

PUBLIC COMMENTOR 267 - VANESSA PATTERSON, SEPTEMBER 24, 1996

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Hi, my name is Vanessa Patterson and I live in Rohnert Park, California, and I'm actually here because -- on behalf of my biology class. It's a water project class where we take water samples, and basically this past week we've been concentrating on this issue, because we feel it's a very pressing issue and one of the things that I learned this week is that our math and science building, which is a two story big building, and it holds hundreds and hundreds of students each day, 40 of those buildings would be dumped into the river each day.

Now, my question, and my fellow students' questions are what happens when the population grows? Would -- what will happen? I mean, it's 20 percent now, but in five years will it be 40 percent? We have to think about the future. I think that part of the problem we have with like all environmental issues is we don't look about the future. We think of what's now, and obviously you feel that it's best to dump 20 percent in the water now, but have you looked ahead in the next ten years?

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Billions and billions and billions of sewage will then be dumped into the water. So I think that what we need to do -- what we all need to learn how to do is think about the future ahead of it before we act on any of the actions, and look at all the consequences before we act. It's one thing I've learned through my education and I think it's something that I'd like to remind everyone of. Thank you.

One more question that my class had is what happens when it floods and all that sewage is then like entered into people's back yards? That's pretty disgusting.

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Mayor Wright:

That is the last card we have. Let me ask one more time. Is there any speaker who has not spoken that would like to address this hearing board? Is that a yes or a yawn? You need to have a card filled out.

Mark, or Dave, would you get this gentleman a card? You put your name and address on it. And then you hand it to this gentleman right here.

(pause.)

Okay. Michael Bridge. If you'll give your name and address, and then you have five minutes.