



CANNABIS PROGRAM
MONTEREY COUNTY

Board of Supervisors
February 23, 2021

Renewable Energy Requirements for Cannabis Operators

- Presentation to BOS Cannabis Committee, October 30, 2020
- Current regulations
 - Monterey County is the only jurisdiction to require indoor cannabis cultivators onsite renewable energy
- Other jurisdictions allow operators to:
 - Procure renewable energy from an approved provider
 - Purchase carbon offsets proportional to power utilized from nonrenewable sources
 - Implement an onsite renewable energy solution

Renewable Energy Requirements for MC Cannabis Operators

- 17 indoor cultivators in operation in the unincorporated area of the County, where most of these operations are in the Moss Landing Commercial Park
- These indoor cultivators represent 20% of cultivators within the County and their average canopy size is one tenth that of mixed-light operations

Renewable Energy Requirements for Cannabis Operators

Pros of Local Renewable Energy Requirement

- Potentially lower price per kWh
- Operators more resilient with onsite power generation
- Could be less impacted by PG&E interconnection delays if upgrades are required
- Generates local construction and engineering jobs
- Lower emissions than standard grid

Cons of Local Renewable Energy Requirement

- Imposes a long-term investment on demonstrably smaller scale operations
- Does not provide options for operators

Renewable Energy Requirements for Cannabis Operators

Amendments to Titles 20 and 21 (zoning code) would require:



The statutory exemption provided in the Business and Professions Code section 26055(h) expires on **July 1, 2021**



CANNABIS PROGRAM
MONTEREY COUNTY

Questions