



Humboldt County  
Farm Bureau



Humboldt Del Norte  
Cattlemen Association

Commissioner Jeff Smith, Chair  
Humboldt County Planning Commission  
3015 H Street  
Eureka, CA 95501-4484

July 15, 2010

Re: Timber Production Use Types in Industrial Land Use Designations and Wind Energy Facilities in Resource Land Use Designations

Dear Chairman Smith and Commissioners,

At the Planning Commission meeting on July 8, 2010 a few questions arose regarding the Land Use Classifications which we thought would be helpful to address in writing.

First, there were questions about the Timber Production in Industrial Classifications. The Resource Lands Working Group (RLWG) would urge you to reconsider your straw votes regarding Section 4.8 Land use Classifications, Industrial Designations at the July 8, 2010 meeting. The RLWG had requested that timber production be included as an allowable use within the Industrial, General; Industrial, Resource Related; and the Industrial Coastal Dependent land use classification. This is an important issue because on many of the industrial sites in the County you will find that the historic use of the parcel was timber and that the land had been converted to another use. The present boundaries of the industrial use don't cover the entire parcel and in many cases trees still exist. The General Plan should allow for the harvest of these trees as harvest is occurring on the adjoining parcel and when an owner determines that it will not conflict with the industrial use. The discussion by the Planning Commission was not to include the recommendation because the Commission felt that it not be appropriate to allow the conversion of the limited number industrial sites to a landscape with use constricted due to the planting of trees. Although we fully appreciate the Planning Commission's viewpoint, we feel that timber harvesting should be allowed.

Also, there was a question about the recommended addition of Utilities and Energy Facilities to several of the classifications. The thought behind the Working Group's suggestion is the ability to consider wind energy facilities in the non-coastal areas of the County. Wind as a source of energy generation is a technology that is certainly being considered for application in Humboldt County but is currently only included in the Coastal Plan. We think it is important to plan for the inclusion of wind power production moving forward.

Sincerely,

**Humboldt County Resource Lands Working Group**

*The Buckeye ~ Humboldt County Farm Bureau*

*Humboldt Del Norte Cattlemen Association ~ Large Timberland Owners Group*

*Forest Landowners of California (Humboldt Co. Representatives)*

CC: Planning Commissioners; Bruce Emad; Ralph Faust; Mary Gearheart; Denver Nelson; Mel Krebs;  
Dennis Mayo

Staff: Kirk Girard; Tom Hofweber; Martha Spencer