
PUBLIC COMMENTOR 214 - RICHARD CARLILE, SEPTEMBER 24, 1996

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Thank you, Madam Mayor. I'm Richard Carlile. I'm a civil engineer with Carlile, Macy, Mitchell, and Herford, 565 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa. Also a rate payer. Ladies and gentlemen, government and public agencies, and in this case the regional City system can no longer afford to solve large public projects by themselves. Today, it takes a partnership between public agencies and the private sector to accomplish the enormous far reaching project that you must decide here in the near future. That is why I would like this EIR document to solidly and legally address phasing programs, as it would allow time for the gradual development of trust between the private sector -- the farmers -- and the City regional system. It would allow time for dispersed storage construction, refinement of crop production, and establishing irrigation needs. The project cost can be greatly reduced by phasing the storage with a series of small reservoirs and an incremental irrigation construction allowing for increased irrigation acreage and storage to be brought on line as needed. Just keep doing what you're doing now. The City of Santa Rosa has an excellent record of conservation and agricultural reuse. It is excellent. If you compare it with anything in the united states, it's probably second to none.

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Mayor Wright:

I would ask that you keep your comments down so the speaker can get his points across.

RICHARD CARLILE:

You now have -- an outstanding new model to work from with your recent agreement with Gallo regarding private storage and an irrigation distribution system.

The 1980 Koretsky-King wastewater reclamation report indicates that there are potentially 50 small to medium size reservoirs which could be developed for storage. This is shown on the viewfoil here.

The report picked approximately 20 sites for further study and these sites are shown on this map. The point is that there's 20 to 50 small to medium reservoir sites that could be developed on private lands of willing land owners and farmers, emphasis on willing land owners and farmers.

Therefore, emphasis should be placed on developing a program instead of a huge public works project. Program, not project. In other words, a partnership program of developing small to medium storage sites with a distribution system similar to the Gallo program. A program like this would provide buffer areas to store and dispose excess water on a temporary basis to handle the possible unusual winter where additional storage and disposal would be needed, particularly in the first five to ten years or so of the program. Once the adequate incremental storage is achieved with a phased program, the buffer areas would be phased out. Buffer areas could include -- bear in mind, these are

temporary -- up to five percent river flow discharge into the Laguna. Additional irrigation to irrigatable lands.

Temporary flooding of wetland areas. Temporary flooding of dike bay lands. Irrigation and flooding of tree farms or land which does not rely on water annually, which you heard earlier. Emergency program of increased conservation. We must be assured that this EIR document allows for phased construction with temporary buffers which are phased out as storage is increased. Phased means pay as you grow. A cheaper option for the rate payer and more flexible for agriculture. Thank you.

Mayor Wright:

Thank you. Paula -- Paula, I'm going to ask you to hold -- we have students leaving and our court reporter is feeling a little pressure, so we're going to take a five-minute break.

Paula, before you start, let me just say that this is a major task for our court reporter, and he has asked for another -- just a five-minute break midway between this break and when we have our dinner break.

We're going to try to get as many people in this afternoon as we can. We have close to 60 that have signed up, which is no way if everyone takes a full five minutes are we going to get everyone in. Good.

But we will take one more brief break before the dinner break, so that the court reporter can rest his weary fingers. So that Paula Blaydes -- let me make sure these people get seated. do you have a viewfoil you want to put up? Let me just say so that we know the order, it's going to be Paula Blaydes, Bill Mailliard, Jim Jacobs, and Kathy Tresch. All right.