

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE  
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# F8a

## ADDENDUM

June 8, 2021

TO: Coastal Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: South Central Coast District Staff

SUBJECT: **ADDENDUM TO ITEM F8a, LCP AMENDMENT NO. LCP-4-VNT-21-0016-1 (INDUSTRIAL HEMP) FOR THE COMMISSION MEETING OF FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2021**

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The purpose of this addendum is to respond to a public comment received since publication of the staff report. The correspondence received is included under the correspondence tab for this item on the Commission's website.

### **I. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED; STAFF'S RESPONSE TO CORRESPONDENCE**

On June 1, 2021, the Commission received one letter from Martha Brownlee-Terry, a member of the public, in opposition to the subject LCP amendment. The letter raised the issue of excessive regulation of crop production. Specifically, the letter stated that the smell of the crop should not be a factor to consider for additional regulations.

Pursuant to Section 1(B)(9) of the County's Categorical Exclusion Order E-83-1, crop production on existing agricultural sites in the coastal zone is exempt from a coastal development permit (CDP). For this reason, hemp cultivation in the coastal zone does not require a CDP, and the proposed amendment does not affect this entitlement process. The subject amendment allows for industrial hemp cultivation; however, due to the unique nature of the crop, including odor issues, the subject amendment contains measures designed to protect sensitive receptors (i.e. a developed residential property, daycare, school, university, or hospital). The County has reviewed different options for buffer areas and chose the option of a quarter-mile buffer around sensitive locations to maximize locations where industrial hemp growing will be allowed while mitigating odor impacts. Industrial hemp cultivation will still be allowed on approximately half of agricultural lands in the coastal zone.

Furthermore, staff would note that there are currently no industrial hemp plantings or industrial hemp registrants within the coastal zone of unincorporated Ventura County. Therefore, no

existing industrial hemp growing sites will be affected by the subject amendment. Moreover, the County received numerous complaints about industrial hemp odor in locations outside of the coastal zone since 2019 and made presentations and townhall meetings in 7 cities and communities in order to craft the subject amendment. Therefore, staff believes that the County's amendment proposal is balanced and will not adversely impact coastal agriculture, consistent with the certified Land Use Plan.