

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>SENDER</b>	<b>Comment</b>
7/18/2023	Susan Wilkinson	Micros are bleeding massive money, approvals are taking way to long for micro cultivators and retail stores. The whole process for conversion or annual approval is to long...We need to get it down to 60 days.
7/18/2023	Gabriel Barajas	Why insurance companies not covering Medicinal Marijuana Cost when clearly established code exists. Whom enforces sanctions.
7/18/2023	Howard Ersman	When will New Jersey give social equity applicants the preference they were led to believe they had? They have been lied to, skipped in line, and cheated out of licenses.
7/18/2023	Brenda L Hill-Riggins	Question- what happens to the company license status should/if I die? What happens to my license status should/if I die. What can the company do today to avert a dis-connect in the status of the license should/if I die? Can the company apply for a back up licensee in case I die?

<p>7/18/2023</p>	<p>Juan Umana</p>	<p>Dear Cannabis Regulatory Commission,</p> <p>I am writing to inquire about the status of our conversion application (Application ID 2915) from conditional to annual for our Class 5 Retail Micro-business license. My name is Juan Umana, and I am the owner of Urge New Jersey LLC, a NJ Certified Minority-Owned and Impact Zone business located at 941 Elizabeth Ave, Elizabeth, NJ.</p> <p>We submitted our conversion application on April 3, 2023, and we have followed the instructions provided by the CRC, including promptly undergoing the required criminal background checks. Both owners had their fingerprints taken at Identogo on May 26, 2023.</p> <p>Since then, we have not received any further communication, confirmation, or update regarding the progress of our application. As the completion of our store renovations approaches at the end of July, we find ourselves in a challenging position. We are currently incurring monthly expenses without any clarity on when we will be granted operational status.</p> <p>Additionally, we have reached out to prospective employees and extended employment proposals, but we are unable to proceed with hiring until we receive an update on our license. This uncertainty is impacting our ability to establish a timeline for opening and to provide economic opportunities for the community.</p> <p>Considering the importance of timely updates and the financial impact on our business, we kindly request that you provide us with an update on the review process and a tentative timeline for the completion of our application. This information will allow us to plan accordingly and make informed decisions regarding our operations and future employment.</p> <p>We greatly appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your prompt response. Please feel free to contact us at <a href="mailto:UrgeNewJersey@gmail.com">UrgeNewJersey@gmail.com</a> if any further documentation or clarification is required.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Juan Umana Urge New Jersey LLC</p>
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7/18/2023	Danielle M. Jones	<p>Good morning, my name is Danielle M. Jones (she/her), and I serve as a Councilwoman for the Eatontown Borough Council, located in Monmouth County, New Jersey. I had the opportunity to attend the CRC's virtual town hall for municipal officials - Mercer, Middlesex &amp; Monmouth - on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, and I found it to be very helpful to learn about what other municipalities are experiencing in regards to adult-use cannabis licensing and operations. I have gained some ideas and "best practices" that I would like to present to my fellow Council members and implement in the Borough by the end of the year. I am appreciative of the education and training that is available to business owners and operators in the cannabis industry. These opportunities will be able to help them achieve economic growth and begin to build generational wealth that is lacking in marginalized communities. The information and resources provided by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) demonstrates how social equity and racial justice are not just "talking points" or performative measures; ODI continues to lay the framework to empower disabled veterans, women, and other minority groups to be successful in the industry. What I would like to see are more resources and training available for municipal officials, in collaboration with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities. Due to the industry's recent entry in the state's economy, it is imperative that municipal officials - including elected members of the governing body - have the information and tools to implement an equitable industry in their communities, while enhancing economic growth. Even though the Borough of Eatontown is not considered an impact zone, we currently have social equity and diversely owned business applicants waiting to be approved for an annual license. I appreciate the CRC staff for being available to answer questions or concerns that I have, which aids me in serving my community. Answering questions and concerns from business applicants helps me in not only developing relationships with them, but also increases my desire to see them successfully operate in my municipality. I continue to offer to be a resource to other municipalities, and once again, I thank you, the CRC, for your hard work and guidance to New Jersey in both the medicinal and adult-use/recreational cannabis industry.</p>
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7/18/2023	Robert Wilder Sampson	<p>Dear CRC,I hope this letter finds you all in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my concerns and advocate for a more equitable approach to economic development within our community. As a conscientious member of society and someone living in New Jersey, I firmly believe that it is our collective responsibility to foster social equity, promote racial equality, and support local business owners rather than succumbing to the dominance of big corporations.First and foremost, I commend the work done by your board in shaping policies and decisions that affect our community. Your commitment to serving the public's best interests is evident and greatly appreciated. However, I believe there is an opportunity to further enhance our community's social fabric and economic vitality by reevaluating our approach to supporting local businesses.One critical aspect of social equity is to create an environment that provides equal opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their economic or ethnic backgrounds. By focusing our attention on supporting local business owners, particularly those from underrepresented communities, we can empower them to contribute significantly to our local economy. These individuals often face additional barriers and limited access to resources, making it imperative for us to provide a level playing field that enables their growth and success.Moreover, supporting local businesses has several additional benefits that can positively impact our community. When we prioritize local commerce, we encourage diversity and cultural expression, fostering a vibrant and inclusive environment that celebrates our differences. Local businesses often provide more personalized customer experiences, unique products or services, and employment opportunities for local residents, reducing unemployment rates and enhancing the overall well-being of our community members.In contrast, large corporations often prioritize profit margins over social responsibility, which can adversely affect our community's social fabric. When big corporations dominate the market, smaller, local businesses struggle to compete, resulting in the loss of diversity, character, and charm that makes our community unique. Additionally, these large corporations may be less invested in the well-being of our community and may not contribute to local causes or reinvest their profits in ways that benefit us directly.Therefore, I urge the board to consider prioritizing our Annual License. As we are ready to join the community, hire locally, and begin building an infrastructure that supports an economically disadvantaged community.Mule Extracts is a locally owned business trying to start up in our hometown in New Jersey,</p>
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7/18/2023	Peter szlasa	<p>YOU HAVE NOT MADE WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AVAILABLE TO READ SINCE MARCH. IS IT BECAUSE YOU ARE HIDING ALL THE HOME GROW COMMENTS? Unelected unaccountable trash getting paid and free healthcare off our taxes. YOU'RE DESPICABLE.</p>
7/18/2023	Danielle Zill-Barry	<p>My application from conditional to annual (The Cannabis Clubhouse) was singularly pulled off the agenda today. I haven't had any communication from my investigator in months and have been patiently waiting for this day (again for months) only to have my business pulled with no warning, and for no reason. This is very concerning to me! If there were questions I should have been asked or had time to cure whatever your concerns were.....not be singularly pulled off publicly.</p>

7/18/2023	Lonnie Affrime	<p>To the Commissioners of the CRC:I am the CEO of Voltaire NJ Inc., a certified WMBE and small New Jersey business that applied to convert our conditional Class 5 retail license into an annual license (Reference Code #2641).We recognize that the CRC has many responsibilities and have genuinely tried to be patient throughout this process. However, please keep in mind: 1) our conversion paperwork was submitted back in January; 2) we are supposed to be at one of the highest priority levels; 3) since applying, we have never received a cure letter; 4) our CRC investigator (who, for the record, was exceedingly kind, prompt, and professional) completed their investigation back in May; and 5) other than those communications with our investigator, we have received no communication from the CRC since our submission.According to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.9(c), the CRC is supposed to make a determination on an annual license application "not more than 90 days after the receipt of a complete annual license application". However, it has now been six (6) months (double the allotted timeframe).Due to these delays, not only are we losing out on any revenue throughout the entire summer (which tends to be the busiest time of the year), but we must also continue to pay thousands in carrying costs each month. And due to our limited funding from family and friends, we have had to go to extraordinary lengths just to keep the lease current on our facility. Personally, I haven't received a paycheck in months to ensure that our employees can still get paid enough to survive.So I hope you can understand our frustration upon realizing that our Company was not listed on the agenda for the July 18th CRC meeting. Accordingly, if the CRC does not meet in August, we will not be able to receive a determination from the CRC until at least eight (8) months after our submission.Over the past few months, we have contacted the CRC 5+ times to explain our situation and kindly request some sort of feedback, but each time we received the same curt response: "Your application is in active review. Once a decision regarding it has been reached you will be notified. Thank you."Nevertheless, we have continued waiting patiently out of respect for the CRC and its laudable mission and numerous responsibilities. However, our landlord, township, and investors have (understandably) grown increasingly impatient as the months have gone by without any new information, and we will need to begin taking drastic action soon if we don't receive our license (or at least some sort of substantive response).We believe in the CRC's mission, and we want nothing more than the opportunity to work in partnership with the CRC to enact that mission. However, since we</p>
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