

**PUBLIC COMMENTOR 225 - LEON BECK, SEPTEMBER 24, 1996**

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Ladies and gentlemen, I am Leon Beck of 11395 Valley Ford Road, Bloomfield, California, and I greet you all. I will touch on one issue that's already been touched on very eloquently just a few minutes ago. Otherwise, I won't repeat anybody. Now, my wife Nadine Beck and myself, with neighbors, friends, and family of Stewart Zimmerman of Bloomfield buried him this morning. Stewart was a rancher and a farmer who enjoyed his work, and he wanted his children and grandchildren to enjoy the good life of Sonoma and Marin county. Especially the West County.

Now, as we are laying to rest one of the first two men I met when arriving here in 1963, it strengthened my resolve to help save what good we have left in Sonoma County. I want the Esteros to be free of any threat of wastewater changing their fresh water/salt water mix. Now, Nadine and I from the start have called to the attention of all we could the recorded Bloomfield fault, which lies directly under the proposed site for a dam on the Tresch property. The Bloomfield fault runs roughly, we recall, past Bloomfield, and could threaten the Stump Ranch site.

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Mother nature, or the good earth, has no respect for engineers' calculations, especially as the Draft EIR now is based on studies that the staff has been told were two shallow and inadequate .

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The Draft EIR/EIS states the potential for dam failure is extremely remote. Well, this soil is called franciscan chert. Now, just think of minestrone soup. It's a mix of a lot of good things, huh? But the report states the dam would be on bedrock. How many miles down to bedrock on a fault? We again say the study is inadequate regarding the siting on the fault or near the fault. Next, dams are built with spillways. Well, for what reason? To release overflow. To save a dam. These dam spillways will release treated water into our valuable Esteros, changing their solution, composition. These Esteros must not be inundated with overflow. The EIR/EIS report does not satisfy me regarding the effect of treated waters in the Esteros and spillways guarantee the overflow will be released. Now, we told you before, the friends of the Esteros did not want to sue you on the last EIR. We told you it was not satisfactory. And in detail we told you why. We were in court only because you did not listen to us.

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Now you've spent a lot of money on this study to make it defensible in court. I implore you, read where your staff continues to ignore us by answering us with the phrase "comments noted." "comments noted" is not enough. Now, others have directed your attention to issues with which we agree. I close directing your attention to only three of its many faults. First, selecting a faulty site. Second, a spillway to spill overflow into the Esteros. And third, the report made inadequate response to those of us who took the time and energy to try to read it and study it and get additional information and to help you, and we are thanked with "comments noted." Thank you.

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**Mayor Wright:**

Martin Coopender followed by Natasha Pehrson followed by Karen Kibler.