

*Santa Rosa* Subregional Long-Term Wastewater Project

# DRAFT EIR/EIS COMMENT FORM

DUE OCTOBER 7, 1996 4:30 PM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 9/23/96

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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## How to use:

Please fill out the above and provide your written comments about the Draft EIR/EIS in the space provided below. You may add additional pages if needed. Please write legibly. If you prefer to type your comments on a separate page, please attach to this form. Where possible, please reference the page to which the comment refers. When you have completed your comments, please fold the form so the City's address is showing, tape the edges together, (Do not use staples), and place in the mail.

*See attached*

**CITY OF SANTA ROSA**

P.O. Box 1678  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

SEP 27 1996

DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The draft EIR/EIS is a flawed document in a number of essential respects. Rather than offering a thoughtful, unbiased analysis of the real cost and viability of each listed alternative, the document is a plan that seeks first and foremost to create the maximum possible capacity for the greatest growth and development in Sonoma County regardless of environmental, tax rate, or quality of life cost to present residents.

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River discharge is clearly made out to be the most cost effective alternative, ignoring the damage to tourism which our county is increasingly dependent on, and the fact that Marin County officials who purchase Russian River water have already expressed grave concerns about the effect a discharge option would have on the quality of the drinking water. A major failing of the EIR is the decision to exclude the cost effective alternative of small storage facilities for a South County re-use option. Our wastewater, properly used, is a valuable resource which should not be dumped into the Russian River, our major source of drinking water, when there are major economic benefits to expanded agricultural reuse options. The draft EIR/EIS does not properly explore a phased project utilizing a number of smaller sites obtained from willing sellers. The model of the Gallo storage site in Cotati is one which could be duplicated in a number of areas, expanding our agricultural base, protecting tourism, and avoiding costly and protracted litigation from a river discharge option or land takings from unwilling sellers.

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For this long delayed project to work in the best interest of all Sonoma County residents, we need to look at the real costs, risks, and benefits of the available options. The draft EIR/EIS seeks to promote a quick fix solution to allow for maximum growth, as opposed to thoughtfully exploring plusses and minuses of each alternative. As a Santa Rosa taxpayer, I object to the fearmongering approach of holding out river discharge as the lest costly option. Even if that were in fact the case, I would willing pay more of my hard earned dollars in taxes for an alternative which makes proper use of our wastewater to protect our agricultural base and open spaces.

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Respectfully,

H. Robb Levinsky

