborious process and many in the Carpinteria Valley have given up filing complaints because there has been no action even for those operations that are fully permitted. I am hoping with the hiring of the firm Geosyntec that will change.
5. It's definitely not fair that avocado farmers can't have **drift** from their spraying of pests go onto neighbors' properties, while growers of cannabis can. Remember cannabis was not granted **Right to Farm status, so their drift is a nuisance problem** for neighbors regardless of what zone they live in.
6. A next door business has had to change their whole business model because of the daily odor issues. This is just not fair!
7. The owners/operators of Ceres Farm are the same owners/operators of the property at 3450 Via Real where their OAP has stated that "**carbon scrubbing is considered the best industry practice to mitigate odors**" and even resubmitted their OAP to reflect this and were approved by the Planning Commission at the meeting on 12/5/22 last week.

8. At last week's Planning Commission of 12/5/22, when a Planning Commissioner asked specifically about the electrical grid, Joe Dargel stated that the Building and Safety Dept. has said **the electrical grid is not an issue.** With 9.5 acres requiring probably 95 CFS 3000 scrubbers this would draw around 100 amps of electricity. How much is being used now for the Fogco system? On 10/4/22 the same day that you upheld the appeal by the owners/operators of 5980 Casitas Pass, the adjacent cannabis farm, you also insisted that the County pursue all electric for homes. Isn't there some hypocrisy there?

9. The cannabis ordinance requires the **Best Available Control Technology** be utilized for solving odor problems which is what the Planning Commission followed when they added this condition to their approval of their CDP.

10. Currently in the cannabis ordinance the county will only respond to complaints made in residential zones, this restriction **needs to be changed** so the County can respond to complaints of residences who live outside the agricultural zone. **It is unconscionable that the County can not and will not respond to complaints made by Cate School, housing over 300 students, 75 faculty and many small children in their childcare facility because of this rule.**

11. **Please deny this appeal and leave the condition that the owners/operator needs to install carbon scrubbers within 12 months.**

Thank you for your consideration,  
Anna Carrillo

## Brianda Negrete

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**From:** merrily peebles <merpeebles@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2022 3:08 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Nelson, Bob; Williams, Das; Laura Capps; Lavagnino, Steve; Hartmann, Joan  
**Subject:** BOS meeting re: Ceres Farm marijuana operation at 6030 Casitas Pass Rd-scrubbers must be condition of their permmit

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Dear Supervisors,

For five years Carpinteria has struggled with the smell of pot. We now have scrubbers that can do the job. The County has mandated "best odor technology." Please do the right thing and deny the Ceres appeal and uphold the Planning Commission recommendation for carbon scrubbers. What more needs to be said? Cate school and homeowners are struggling. This is your opportunity to do something for the majority of Carpinteria residents and school children. There is no reason not to vote with the Planning Commission.

'Sincerely,

Merrily Peebles  
Carpinteria

## Brianda Negrete

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**From:** Villalobos, David  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2022 11:30 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Fwd: Carbon Scrubbers

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**From:** George Zwerdling <geehzee@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2022 5:30:06 AM  
**To:** Villalobos, David <dvillalo@countyofsb.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Carbon Scrubbers

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Please distribute my email to Sup Lavagnino to all the other Supervisors

George Zwerdling  
Carpinteria

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** George Zwerdling <geehzee@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Sat, Dec 10, 2022 at 6:38 AM  
**Subject:** Carbon Scrubbers  
**To:** <[steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org](mailto:steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org)>

Dear Supervisor Lavagnino...Please urge your colleagues to insist upon carbon scrubbers for marijuana projects. Producers should not be allowed to inflict even more harm to the community by emitting dirty, stinky air. As a society, we have worked diligently to lessen the dangers of second hand smoke from cigarettes. It defies logic that we wouldn't want to do the same with marijuana. If an individual wants to take the risks, known and unknown, from marijuana use, that's his business. But as a non user, why should I be exposed to risk and obnoxious odors?

No business wants to add to its costs and lessen its profits. But if a marijuana producer needs to inflict harm on society to make money, perhaps, he should consider another line of work.

George Zwerdling  
Carpinteria

## Brianda Negrete

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**From:** Laughlin, Jessica (SFO - X56995) <Jessica.Laughlin@hkllaw.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 12:00 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Brianda Negrete  
**Subject:** Ceres Farm, LLC Appeal of the Planning Commission Approval of the 6030 Casitas Pass Mixed-Light Cannabis Cultivation Project, Case Nos. 22APL000000-00028 and 19CDP-00000-00015  
**Attachments:** 6030 Casitas Appeal\_ Written Testimony of WHahn MD(182121979.1).pdf; 6030 Casitas Appeal. Written comments of Danielle Dall(182119499.2).pdf; 6030 Casitas Pass. TBliss Draft Comment(182122698.1).pdf; Mimi's Comment Letter 6030 Casitas Pass.pdf

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good morning,

Attached please find the comment letters of my clients Rose Story Farm through Danielle Dall'Armi and William V. Hahn, M.D., Mimi Mauracher, and Tim Bliss. Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the attached documents.

Thank you,

**Jessica Laughlin | Holland & Knight**

She/Her/Hers

Senior Counsel

Holland & Knight LLP

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**From:** Laughlin, Jessica (SFO - X56995)

**Sent:** Friday, December 9, 2022 12:02 PM

**To:** sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us; Brianda Negrete <bnegrete@countyofsb.org>

**Subject:** Ceres Farm alley Crest, LLC Appeal of the Planning Commission Approval of the 5980 Casitas Pass Mixed-Light Cannabis Cultivation Project, Case Nos. 22APL000000-00028 and 19CDP-00000-00015

Good morning,

Attached please find the Letter in Opposition to the Ceres Farm, LLC Appeal of the Planning Commission Approval of the 6030 Casitas Pass Mixed-Light Cannabis Cultivation Project, Case Nos. 22APL000000-00028 and 19CDP-00000-00015, First Supervisorial District on behalf of our clients Rose Story Farm through Danielle Dall'Armi and William V. Hahn, M.D., Tim Bliss, and Mimi Mauracher Brown and Anthony Brown, M.D. Please contact me if you have any questions or have any issues accessing the attachment.

Thank you,

**Jessica Laughlin | Holland & Knight**

She/Her/Hers

Senior Counsel

Holland & Knight LLP

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Written Testimony of William Hahn, M.D.  
Opposing Appeal of Ceres Farm, 6030 Casitas Pass Road

My name is Dr. William Hahn. I have been a medical doctor trained in internal medicine for over 50 years and have practiced locally at the Sansum Clinic for the last 45 years. I have lived with my wife Danielle Dall'Armi at Rose Story Farm located at 5950 Casitas Pass Road for over 30 years. We have raised our 2 sons there and in addition to growing avocados commercially we have developed the largest fragrant rose farm in America. It is, unfortunately, located approximately 700 feet downwind from Ceres Farm and 300 feet downwind from the Valley Crest Cannabis greenhouse and.

People are getting sick, including my wife, my tenants, and my guests at our farm. The sickness- headaches, nausea, fatigue and respiratory distress,- started after the Fogco system was installed. To my knowledge, the Benzaco chemical deodorant used in the Fogco system has not been tested in human subjects to ascertain whether inhalation can cause the type of symptoms we are experiencing. The Chemical Safety Sheet included with the facility's Odor Abatement Plan (OAP) states that the chemicals are not on a list of known toxic chemicals; however, as a physician, I know that this statement does not mean the compound could not be responsible for our symptoms. Recall that DDT, Round Up, and a variety of plastics, and many other products now understood to be highly toxic were at one time thought to be entirely safe for human exposures. Despite being characterized as non-toxic the EPA assessment of the Benzaco product notes that exposure may cause irreversible tissue damage and blindness, plus significant toxicity to aquatic life.

The chemical testing identifies only a single inhalation toxicity test. (Rick O'Sadnick Senior Scientist Benzaco May 19, 2020 letter to Greenbrier Holdings Valley Crest Farms, LLC). In that study, 10 rats were exposed to high levels of the product for 4 hours to assess mortality-- the rats did not die, which is a good thing. There were not however, any observations or data on any non-lethal effect on the rats, specifically no information as to untoward reactions such as vomiting, pulmonary congestion, respiratory distress or wheezing. In addition, Benzaco provides no data concerning the health effects of long-term inhalation of this product. Claiming that a 4 hour exposure of 10 rats provides sufficient data to determine the long-term effects of this product on humans is clearly ridiculous. People, perhaps much more than rats, have a broad range of sensitivities and underlying health conditions which can predispose them to unexpected respiratory reactions.

The Benzaco deodorant represents a risk to those who are sensitive to the trade secret protected essential oils. Persons with asthma have hyperreactive airways that respond to even low concentrations of atmospheric irritants, including essential oils. The result can be anything from shortness of breath to a full blown asthma attack. Indeed, the American Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America has concluded that essential oils can be detrimental to people with asthma because "breathing in the particles released by the oils may trigger an asthma attack." AAFA Explains: Can Essential Oils Help Asthma? I Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, People can have a wide array of adverse physiologic reactions to odors including headache, nausea, fatigue, and even vomiting, given different circumstances and underlying health conditions. My wife's pulmonary doctor is certain that her respiratory reactions are a result of exposures to the chemicals in the fogging agents..

Since the facility started fogging, my wife and others at our farm have been getting sick with the symptoms one would expect from exposure to an inhaled environmental irritant. Although not the intent of the technology, it is unfortunately the result. Carbon scrubbers are available, and, as the recent scrubber efficacy study demonstrated, clearly a superior approach that mechanically removes odors, as opposed to creating new odors. As such it is not responsible to allow this fogging experiment to continue and expand. I respectfully ask that you deny the appeal for the protection of the community, my farm, and my family.

My name is Danielle Dall'Armi. I live at 5950 Casitas Pass Road, Rose Story Farm. Rose Story Farm is an internationally acclaimed small model farm, growing fragrant roses for the cut flower industry. We have been farming roses for 25 years here in Santa Barbara and have been featured in multiple national publications including Martha Stewart, Better Homes & Gardens, and the Wall Street Journal. Our business model included selling cut roses, distilling petals to make hydrosols and oils, and selling rose buds and petals to the food industry for use in confections and syrups.

I was honored as a Great Rosarian of the World in 2014, joining an elite group of 19 international recipients, including only 5 Americans and 3 women. I earned this honor because of our educational outreach program which encouraged people to grow and enjoy roses through a series of ongoing tours and seminars at our rose farm for people of all ages, ranging from groups of school children to retirees. We have had to disband these tours due to the maliforous odors and masking materials emanating from the cannabis operation directly adjacent (300 feet) to our farm. We can no longer distill rose petals nor sell them to the food industry. Not only are the cannabis odors masked with Fogco, but the incredible rose fragrances are masked as well.

Our tenants, guests, and employees complain constantly about the stench and the physical reactions triggered by the exposures. My employee in charge of all rose sales is leaving after working with us for nine years due to her recurrent pulmonary problems all of which started after the use of the Fogco agents. At our son's wedding this summer, several guests who were opera singers, as is he, had immediate respiratory reactions, one requiring an ER visit for an asthma attack.

We have multiple houses on the property and my husband and I have had to move to the guest house furthest from the cannabis facility in an attempt to avoid the intense stench and cover up material. We have been renting our 100 year old farm house to provide additional farm revenue, and have lost two sets of tenants over the stench. The last to leave was a family of two medical doctors and their four young children. They loved the farm, had enrolled their children in Crane School, and were planning to stay for a year. Two months into their stay, their four year old daughter began to vomit every morning. We tried an air purifier, resealing the windows and doors, and made several other attempts to mitigate the smell. Finally after an entire day of vomiting, the family gave notice, packed up and left within 24 hours. They consulted with their pediatrician who told them her GI upset was related to her exposure to the fumes. This was understandably a huge disappointment to us, not to mention a significant financial impact. Rental income from this 9000 square foot home has been a major contributor to the economic viability of the farm since disbanding the tours.

I have also been personally struggling with severe allergies and respiratory difficulties. There is not a day that goes by without severe coughing and shortness of breath. We've been here for 30 years, and prior to the influx of cannabis facilities, I did not have any issues. I spent a month this summer away from the farm and within 3 days, had no cough nor allergy issues. After describing my symptoms at a recent consult with Dr. Brian Garber, a local pulmonologist, he told me they were identical to two other patients of his who live immediately adjacent to cannabis greenhouses. We are continuing to try various medications, however he believes moving out of the area may be the only long term solution. I have an incessant cough which comes on in the middle of the night interrupting my sleep and causes intense headaches. The repercussions of this have severely affected the quality of my life and my work here at the farm.

The presence of both the cannabis odors and now the fog masking has dramatically impacted my health and has significantly altered our agricultural business. We have tried to work together as neighbors rather than file incessant odor complaints, but after learning that the County is putting the onerous on neighbors to file complaints as the means of tracking odor, we have been forced to file more odor complaints. We are currently not able to sustain our rose growing business which has been flourishing for over 20 years. Our farm income is significantly diminished and my health has deteriorated. The proliferation of cannabis growing operations has clearly impacted the Carpinteria Valley. As such, the Board of Supervisors should do anything in their power to mitigate the negative effects and we are requesting an immediate requirement for carbon scrubbers.

My name is Tim Bliss. My family and I have lived in Santa Barbara for years and we commercially grow avocados at my present residence. My great hope is that my family will live and farm here, as well. However, we must address the persistent cannabis odors that plague the East-end of the Carpinteria Valley. The need for the best available control technology is a community-wide, public health and welfare issue. It is also a farming preservation issue.

My family and I have suffered with persistent and ongoing cannabis odors from the Valley Crest and other local grow operation for years. The odor can be unbearable especially when the wind is blowing toward us and there is an inversion layer. When this happens my house and neighbors' properties are trapped under a dome of cannabis odors. We are forced to stay in our house or go somewhere else.

I am aware that the odor has an effect on the value of my property. But, more than that, the odors have so impacted our community that many of us are wondering whether we can stay in homes, where we have lived for years and generations in some cases. It's our community's issue, which is why I am here asking you to affirm the Planning Commission's condition of approval requiring the implementation of carbon scrubbers over the course of this coming year. What we really need is imposition of the best technology as soon as practically possible.

I also want to make clear, that I am not opposing the Cannabis Industry. In fact, I believe that by affirming the Planning Commission's condition of approval and requiring immediate use of carbon scrubbers (or, at the very least, the one-year phase-in of carbon scrubbers), the cannabis industry, as well as our immediate community, will be better protected now and in the long-run.

How is that? The answer is two part: first, to maintaining consistency of practice and regulatory requirements. County staff and the Planning Commission have approved or conditioned grow facilities on the use of carbon scrubbers. The grow operations that have adopted the use of carbon scrubber-- either following the requirements of the Planning Commission or voluntarily-- have made a capital investment of funds and an investment in the quality of our community. If it were, now, determined that a lesser financial commitment and a smaller investment in odor control is acceptable, the result would be to economically punish-- and potentially make non-viable-- those very companies that made the financial investment in community protection, and to make those companies. This would be an exactly backward result, and it should not be allowed to happen.

Second, failing to protect the community and failing to protect other agricultural business, by allowing a lesser level of protection, can only add to the divisiveness within our community. The currently level of acrimony is bad for everyone, and litigation, as you know, is already underway. Establishing protective requirements will allow the cannabis industry, other agricultural businesses, and the community to exist as good neighbors.

You are in a position to support the fact-based determination of your Planning Commission to require carbon scrubbers. To do otherwise would result in a continued and exacerbation of intolerable cannabis odors. It would economically punish exactly those cannabis growers who have committed resources to protecting the environmental quality and health of their neighbors. And, it would worsen already frayed relations. In short, it would be bad for the community, bad for the industry, and bad for the civil and respectful relationships between agriculture and residents that have typified our community for more than one hundred years.

I respectfully ask that you affirm the Planning Commission's decision and deny the appeal.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am living on my family's ranch at 6200 Casitas Pass Road in Carpinteria, CA that my parents bought in 1951. I have 46 acres and 42 of them are planted in avocados. The other four acres are dedicated to housing. There are three houses on this property and two of them are rented. My tenants have commented on the odor of pot and how awful it is.

We all live next door to Case Van Wingerden's greenhouses filled with marijuana plants. Sometimes I can smell it quite badly and other times I cannot. I have taken videos of the emitters on the vents at his roofline. These emitters are letting something mask the smell of the marijuana so I will be tricked into thinking that all is right in Carpinteria. What is being released in the air to cover this odor? How is it affecting my lungs? Is it cancer causing? What is it doing to my avocado trees which is my financial livelihood and that of my daughter and her husband and four children?

The odor is so bad coming up Casitas Pass Road. I no longer ride my bike or walk into town because of the odor. I have gone to the County website and filed complaints. I have enclosed one response I received from Planner Kevin De Los Santos. I used to file complaints more often but I wouldn't get a response and it takes time that I don't really have to spare. More importantly, it seems like it doesn't matter. The County is going to do whatever they want to do and the citizens have to buck up and smell this odor every single day.

The cannabis business has certainly put Carpinteria on the map. This might be good news for the growers but not for the rest of us that are growing avocados or lemons, etc. I have heard that the cannabis growers donate lots of money to different local causes. This is also good news for some but for the rest of us we get to continue to smell the pot odor. If they can afford to donate all this money to local causes why can't they afford to install carbon scrubbers? This contribution to the local air and odor would lessen their negative feedback and hopefully their time in court. This is not going away. If one is going to cause problems with the air we breath, why wouldn't one want to make an effort to keep it clean and clear for all? It's hard to be a good neighbor when your neighbor cares more about his money than you.

Please at least have the cannabis growers use carbon scrubbers. The odor is too much. The future is important and our air is key.

Thank you for your time.  
Mimi Mauracher  
August 31, 2022