

**COMMENT LETTER 129 - WILLIAM R. WALTON, III - ESTERO MUTUAL WATER COMPANY (OCTOBER 5, 1996), RECEIVED OCTOBER 7, 1996.**

**Response to Comment 129-1**

*Comment Summary: The comment states that the Estero Mutual Water Company has facilities located downstream of the Two Rock and Huntley reservoir sites. The comment continues to state that these facilities will sustain serious damage or be completely destroyed in the event of dam failure at either the Two Rock or Huntley reservoir sites. As a result of this damage, customers of the Estero Mutual Water Company would lose their source of drinking water. Text from the Draft EIR/EIS is provided that demonstrates how this damage would occur. A description of what facilities would be damaged is also provided.*

The construction and operation of a reservoir at either the Two Rock or Huntley reservoir sites will place the Estero Mutual Water Company facilities downstream of those reservoirs at risk of damage or destruction should a worst case scenario dam failure event occur. However, due to the strict construction and maintenance standards (the strictest in the United States) that are imposed upon all new dams constructed in California by the Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams, chances for dam failure are extremely small. Refer to Response 93-6 for additional discussion of seismic safety of dams.

Discussion of the regulatory framework and dam construction and maintenance standards can be found on pages 4.3-50 through 4.3-52 and 4.19-1 through 4.19-3 of the Draft EIR/EIS. However, the fact remains that a risk (albeit an extremely small one) to the Estero Mutual Water Company facilities will exist if either of these reservoirs is constructed. As stated on page 4.19-6 of the Draft EIR/EIS, "In the event of inundation from dam failure, significant and widespread damage to property is likely within the areas of inundation."

The following changes are made to the Draft EIR/EIS:

Page 4.19-5. The second paragraph is revised as follows:

The Two Rock dam would be sited a tributary of Stemple Creek north of Two Rock in the Roblar de la Miseria. Discharge from the reservoir would flow down the tributary into the main branch of Stemple Creek near Two Rock. From there, the water would flow through Marin County into the Estero de San Antonio to Bodega Bay. The worst case scenario dam break would cause Stemple Creek to flood the town of Two Rock. The flood waters would also back up Stemple Creek and would flood scattered buildings near Two Rock School. The Two Rock School and the Two Rock Fire Station lie on the edge of the flood inundation. Portions of the Coast Guard Reservation [and the Estero Mutual Water Company's water collection facilities](#) also appear to lie in the flood inundation

area of the Two Rock Reservoir. The flood waters would back up several tributaries to Stemple Creek and Estero de San Antonio and would flood several buildings between Two Rock and Bodega Bay, including the pump and pump house for the Estero Mutual Water Company's water collection facility. The estimated maximum water depth at Two Rock would be 80 feet.<sup>22</sup>

Page 4.19-6. The third paragraph is revised as follows:

The Huntley dam would be sited on a tributary of Stemple Creek along Martinoni Road near the Sonoma-Marín County line. Discharge from the reservoir would flow down the tributary into Marin County and to the main branch of Stemple Creek. From there, the water would flow into Estero de San Antonio to Bodega Bay. The worst case scenario dam break would cause the Estero de San Antonio to back up to Fallon. The flood waters would also back up Stemple Creek and would flood scattered ~~structures~~ ~~buildings~~ near Two Rock School including the Estero Mutual Water Company's water collection facilities. The flood waters would also back up several tributaries to Stemple Creek and Estero de San Antonio and would flood several buildings between the Huntley dam and Bodega Bay, including the pump and pump house for the Estero Mutual Water Company's water collection facility. Portions of the Coast Guard Reservation also appear to lie in the flood inundation area of the Huntley reservoir. The estimated maximum water depth would be 76 feet at Fallon - Two Rock Road and 61 feet near Fallon.<sup>22</sup>

## **Response to Comment 129-2**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a distribution list for the Estero Mutual Water Company comment letter (letter 129).*

No issues are brought forth in this comment; therefore no further response is provided.

## **Response to Comment 129-3**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of Figure 4.3-1 from the Draft EIR/EIS which is a map of fault zones in the project area. The figure was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

## **Response to Comment 129-4**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of page 4.19-3 from the Draft EIR/EIS. A paragraph is annotated which describes one of the references that was cited in the document. This text was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

### **Response to Comment 129-5**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of page 4.19-5 from the Draft EIR/EIS. A paragraph is annotated which describes a worst case scenario should a dam break occur at the Two Rock reservoir site. This text was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

### **Response to Comment 129-6**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of page 4.19-6 from the Draft EIR/EIS. A paragraph is annotated which describes a worst case scenario should a dam break occur at the Huntley reservoir site. This text was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

### **Response to Comment 129-7**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of page 4.19-7 from the Draft EIR/EIS. A paragraph is annotated which states the significance of stream bank erosion which would occur as a result of a dam break occur at any of the reservoir sites. This text was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

### **Response to Comment 129-8**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of a figure (map) from Appendix J-1, Dam Break Inundation Analysis. The map shows the path and levels of inundation that would result should a dam break occur at the Huntley reservoir site. The figure was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

### **Response to Comment 129-9**

*Comment Summary: The comment is an extension of the figure referred to in Response to Comment 129-8. The figure was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

### **Response to Comment 129-10**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of page 4 from Appendix J-1 of the Draft EIR/EIS. A paragraph is annotated which describes a worst case scenario should a dam break occur at the Huntley reservoir site. This text was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

#### **Response to Comment 129-11**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of a figure (map) from Appendix J-1 Dam Break Inundation Analysis. The map shows the path and levels of inundation that would result should a dam break occur at the Two Rock reservoir site. The figure was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

#### **Response to Comment 129-12**

*Comment Summary: The comment is an extension of the figure referred to in response to comment number 129-11. The figure was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

#### **Response to Comment 129-13**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of page 5 from Appendix J-1 of the Draft EIR/EIS. A paragraph is annotated which describes a worst case scenario should a dam break occur at the Two Rock reservoir site. This text was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

#### **Response to Comment 129-14**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a copy of a letter from the Estero Mutual Water Company that was submitted to the City of Santa Rosa during the comment period for the previous EIR/EIS that was prepared for a proposed long-term wastewater project. The letter describes the potential impacts to their facilities from the previous project. This letter was provided as support for comment 129-1.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.

#### **Response to Comment 129-15**

*Comment Summary: The comment is a duplicate of comment letter 129 and all of its attachments.*

Refer to Response to Comment 129-1.