



State of California • The Resources Agency

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

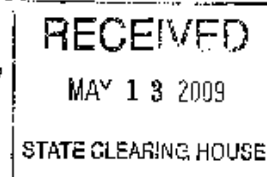
Ruth Coleman, Director

San Mateo Coast Sector
95 Kelly Avenue
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

May 12, 2009

Attn: DPLA Environmental Review Unit
California Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

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Subject: County of San Mateo, Pescadero Community Sewer Project
SCH #2009042022

COMMENT S3-1

The project description for the proposed project includes the following statement (page 2-9):

It is anticipated that the future WWTP owner/operator would apply for a National Pollutant Distribution Elimination System (NPDES) permit under Section 402 of the Federal Clean Water Act... Under permitted conditions, recycled water would be discharged into an existing culvert located perpendicular to the access road to the north of the proposed WWTP site. This culvert heads north to meet another culvert beneath Pescadero Creek Road where it would discharge into the Pescadero Marsh.

Discharge of any type into Pescadero Marsh would require a thorough evaluation to determine potential impacts on the sensitive species and habitats of the marsh. Without additional information, it cannot be assumed that discharge of treated wastewater into the marsh would be an appropriate alternative. If surface water discharge is a necessary component of the proposed project, the potential impacts of the discharge should be considered within this environment document.

Response

As shown in Table 3-5 of the Mitigated Negative Declaration, implementation of the Proposed Project would reduce current sewer loading into the marsh by approximately 16,700 pounds per year (lbs/yr) and by approximately 51,000 lb/yr at full buildout of approximately 291 parcels (HSE, 2008). The application for the NPDES permit would include additional discussion of the Proposed Project's beneficial impacts to the marsh.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at (650) 726-8805.

Sincerely,



Joanne Kerbavaz
Senior Environmental Scientist

CC: Natural Resource Division, Attn. C. Sampaga
County of San Mateo