

September 30, 1996

Ms. Marie Meredith
 City of Santa Rosa, Dept. of
 Community Development
 P. O. Box 1678
 Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Dear Ms. Meredith:

I was unable to attend your Final Public Hearing on Santa Rosa's Long Term Wastewater Project on September 24, 1996. There were a few comments I would have liked to have made had I been able to attend, and I would like to present them now if I may.

After looking over your Draft EIR/EIS, I too came to the conclusion reached by your consulting firm Harland Bartholomew & Associates that the best wastewater disposal option is Alternative 5, actually 5B. This alternative is the most environmentally friendly, the most economical, and easiest to put into operation. However, I would like to expand on this plan if I may. I feel that your wastewater is a commodity that could be used by agriculture and has an economic benefit to farmers. I feel that if these farmers want the water they should pay their fair share to have it brought to their property. I strongly support what Gallo Vineyards is doing in the Cotati area. They want the water and are willing to pay for a reservoir on their property to store it. My suggestion is that if you find a group of farmers in an area who want the water and can use enough to make it economical for the City to pipe it in their direction then perhaps you should do so. These farmers should be responsible for providing reservoir sites and also help the City with pipeline costs. These farmers could then set up an irrigation district that would oversee the use of the water. This plan could be used in all areas around Santa Rosa. Then any water that is not used for irrigation can be disposed of by using your 5B Alternative.

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Your wastewater does have economic value but instead of putting the burden on your rate payers, let those who want the water pay to get it to their property and pay to store it. What isn't used for agricultural and urban irrigation can be discharged into the Laguna and on into the Russian River.

Sincerely,

Allen Marcucci

Allen Marcucci
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**DEPARTMENT OF
 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

