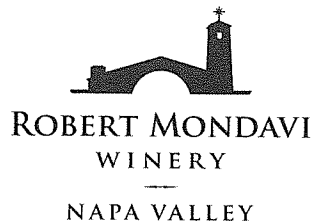



“K”

## Public Comments

Nickel & Nickel Winery, Use Permit Major Modification  
Application No. P17-00400-MOD  
Planning Commission Hearing, September 16, 2020



RECEIVED

AUG 17 2020 

Napa County Planning, Building  
& Environmental Services

August 10, 2020

Napa County Planning Commission  
1195 Third Street, Suite 210  
Napa, CA 94559

SUBJECT: USE PERMIT MODIFICATIONS FOR NICKEL & NICKEL AND FAR NIENTE WINERIES  
Nickel & Nickel: P017-0400-MOD  
Far Niente: P019-00129-MOD

Planning Commission Members:

I am writing on behalf of Constellation Brands and Robert Mondavi Winery to encourage the County's approval of winery use permit modifications for both Nickel & Nickel Winery and Far Niente Winery.

The Nickel family, along with their business partners, have been a formative part of the history of the Napa Valley. Not only have they proven to be good stewards of the land, reliable and responsible employers, and considerate of their neighbors, but they have made consistently superior wines to the benefit of Napa County's well-known reputation. The Nickel family has also made an invaluable contribution to the historic fabric of our area, having restored two historic properties and repurposed them as beautiful wineries.

It is noteworthy that both these long-existing wineries started out with very low visitation, marketing and employee numbers and neither has sought increases in decades. Yet, Nickel & Nickel Winery provided extensive road improvements on Highway 29 at the outset. These improvements have been reliably and safely compatible with business operations at Robert Mondavi Winery, specifically, and, in general, beneficial to all who travel that roadway. Additionally, Constellation Brands shares use of Acacia Drive, the road which connects Far Niente Winery to Oakville Grade Road, for vehicle and farm equipment access to its vineyards. With regard to this shared resource, the longtime operations of Far Niente Winery and Constellation Brands has been in close proximity though friendly, cooperative, and free of conflict. We believe

these wineries should be recognized for their contributions to the community at-large in those and other respects.

Constellation Brands has no doubt that these two iconic Napa Valley wineries will continue to be good stewards and will continue to play a positive role in keeping the Napa Valley known for superior wines and wonderful visitor experiences. The Nickel family, their business partners, and the wineries are held in the highest regard by industry leaders throughout Napa County and others all over the world.

Please consider the requests of these two wineries for responsibly expanding their operations and visitor experiences as being entirely appropriate in terms of scale, history and location. We urge you to approve the use permit modification requests of both Nickel & Nickel and Far Niente Wineries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Workman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Glenn Workman  
General Manager  
Robert Mondavi Winery

Charlene Gallina  
Supervising Planner  
Napa County PBES  
1195 Third Street  
Suite 210  
Napa, CA 94559

July 13, 2020

Re: Support of Nickel & Nickel Use Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Gallina,

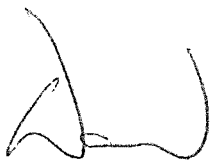
As a fellow vintner in the Napa Valley, I am writing to express my support for the use-permit modification for Nickel & Nickel winery (located at 8164 St. Helena Highway, Oakville, CA 94562). The Nickel & Nickel property has been a part of Napa Valley's history since the late 1880s.

Approving their use-permit modification will allow Nickel & Nickel to restore their historic buildings to provide better and safer spaces for their employees and guests. It will also allow them to focus on their commitment to being stewards of the land by granting the installation of a membrane bioreactor wastewater system to help in sustainability efforts. By authorizing this use-permit modification, it will not only enhance revenues for the county, it will also continue to educate consumers and citizens on our agricultural, sustainability, winemaking heritages, and advances.

Nickel & Nickel has been a good member of our community. They have done a fine job of establishing a successful winery, while also maintaining the historic and natural integrity of their property along Highway 29.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment on this proposal. I truly hope Napa County will approve the use permit modification for the Nickel & Nickel winery. Please contact me should you have any questions.

Regards,



David R. Duncan  
Chairman & CEO  
Silver Oak & Twomey Cellars  
[david@silveroak.com](mailto:david@silveroak.com)  
(707) 942-7007

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JUL 28 2020

Napa County Planning, Building  
& Environmental Services