



January 25, 2021

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
501 Low Gap Road, Room 1070
Ukiah, CA 95482

RE: Agenda Item 6A: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Composition of the Mendocino County Planning Commission

Dear Board of Supervisors,

It has come to our attention the Board of Supervisors will be discussing the termination of two seats on the Planning Commission that represent the timber and agriculture industries. We are opposed to any move that would limit this knowledge base from the Planning Commission.

Our rural county is heavily dependent on these two industries that support countless jobs and services. Decisions made at the commission level without the input from representatives in these industries could result in ill informed decisions. This, in turn, will likely result in many appeals and additional workload for the commission.

In this time of near year round wildfires, the management of our forests and wildlands is critical to protect lives and property. The commission needs a knowledgeable representative to ensure science-based decisions are made to ensure the health of the forest resource in our county. The same can be said of the agriculture industry.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to deny any motion to remove these two seats from the Planning Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Andersen".

John Andersen
Director, Forest Policy
Humboldt and Mendocino Redwood Companies