

Good morning everyone,

My name is Robert James and I am representing Rocky Mountain Citrus.

Thank you all for opening this up to public input.

First off I just want to recommend a track and trace program that is used by Colorado and many other states, and that would be Metrc. Everyone can learn more at metrc.com, but from my experience the software is very user friendly and easy to learn. It is also web-based so therefore accessible from any device, any-where.

Additionally, I would like to re-iterate what many people have already said, and that is that the proposed regulations don't do enough to be inclusive of under-represented populations, particularly those with limited economic resources. So far, the only thing the proposed rules do to differentiate microbusinesses from Big Weed, is to limit the plant counts of a microbusiness, and the associated state fees. Why even use the term microbusiness if all it represents is the lowest tier of commercial grow licenses?

By requiring microbusinesses to adhere to the same exact requirements as even the largest farms, and not providing them some sort of additional support regarding start-up procedures, the state is essentially eliminating microbusinesses. New Mexico is regulating microbusinesses *out* of business, before we even get a chance to start. We need at minimum a grace period regarding some of these regulations, which will allow us a chance to prove ourselves and get off the ground.

In particular, water licensing requirements, as mentioned by other speakers, are simply arbitrary and capricious. Other regulations are as well. For instance, 16.8.2.21, section G item 5 letter D: this rule requires that workers wash their hands before putting gloves on and after removing those gloves. Why are we even wearing gloves? This is just one example of the impracticality and frankly the ludicrousness of some of these proposed regulations.

Why do budtenders need food handler's licenses? Weed is not food. Even edibles are pre-packaged. Gas station clerks don't need a food handler's license to sell candy bars, why do bud-tenders?

Thank you for your time.