

**COMMENT LETTER 37 - SCOTT KERSNAR (SEPTEMBER 24,1996), RECEIVED  
SEPTEMBER 24, 1996**

**Response to Comment 37-1**

*Comment Summary: The comment indicates that considering discharges of treated municipal wastewater to the Russian River at a 20% discharge rate is not reasonable, especially if an accidental discharge occurred during the same period.*

The Draft EIR/EIS has evaluated discharge to the Russian River. Section 4.7 concluded that "Direct discharge of reclaimed water into the Laguna de Santa Rosa or the Russian River will not adversely affect water quality at drinking water sources and would not adversely affect human health via other potential exposure pathways" (see page 4.7-61). Section 4.6 found significant unavoidable impacts to conductivity, dissolved oxygen, and biostimulatory substances in the Russian River (see page 4.6-150). However, with implementation of cumulative projects to reduce nutrient inputs to the Laguna, and with mitigation proposed for project impacts, analysis concluded that 20% design discharge to the Laguna could be implemented without significant water quality impacts. The purpose of the Project is to reduce the possibility of an accidental discharge by allowing the System to operate reliably under all weather conditions.

**Response to Comment 37-2**

*Comment Summary: The comment expresses concern about the financial, scientific, health, political and moral risks of 20% discharge.*

Socioeconomic impacts of Alternative 5 are evaluated in Section 4.18; water quality and aquatic biota impacts are presented in Sections 4.6 and 4.9 respectively. Health effects are evaluated in Section 4.7. It is beyond the scope of the Draft EIR/EIS to address political and moral risks.

**Response to Comment 37-3**

*Comment Summary: The comment encourages the Lead Agency not to approve the most expeditious alternative.*

The comment provides a statement of opinion about the selection of an alternative. Refer to Master Response 2, located in section 6.2 of this document.

