The Cannabis Industry & Energy

Speakers

1. Hezakaia Allen - Executive Director of Cal Growers Associations
   I. Growers: Criminal, Unregulated, Regulated; policy needs to focus on getting unregulated \( \rightarrow \) regulated
   II. Unregulated growers = small farmers & cottage growers
   III. Exclusively owner operated; $13 billion industry
   IV. Cottage, specialty & small growers have unlimited amount of type I & type II licenses; type 3 have limited amount therefore trying to create broad base of smaller regulated growers rather than more unregulated growers
   V. Comparative analysis w/CO & WA is like apples 2 oranges
   VI. Most uncertainty is settled; bill comes out tomorrow! Big framework policy questions will be answered
   VII. Conclusions: Encourage diversity of ownership & opportunity; Indoor has low impact but is highest overhead and may be impacted by lower prices; progressive rate tax rates

2. Nick Maderias - Supervisor for Sonoma Grower’s Alliance
   I. Electrical use & thermal loads in GHs
   II. GH design; are the group U or F1 or are they exempt from permitting? Can only be answered at city & county level
   III. 25 watt / sq feet = state regulation? Most indoor require twice or over twice the amount of energy
   IV. Conversion to indoor agriculture doesn’t make sense for some cities
   V. If you can’t plant trees, plant PV; 42% of energy for cannabis growing should be renewable, ee focused; proposed state regulation
   VI. carrot= incentives for going beyond minimum requirements for benchmarks for facilities
   VII. It’s time to develop carbon labeling and allowing consumers to make those choices as mechanisms for change
   VIII. CCS (carbon capture & storage) capture instead of bringing more carbon out from wells
   IX. Wind energy; what is your energy choice? Sonoma uses geothermal; each municipality should find their choice

3. Q & A
   I. Market Risk 4 Cannabis? Very risky; biggest concern is over production & will be volatile market
   II. What is impact of over production? We can scale back if we are mindful; product needs to stay in the state and need to work together to on that’ feds are coming to a city near you
   III. DR technology provider thru power cycling rather than peaker plants; EI in indoor plant houses is higher than hospitals, etc so what more can we do to help instill enviro ethic on this? Allowing coop b/t existing
businesses & transforming
maybe some to be run at night.
Once tools and long terms
thinking happens, you’ll see
more consideration happening.

4. Closing remarks
   I. Connect w/ local growers
      associations; go to meetings,
      find out how can help them and
      build relationship ex. Ask to
      tour a facility; consider doing a
      workshop series (permitting
      process, etc.)