

Sarah Mayer *Public Comment - WE Watch*

#4



From: Nancy Emerson <nancyfemerson52@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 19, 2024 4:44 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: WE Watch letter regarding Briefing on Cannabis Odor Abatement
Attachments: WEW_BOSCannabisletter_41924.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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 afternoon,

WE Watch's board just voted to send the attached letter for Tuesday's meeting. Please send to the Board's members if possible. Sorry to miss the 12 noon hour for submitting.

Nancy Emerson

WE Watch, P.O Box 830, Solvang CA93464

Attn: sbcob@countyofsb.org
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
123 E. Anapamu
Santa Barbara, CA 93101



Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors members:

WE Watch asks that, as you revisit the topic of Cannabis Odor Abatement monitoring, please consider the impacts of odor from its cultivation on the residents of the Santa Ynez Valley from the open-air farms in our area. The city of Buellton receives the brunt of the skunky odor and irritating terpenes from the dozens of acres of cannabis grown just upwind of our schools, neighborhoods, businesses, parks, and trails during the growing season.

For the past several years, from May through November, our SYV lowlands and foothills have suffered from uncontrolled odors blowing in on the westerly winds or sinking in around us with the nightly fog. Depending on wind and weather conditions, the stench spreads from West Coast Farms and other nearby grows along Hwy 246 and Santa Rosa Road to Avenue of the Flags, McMurray Road, and into the Buellflats.

Several of our members in Solvang and Santa Ynez have also reported odors. Those who have taken the time to file odor complaints are frustrated with a lack of response and countless others find the odor complaint process tedious and futile.

How does one control odors at the property boundary of an outdoor grow when the enclosed greenhouses in Carpinteria can't keep from sickening their neighbors? A significant number of people suffer from headaches, nausea, eye irritation, and respiratory discomfort throughout the growing season. Windows that used to be opened to capture the afternoon ocean breeze must remain closed with fans and air conditioners wasting energy, increasing utility expenses and contributing to global warming just to breathe a little more freely in our homes.

A method needs to be found to confine odors to parcel boundaries for outdoor cannabis sites upwind of our cities, without adding other noxious vapors. Reducing acreage and locating farms further away from populated areas would help, also. We expect our neighbors in Lompoc, Los Alamos, and the Nojoqui area feel the same way.

Sincerely,

WE Watch Board of Directors