The California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) is developing regulations to establish cannabis cultivation licensing and a track and trace system, collectively referred to as the Medical Cannabis Cultivation Program (MCCP). The overall purpose of CDFA’s licensing program is to ensure medical cannabis cultivation is performed in a manner that protects the environment, cannabis cultivation workers, and the general public from the individual and cumulative effects of these operations, and fully complies with all applicable laws. An additional MCCP purpose is to establish a track and trace program to ensure the movement of medical cannabis items are tracked throughout the production chain.

CDFA is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) to provide the public, state and local agencies, and permitting agencies information about the potential environmental effects associated with the adoption and implementation of these statewide regulations. The PEIR will be prepared and circulated for public review by CDFA in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CDFA will serve as the lead agency pursuant to CEQA and will consider public comments regarding the scope and content of the information to be included in the PEIR.

Public participation is a critical part of the regulation development and environmental review process, and is intended to meet CEQA requirements. CDFA welcomes public participation throughout the planning and environmental review process. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the Draft PEIR when it is available.

The formal comment period for the MCCP scoping begins on September 1, 2016 and ends September 30, 2016.

Written comments can be mailed to:
California Department of Food and Agriculture
Attn: Amber Morris
Medical Cannabis Cultivation Comments
1220 N Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments may also be emailed to:
mccp.peir@cdfa.ca.gov

The Notice of Preparation & Regulation Outline can be viewed online at https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/mccp.

Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities or who need assistance to participate. To request assistance or translation services, contact Michael Stevenson at (510) 986-1852 or Michael@horizonh2o.com.