

PUBLIC COMMENTOR 236 - JACK MACY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1996

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Mayor Wright, members of the council and the Board of Public Utilities, and also representatives from the corps. My name's Jack Macy. 565 West College Avenue. And I'm here today to speak on behalf of the Sonoma County Alliance, which if you don't know is a broad-based membership organization. Our motto states that "a healthy environment depends upon a healthy economy."

We've had a committee that's been studying this issue for more years than I care to think about. When the Draft EIR came out, we asked ourselves "why are we here?" We're here because the last EIR was ruled inadequate by the judge, Judge Watters, in her decision. So we got that decision and we reviewed it. We tried to see what the major points of her decision were, why the other EIR was ruled inadequate, and if the City has in fact addressed those kind of comments with this process that's been ongoing approximately for three years now, and we believe that the City has.

To summarize the main objections that were brought forth by Judge Watters and our response and opinion of the response by the City: that the new EIR/EIS does evaluate to a project level of detail a reasonable number of alternatives as identified through the screening process.

The EIR/EIS study does identify the issues that were brought up early during the scoping sessions and later at a two-day study session before the Board of Public Utilities. The public has been given the opportunity to participate and comment throughout the process. The City did address concerns raised by the public to an appropriate degree. The City has adequately analyzed significant and potentially significant impacts, and the City has presented a reasonable range of feasible mitigation measures to these impacts.

We're only at the draft stage. There's been a lot of comments made today, some of them very appropriate and very important. We would encourage the City and their consultants in the preparation of the Final EIR to address those comments adequately.

We believe that the Final EIR/EIS when certified will be defensible and that it will be an adequate document to assist in the selection process that will happen probably next spring.

We all share the common goal of implementation of a project that meets the goals and objectives previously adopted. Thank you.

Mayor Wright:

Joi Losee? Is Joi Here?