Matt Cage

My wife and I live downstream from the proposed sewage treatment plant. The river goes through our property. I have the following questions and comments. Question number 1 how will the new discharge into the Zumbro affect the water level? Especially during heavy rains. We live next to the flood plain and at different times of high water our driveway is underwater. Will the amount of new water from the collective towns affect flooding. Question number 2 how will the release of treated water affect the temperature of the river downstream? We currently have trout, crayfish, smallmouth bass and a number of minnow species and aquatic insects in the river. All rely on cool clean water. Will this plant have an impact on them. Question 3 is related to question 2 in terms of how will the flow affect oxygen in the river and again those species that live in the river? Question 3 has the project designers taken in account a proposed data center and its potential for adding more flow to the river either through its use or the impermeable ground that will be made due to its buildings and parking lots? Question 4 The draft document said that there were not any springs with in 2 miles of the proposed plant. Is that verified? We have several on our stretch of the river and we are very close to the 2 miles it is stating. Question 5 even though the proposed plant does not affect this but has there been any determination on how the impact of tiling of fields in combination with new water discharge volumes will affect the river flow rate downstream? Question 6 will there be downstream monitoring of water quality of the discharge? Question 7 what is the back up plan when flooding is more than the projected 5 year 25 year or 100 year floods or rainfall totals? Will raw sewage be dumped into the river or will each town have its own back up retention ponds. Question 8 will there be funding set aside for emergencies for downstream concerns like riverbank erosion etc. The general comment we want to make is to make sure that downstream concerns are addressed. Our other comment is that this may make financial sense for cities but is it logical to spend time money and energy to send water north to have it run south?