

Lauren Davidson

From: McNeese <slim@ncidata.com>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 3:31 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Letter of Protest

April 25, 2016

Okanogan County Planning Commission

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: Marijuana grow operation on Pogue Flat

We purchased property in the rural area to live in peace and quiet.

First of all, I'm sure we are not the only residents that are not happy with the marijuana grow operation that is in business on Pogue Flat. We don't recall any notification regarding an open and/or advertised meetings with anyone having concerns or fears of the possible marijuana grow operation being permitted. This kind of "business" brings with it a lot of non-law-abiding people and crime. To our knowledge there have already been two thefts, that we know of. The grow and would be a good way for thieves to enter the grow.

It appears no consideration by the County or anyone else as to the impact that the marijuana farming would have on people living in the area. The growing of marijuana was never discussed with residing neighbors. I can't imagine what this will do to the property values because of the smell and other effects associated with the crop, not to mention the crime that follows this product.

One of the marijuana farms, has already had two thefts, that we know of, within our vicinity. The perpetrators on their way to the marijuana farm, through anyone's property, may be tempted to vandalize and/or steal from the surrounding property owners. It is my opinion that anyone that grows this product should have to live next to it full time, and deal with the same problems that the neighbors are faced with. There needs to be a buffer between the marijuana grow and the neighbors, the effects from living near a grow are very offensive. They don't allow selling marijuana within certain distances from schools where children are, so what about the residents, with young children, living within the vicinity of the marijuana grow, is that okay? If so, why not let them sell right next to a school. Theoretically, they are selling the product from the grow. Maybe not to local buyers but they are harvesting it and selling it to someone. Along with the grow there is LOUD music (noise) that is played enough to be heard a half mile or better away. Noise, increased traffic, smell associated with the product being grown and the moral issues of growing marijuana is offensive to our way of life.

According to RCW82.04.213 marijuana is not an agriculture product and that brings into question water rites. Do the water rites include growing marijuana? The irrigation water the growers are currently using in our location, is only to be used from April 15 to October 15 for agricultural purposes only.

Growers are more concerned with the money to be made from this product and have not given consideration to the moral values of growing this product.

Sincerely,

Steve & Allison McNeese