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CITY OF SANTA ROSA
P.O. Box 1678
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DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Meredith:

I am writing in regards to the EIR/EIS that is allegedly available for public review and in regards to the time frame given for review. I am protesting the very short time frame for review in comparison to the vast amount of material that is contained in the huge document and for the lack of availability to review and respond. 001

In my opinion there should be strong consideration for the general public's access and the limited availability to non-professional interested parties. A document that is five feet long and as large as this EIR/EIS should allow at least six months for review and should be widely publicized prior to the ultimate hearings. I think there should have been a weekly digest of each published volume printed in the Press Democrat and other county newspapers to make the public aware as well as to help them assimilate the information. I doubt that even the professionals involved in the decisions are going to read the entire document and yet they will be making multi-million dollar decisions that effect every taxpayer in Sonoma County and not just the district. 002

I am also opposed to the taxpayers of Sonoma County being saddled with ever increasing costs for expansion related to this matter when the taxpayers are precluded from any choice of whether or not they are willing to continue to underwrite growth, especially when it is impacting their own personal finances. 003

There is another point I think needs to be brought to the forefront regarding the actual capacity of the Llano Road plant and that is the question of whether or not this facility is operating at or over its rated capacity. 004

I have reasons to believe that the figures being submitted to the Water Quality Control Board are erroneous and are under-reported. This belief is based on several months of studying and reviewing the records of Rohnert Park, Sonoma State University and other information from Sebastopol, South Park and Santa Rosa.

The dry weather flow data for the past five years is based on readings given by the City of Rohnert Park that are based on supposition and biased calculations rather than actual meter readings. The two Rohnert Park meters have been broken for years and there are statements in Rohnert Park records stating there has been no sewage capacity since at least 1987.

In spite of that revelation, Rohnert Park has approved substantial housing construction and other projects that use substantial sewage and generate waste water. And in spite of what has happened in Rohnert Park, the dry weather flow data has been accepted as legitimate for approval by the Department of Water Quality Control and others who use the data.

It seems there is another area of question in regards to flow capacities and that is in regards to the South Park district, which is unmetered. The question I have in regards to Llano Road plant is, "*what are the actual flow rates?*" How much sewage is actually going into the plant and how much waste water is actually coming out?

How can any projects in this entire district be given any kind of approval without knowing exactly what capacity is actually available? For example, the recently approval for a hotel by the Cotati Planning Commission, the 3,000 seat movie theater and three housing tract projects in Rohnert Park and the numerous housing projects in progress or being planned in the Santa Rosa planning area?

In my opinion, this EIR/EIS should be suspended until such time that accurate dry weather flow data can be acquired and used to determine accurate capacities.

How does the City of Santa Rosa justify further annexations when there is a question about sewage capacity? What about the matter of potable water capacity, which includes the Russian River and the various wells in this area?

In closing, I would advocate a total moratorium on construction in the Santa Sub-regional District until such time that accurate data is generated and a better vision of both waste water and potable water capacities are developed and that all of this information is made available to the public through the newspapers and other media.]

Yours truly,

Paul D. Stutrud

cc: Corp of Army Engineers
State Water Quality Control Board (Sacramento)
State Water Quality Control Board (Santa Rosa)
Sonoma County Tax Payer's Association
Press Democrat
Independent
Pacific Sun