From: Patrice Lecso
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored); lynnreich@hotmail.com
Subject: Objection to Specific Application
Date: Monday, June 26, 2017 12:56:21 AM

To Whom it May Concern:

This is a formal objection to the application license number 13299 and DBA: “Down to Earth Farms”(#1053901), following protocol as stated in Alaska statute 3 AAC 306.065.

My contact email is: vitusbearing@gmail.com

.

Desiring not to offend my neighbors, nor impinge on their rights as fellow homeowners, I have many concerns which compel me to insist that a quiet residential street is not suited for a “Marijuana Cultivation Facility”.

.

The proposed location is substantial distance from routine police patrol and law enforcement, not only at the outskirts of Palmer, but along a southern border of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. A different location with a more robust law enforcement presence would deter potential consumers from casing the neighborhood, as the location of the facility becomes apparent to users desiring a wholesale price.

.

The heavily forested region would be easily devastated by a forest fire, which presumably could ignite through continual use of growing lights, which would be necessary for commercial growing during the dry and lengthy winter months, especially during fire danger periods, further placing lives and property in this arid climate in considerable danger. The shadow of Pioneer Peak shortens the growing season in this area by several months, and thus a more open area is a more advantageous and more appropriate location. The trees of the Chugach National Forest, or the BLM buffer, border the homes on the side of the road of the proposed location, thus any necessary tree removal is likely not on the homeowner's property.

.

The character of this extremely quiet neighborhood could be threatened as the “Cultivation Facility” could slowly morph into a wholesale or retail marijuana establishment, as these are new businesses to the state of Alaska, and these initial licensing procedures could foreseeably and potentially grant further licensures, perhaps without alerting the public in the way this novel license application process has afforded area neighbors the ability to make their concerns clearly and openly conveyed.

.

The South Knik River Area is seen by many, valid or invalidly, as a lawless drug haven, and while this license is a legal enterprise, increasing this current stigma by licensing a “Marijuana Cultivation Facility” on a quiet residential road, would invite future enterprisers to believe the area welcomes such ventures, and future license requests could become ever more difficult to

restrain. This could impact housing prices and the ability to sell homes in the area.

.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Reich family for this development, and the homes they have built in this neighborhood. I am sure this is not an intentional desire to detract from the area in which they once again reside, and it is only my love of this quiet, lovely location that compels me to object to this particular enterprise.

.

Thank you for this opportunity,

Patrice M. Lecso