

**COMMENT LETTER 52 - CRAIG STEPHENS (SEPTEMBER 25, 1996), RECEIVED  
SEPTEMBER 24, 1996**

**Response to Comment 52-1**

*Comment Summary: The comment indicates opposition to increased discharges of treated or untreated wastewater to the Russian River.*

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. Refer to Master Response 2, located in Section 6.2 of this document, regarding opinions about project selection.

