



## APPROVAL OF THE LICENSING OF COMMERCIAL CANNABIS CULTIVATION IN MENDOCINO COUNTY PROJECT

As Director of the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC), the lead agency for the Licensing of Commercial Cannabis Cultivation in Mendocino County Project (project), I hereby make the following findings on this project:

The project consists of commercial cannabis cultivation conducted under the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) in Mendocino County. As of April 2023, there are 623 commercial cannabis cultivation sites within the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County that hold provisional state cannabis cultivation licenses and that may therefore operate under MAUCRSA on a conditional basis for a limited period. Of the 623 sites, 23 currently also have associated cannabis distribution transport-only operations. DCC is considering whether to transition some or all of these provisional licenses to annual licenses (i.e., whether to issue annual licenses to some or all of these provisional licensees). DCC may also consider other annual licensing actions (e.g., the issuance of new, additional annual cultivation licenses) for future commercial cannabis cultivation within the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County.

DCC has certified that the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project (State Clearinghouse Number 2023080049) has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15000 et seq.). DCC has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR for the Project, which reflects the DCC's independent judgment and analysis.

After consideration of the project objectives, alternatives, and comments submitted, DCC has determined to approve the proposed project.

DCC has reviewed the Findings and the Statement of Overriding Considerations for the project. DCC hereby adopts and approves the Findings and the Statement of Overriding Considerations.

In accordance with CEQA section 21081.6, the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project (attached) is hereby approved and adopted by DCC.

Upon consideration of the Final EIR, the Findings of Fact, the Statement of Overriding Considerations, and in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 14 (State CEQA Guidelines), section 15092, I hereby approve and adopt the project. DCC hereby commits to ensuring compliance with the mitigation measures set forth in the Findings and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. The Notice of Determination (attached) has been prepared in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title



Department of  
Cannabis Control  
CALIFORNIA

Gavin Newsom  
Governor

Nicole Elliott  
Director

14 (State CEQA Guidelines), section 15094. DCC staff is directed to arrange for the filing of the Notice of Determination.

Nicole Elliott, Director  
Department of Cannabis Control

10/17/2024

Date