



Fw: Oil Train
Lynn Compton to: Ryan Hostetter
Sent by: **Jocelyn Brennan**

11/21/2015 11:30 AM

----- Forwarded by Jocelyn Brennan/BOS/COSLO on 11/21/2015 11:30 AM -----

From: A Larson <viking123v@gmail.com>
To: "lcompton@co.slo.ca.us" <lcompton@co.slo.ca.us>
Cc: "Charles@varni.org" <Charles@varni.org>
Date: 11/20/2015 08:01 PM
Subject: Oil Train

Dear Supervisor Lynn Compton,

My name is **Allen Larson** and I am a resident of **Nipomo**. I appreciate your request to hear from your constituents on the proposed Phillips 66 oil train project. As a resident living in south San Luis Obispo County, I strongly oppose the approval of this facility. I

I am greatly disturbed that are you leaning toward approval of this because "I haven't heard from my constituents" that they oppose this. Well, I can tell you the overwhelming majority of residents in Trilogy Monarch Dunes are vehemently opposed to it.

My concerns are:

THE BLAST ZONE

The U.S. Department of Transportation has designated one mile on each side of the tracks as a blast/evacuation zone in case of an oil train derailment. The percentage of population living in this zone for our major cities are Paso Robles (45%), Atascadero (52%), Templeton (63%), Santa Margarita (100%), San Luis Obispo (71%), Pismo Beach (37%), Grover Beach (76%), Oceano (88%), overall county (35%). More than 56 public and private schools are in the blast zone as well as major hospitals and public safety facilities.

PUBLIC SAFETY THREATS

Significant and unavoidable threats include oil train derailments and related oil spills, fires, and explosions. These derailments are becoming more common across the U.S. with six in 2015 (thru July), all of them resulting in major spills and five of them catching fire and exploding. The diesel locomotives emit large amounts of exhaust and particulate matter which is very dangerous to public health, especially the young and elderly. Each oil train emits the equivalent particulate matter of 4,500 diesel automobiles, meaning the Phillips 66 project would add the pollution of 2 million cars per year.

Witness the oil spill in Santa Barbara to see the devastation an accident could cause to our county.

ECONOMIC THREATS

SLO county and communities are well known tourist destinations, from the beaches to the vineyards and everywhere between. Our agricultural lands are fertile and productive. An oil train derailment could do irreparable harm to our tourist economy, damage agricultural resources and vineyards, and significantly harm small businesses. Any homes and other buildings in the blast zone may see their property values diminish; may not have insurance coverage for oil train damage; and need to disclose the oil train danger in any real estate transactions.

ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS

Any oil train spill into a stream, river, watershed, or public water supply would be especially damaging with long term consequences. A train spill close to our beaches could be catastrophic to the near environment and destroy tourism for years. Lowered air quality from train exhaust emissions and carcinogenic gasses will be constant, unavoidable, and continue for over 20 years—even if there is never a derailment. Tar sand crude oil is very high in carbon and its mining, shipping, refining, and consumption will add millions of tons of CO2 to the atmosphere and further worsen global warming and climate change.

And finally, **Our county gets all of the risk while P66 shareholders and executives make millions.**

Due to the reasons above, I firmly believe that the proposed Phillips 66 rail spur is not in our communities best interest.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Allen Larson

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