

Technical Memorandum Name: On Site Treatment, January 2008
Commenter: TAC – Finance Committee
Comments Date: January 31, 2008
Responses Date: March 30, 2008

The following comments were submitted in response to the above listed Technical Memorandum (TM). The TM was developed as part of the EIR process for the project, in order to help facilitate and broaden the discussion of project issues important to the community. The responses should be considered preliminary because the EIR process is not complete, and the information necessary to fully respond has not yet been developed. The project team is grateful to those citizens who took the time to review the TM and provide comments at this early stage in the process. The project team will endeavor to fully address the comments and concerns through the on-going project development process.

| | Comment | Response |
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| 1 | Will other on-site options be considered, e.g. composting toilets? | It is important to understand that the EIR can only consider alternatives and mitigation measures that are “feasible”. In the context of an EIR, “feasible” means “capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.” We are concerned that the community’s response to the majority of the alternative systems being suggested (such as the nitrogen sequestering system and composting toilet systems) would render these approaches infeasible. That is, the majority of residents may not wish to modify their daily lives to the degree required to make these systems a success on a community-wide basis. |
| 2 | RE: Problems with bacteria when house is vacant for prolonged periods: how long? | The comment illustrates a typical dilemma associated with alternatives systems – since none are in general use within densely populated areas like Los Osos, it may be impossible to accurately predict and analyze the full range of potential environmental effects. Further, it may be impossible to state, with reasonable certainty, that widespread use of alternative systems will definitely and fully respond to the discharge prohibition. |