

From: Marilyn Portman <mportman8@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2022 11:19 AM

To: John Peters <jpeters@mono.ca.gov>; Jennifer Kreitz <jkreitz@mono.ca.gov>; Rhonda Duggan <rduggan@mono.ca.gov>; Bob Gardner <bgardner@mono.ca.gov>; Stacy Corless <scorless@mono.ca.gov>; J. Scott Bush <jsbush@mono.ca.gov>; Roberta Lagomarsini <rlagomarsini@mono.ca.gov>; Chris Lizza <clizza@mono.ca.gov>; patricia@mammothlakeshousing.org <patricia@mammothlakeshousing.org>; Jora Fogg <jfogg@mono.ca.gov>

Subject: Support Sierra High Farms

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Supervisors,

I have lived in the Antelope Valley since 1961. Over the years one gets tired of seeing new people from Southern California moving to the valley and deciding they know how things should be. The Sierra High Farm folks purchased out of the way sage brush that no one wanted with plenty of land around them for a good buffer from their few neighbors.

I have gotten to know most of the people who started this company and found them to be great neighbors and self-supporting educated people from various backgrounds. They have complied with the tedious requirements for this kind of operation and I know they will be just as responsible in the way they manage it. Do a few newish residents and folks who live in Nevada get the right to tell their neighbors how to live? This group is legal, hard working and to my mind have demonstrated they care about their neighbors and our environment. Let them prosper, while following the laws, so they can add their talents and the jobs they will create to our small community. We need some need blood - I feel they will add skills, tax dollars and diversification to our struggling valley.

Please approve their plans.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Portman
62 year resident

From: E. Chichester <echichester@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 5:07 PM

To: Bob Gardner <bgardner@mono.ca.gov>; Jora Fogg <jfogg@mono.ca.gov>; John Peters <jpeters@mono.ca.gov>; J. Scott Bush <jsbush@mono.ca.gov>; Rhonda Duggan <rduggan@mono.ca.gov>; Roberta Lagomarsini <rlagomarsini@mono.ca.gov>; Stacy Corless <scorless@mono.ca.gov>

Subject: Requesting your support for Sierra High Farms

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Jennifer, Rhonda, Bob, John, Stacy, Patricia, Roberta, Jora, Scott and Chris,

As someone born and raised in Coleville, and whose father and grandfather were both born here, I feel strongly that there are compelling reasons why Sierra High Farms would be a boon to the Antelope Valley and its residents.

I love this place. There are trees and rocks and vistas that I've known for more than 50 years. The declination of the sun at certain times of the day or a faint breeze on a summer night carrying the call of a great horned owl; these are some of my fondest memories. No matter where I've lived - Italy, England, San Francisco, the Midwest - Coleville will always be home. But a practical reality remains. As much as I would like to be here with my family full time, the economic outlook is bleak. Sure, I could come home and try to raise cattle and grow hay, but as we all know, water shortages, hotter summers, and the razor-thin margins associated with raising cattle make this a risky proposition.

Consequently, I've followed the idea of novel forms of agricultural production in the valley with a lot of interest over the last several years. I more recently, I have spoken extensively to the founders of the Sierra High Farms Project about their plans for cannabis cultivation. The conclusion that I have come to is that theirs is a very well-thought-out and intensively-researched business plan. It would put a remote and sparsely populated corner of the valley to its highest and best use. And, critically, it would bring jobs and tax revenues to a community that is slowly fading away.

I've heard some of the comments by detractors whose main objections appear to stem from fear and an unwillingness to accept change. I have some thoughts about these objections:

Residents voted for this

Cannabis cultivation was approved almost two to one by local voters. That's the voice of the majority. This is our mandate.

Location

The proposed location is ideal in that it's tucked away from any towns. It's off a long stretch of dirt road, for Pete's sake, with only a few residents nearby. You really could not ask for a more suitable location. As for concerns about odor, noise, light pollution and safety, cannabis is the most strictly regulated agricultural industry in the state. This company would have never made it to this stage had it not jumped through myriad hoops to demonstrate that it met, and, in most cases, exceeded these stringent

requirements. Local voters affirmed their approval of cannabis cultivation by a resounding majority and this location has met all regulatory requirements. It's the perfect location.

Safety

I'm the parent of an 11 year old child, and I can say with absolute confidence that the detailed plans proposed by Sierra High Farms addressed any concerns I might have had. And yes, I would be comfortable living with my child near this business. I know that it would afford far greater security and more fire protections for its neighbors than there are at present.

Water

I grew up watching my father irrigate. I know how much water it takes to irrigate alfalfa and winter wheat and garlic. The water usage proposed by this project is vastly smaller than any other agricultural concern in the valley. Water is not an issue.

Character of the valley

The valley was settled by people like my great grandfather Bruce, who started with a herd of goats and then switched to cattle. Year after year of drought and the break-even-if-you're-lucky reality of farming and ranching means that I myself would never consider raising cattle. It just doesn't make any economic sense. What I do want to see is a well-run and highly-regulated agricultural business that brings jobs and tax dollars to the community. I believe Sierra High Farms is the future of the kind of sustainable agricultural production the valley needs. I'm also confident it will be invisible to the vast majority of the populace. If you look at the number of people involved and the seasonal nature of the work, it just isn't going to change what daily life looks like for 99% of all residents. As to the people who don't want this business anywhere near them, I'd say that if you don't own the land, you don't really get to decide how someone else is going to legally use land they own. And for those who would like to keep the bucolic farms and ranches the way they are, perhaps it's their turn to take a crack at the backbreaking, economically infeasible toil of ranching and farming themselves. I can't imagine there'd be many takers for this proposition.

In closing, I have dreamt of an opportunity for a year-round job where I could be near my ageing parents while furthering my family's agricultural legacy in the valley. The Sierra High Farms Project presents just such an opportunity in a way that is smart, sustainable, and which will drive the local economy with solid financial outcomes.

Antelope Valley needs this kind of bold, forward-thinking action to ensure that it thrives. What worked in the past no longer does. The Sierra High Farms Project presents a practical path forward to ensure that our community flourishes into the future, for our neighbors, ourselves, and our families.

I ask each of you in the strongest possible terms to please approve the Sierra High Farms Project.

Sincerely,

Ella Chichester

From: hawhee546@aol.com <hawhee546@aol.com>

Sent: Sunday, December 11, 2022 1:46 PM

To: Jennifer Kreitz <jkreitz@mono.ca.gov>; Rhonda Duggan <rduggan@mono.ca.gov>; Bob Gardner <bgardner@mono.ca.gov>; John Peters <jpeters@mono.ca.gov>; Stacy Corless <scorless@mono.ca.gov>

Subject: Please approve Sierra high farm project

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Madams and Sirs,

As a registerd and active voter of Mono county and resident home owner of the Topaz area in which this project is located I am in favor of the Sierra High Project.

I am one of the closest properties to the Farm, and they are actualy quite a distance from anyone.

Anyone who is worried about smell is not living in this valley, if you do you know that any potential odor would simply blow away, there isnt anyone close enough to the site to be affected. Nobody complains about the Park Ranch feed lot.

The owners of the project are local, long time contributing members of the community. Always there helping others even when they need help.

The financial impact to the county can only be positive, taxes, jobs etc. They are asking to have a bussiness that has been approved by voters and they have done all of the due diligence etc.

This is also an agricultural project that helps keep the valley agricultural :) Please dont be like Lyon co. and Douglas co. Nevada where someone has a friend that doesnt like a project or person, so even if those projects are in full compliance with all zoning, historical use etc, they vote against it, and that keeps great people from doing good things for their community.

Just a personal note about myself, I do not use cannablis, even when I was deathly ill from chemo therapy. I do know that it is a very effective treatment for many people with epilepsy, and Vets with PTSD etc. With one son a Navy veteran and another an Army sargent E-6, I would like to see people like the project owners that actually care about Veterans able to help and support themselves.

Maybe someday someone will build a grow house for tomatos and lettuce.....a person can dream.

Thank you for taking my opinion into consideration and thank you for your service.

Sincerely

Dianne Hawhee

115772 US HWY 395

Topaz CA

From: Darren Salmond <dmsfrdracing@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 12:30 PM

To: John Peters <jpeters@mono.ca.gov>; Stacy Corless <scorless@mono.ca.gov>; Bob Gardner <bgardner@mono.ca.gov>; Rhonda Duggan <rduggan@mono.ca.gov>; Jennifer Kreitz <jkreitz@mono.ca.gov>; patricia@mammothlakeshousing.org <patricia@mammothlakeshousing.org>; Roberta Lagomarsini <rlagomarsini@mono.ca.gov>; Jora Fogg <jfogg@mono.ca.gov>; J. Scott Bush <jsbush@mono.ca.gov>; Chris Lizza <clizza@mono.ca.gov>

Subject: Please approve the Sierra High Farms Project

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello,

I am a current resident in the city of Coleville who definitely supports the approval on the Sierra High Farms project here in the Little Antelope Valley of Mono county.

What this means:

- Sierra High Farms will provide year-round jobs for all people in our community.
- This is great news for us to have another employment opportunity locally. Especially for graduating high school students.
- Easy short travel to work no matter the weather conditions.
- Fuel savings as well as less wear and tear on personal vehicles.
- Potential auto insurance savings, reduction in annual miles driven.
- Lower commuting times translates to more free time.
- Exciting ground floor and startup level opportunity with a brand-new business.

In attending a local Q&A meeting provided by the Sierra High Farms staff, it is obvious the team is highly organized, thoughtful and professional in all operational matters on the project. Due to their great communication and explanation efforts regarding the project, the Sierra High Farms team is the company I would spend my future employment efforts with.

Sincerely,
Darren