

# MONTEREY COUNTY

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors Cannabis Committee

**FROM:** Joann Iwamoto, Cannabis Program Manager  
Dan Bertoldi, Go Green! Monterey County Program

**DATE:** June 6, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Collaboration between County, Industry, and External Agencies

### Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors Cannabis Committee receive this status update report on collaborative efforts between the County, local cannabis industry, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD), and the State Water Resources Control Board ("SWRCB").

### Background:

On-going efforts between County staff, cannabis industry, and external agencies continue. On June 1, 2018, County staff met with representatives from PG&E, MBARD, and SWRCB. The purpose of the initial meeting was to gain a better understanding of the challenges industry operators are facing as it relates to energy and water.

### Discussion:

One of the expectations of the Cannabis Program is to develop and maintain a close working relationship with the local cannabis industry, County Departments, and related external agencies such as PG&E, MBARD, and SWRCB. Part of the working relationship is to facilitate issue identification and resolution especially during the permit process which enables coordination, collaboration, and cooperation among all parties. A meeting was held with SWRCB, and a separate meetings was held with PG&E and MBARD. The purpose of the meetings was to share industry concerns related to cannabis infrastructure. On-going meetings will continue to solve problems, identify point of contacts, and continue building working relationships.

The following was discussed and action items were identified.

- **Energy Concerns:**
  - Delays in receiving response to PG&E Energy Application Request.
  - Concerns in energy capacity and build out within the next year.
  - Understanding who to contact and the Energy Application Process.
  - Action Items to continue discussions:
    - County will provide a list of cannabis permit applicants to PG&E;
    - PG&E and MMBARD will provide contacts to facilitate streamlined communication;

- PG&E will schedule an Ag Workshop to better serve the cannabis industry;
  - Cannabis industry representatives will provide active application numbers to PG&E staff; and
  - MBARD will continue to work with individual applicants related to engine permits and alternatives.
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- **Water – Review of Requirements and Timelines:**
    - Reviewed the water system permitting requirements;
    - Reviewed the water system requirements in relation to the Use Permit or Coastal Development Permit and timelines;
    - Importance of water system consolidation considerations; and
    - Continue discussions at the next scheduled meeting.

As a follow-up to this status update, PG&E will present a formal presentation at the Board of Supervisors Cannabis Committee meeting on July 27, 2018 to continue addressing industry concerns.

