CITY OF
SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

Office of the City Manager

January 16, 2015

Mr. Murry Wilson
Department of Planning and Building
San Luis Obispo County
976 Osos Street, Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

RE: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Project

Dear Mr. Wilson,

The City of San José would like to express its concerns over the Phillips 66 oil train offloading facility expansion in San Luis Obispo County. The City is particularly concerned with the increase in oil-train traffic through many densely populated areas and the risk it poses to our city of over one million people.

The most significant impact identified in the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (RDEIR) is accidents on the main rail line that could result in oil spills, fires, and explosions near populated areas. Our current rail system is designed to connect residents to their destinations throughout the entire Bay Area, not to move large quantities of hazardous materials like crude oil. Ultimately, regardless of whether we're transporting goods or people, safety is our primary concern.

Even without the risk posed by the extreme proximity of rail lines to our residents and businesses, local emergency responders are not prepared for the scale of disaster represented by a major oil-train derailment, and current oil-by-rail safety standards, like electronically controlled braking systems, and phase-out of older cars, have not kept pace with increased oil-train traffic. The RDEIR also did not evaluate the relative air quality or greenhouse gas emissions for the entire project area, which includes the transport through San José from Canada to the San Luis Obispo County facility.

The City of San José requests that additional environmental and risk analysis be completed, particularly for the communities that the oil-trains will travel through to serve the Phillips facility, like San José.

Sincerely,

Norberto Dueñas
Interim City Manager

C: San José Mayor and City Council

200 East Santa Clara Street San José, CA 95113 *tel* (408) 535-8100 *fax* (408) 920-7007 www.sanjoseca.gov