

To: Kittitas County Community Development Services

From: Jennifer E. Rogers, Kittitas County Resident

Date: June 23, 2014

Subject: CU-14-00002, Graham, NMF Enterprises, 5810 Naneum Road, Ellensburg, WA

I would like to express my comments and concerns regarding this application to grow marijuana at this location. I live less than a mile from this location and have serious concerns about the safety and security of this neighborhood. As far as I'm aware, there are no Washington State Liquor Control Board agents who live in this county and they are the ones directed to enforce that the grow operators are compliant with the state laws in place. With that being said, should an emergency call come out at this location; home invasion robbery, trespass, theft, etc, local law enforcement would be tasked to respond. This would fall under the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office jurisdiction. I am not aware that the Sheriff's Office is being given any extra funding to hire/train more deputies to respond to these locations.

This puts a strain on County resources financially and on the persons required to respond. This adds to County employees' workloads and I'm very sure they are not getting raises to cover this added workload. It's fiscally irresponsible for the County to allow any marijuana grow operations and production sites in this county.

In regards to Graham's comments that the site is 8.9 miles from the Sheriff's office, he forgets that deputies generally respond from the "field", ie Snoqualmie Pass to Vantage, not from the office. His site is not safer because of this proximity to their office. And, it appears that he fully recognizes that it will be local law enforcement responding, not WSLCB.

He comments that he expects about 10 vehicles per day to come and go from the site. It has been well-advertised in the Daily Record where these prospective grow operations are to take place. If approved, I would anticipate far more vehicles coming and going to either look at the site or to "case" it for future criminal activity. These added vehicles and people are likely to trespass on neighboring properties to get a better look at the grow operation.

Graham comments in his application that the operation would "enhance the natural beauty of this country setting". I strongly disagree. He has already put in an 8 foot green security fence which I feel is an eyesore, unlike any fences in the neighborhood, and detracts from the "country setting" feel of the neighborhood.

My family raises export grade Timothy Hay on two sides of the grow operation. People in meetings have said there is zero chance of crop contamination. I think that remains to be seen. I would hate to see our hay no longer be viable on the international market because of this

marijuana grow operation. It is not equitable to allow one person to grow a crop that could endanger the current crop in the neighborhood. This goes for all the marijuana grow sites. Timothy hay is a major export crop here in Kittitas County and I would hate to see marijuana take us out of the international market on that.

I am also concerned about future land values in the neighborhood, as I will be inheriting land affected by the grow operation. Other than employees of the sites, I cannot think of anyone else who would want to intentionally live next to a grow operation.

Please consider denying this conditional use permit for the above reasons.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer E. Rogers