



Fw: Amtrak
Debbie Arnold to: Ramona Hedges
Sent by: **Jennifer Caffee**

04/04/2016 04:28 PM

FYI

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----- Forwarded by Jennifer Caffee/BOS/COSLO on 04/04/2016 04:28 PM -----

From: "Laurance Shinderman (global)" <lshinderman@sbcglobal.net>
To: "lcompton@co.slo.ca.us" <lcompton@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 04/04/2016 10:17 AM
Subject: Amtrak

A locomotive on an Amtrak train carrying about 330 passengers derailed when it hit a backhoe south of Philadelphia on Sunday, killing two people and injuring about 35 in what passengers described as a jolt followed by a fireball.

The accident in Chester, Pennsylvania, about 15 miles (25 km) southwest of Philadelphia, was the latest in a series involving the U.S. passenger rail carrier and occurred a few miles south of the site of a 2015 derailment in which eight people were killed.

So why am I sending this to you?

SLO county carefully nurtures its image as one of the "happiest" places to live. The NY Times had a feature: 36 hours in SLO, highlighting quirky restaurants, beautiful vistas, and the spectacular coastal cities and rolling country side.

Yet Phillips 66 wants to put this at risk with the odious Rail Terminal Project by inviting a potential disaster anywhere along the UPRR mainline or within the refinery. If approved, this would be a forever blight. Rail disasters are a low incidence but high impact occurrence.

SLO wants to encourage job growth with good wages. Companies, look for an educated labor force, local amenities such as restaurants, and out door activities that attract a vibrant work force and grow young communities and yes seniors too who spend locally and increase the tax base and add a cosmopolitan "vibe" to local businesses.

In today's 24 hour news cycle, bad press has an immediate impact and lives forever on the Internet. Why would a company want to put their business at risk or invest where a negative story could blunt attracting the talent they want.

This recent rail accident was reported on Google Alerts world wide.

[Philly.com](#), Cbs [news.com](#), Reuters, [NBC.com](#) news, Canadian TV, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal (cover story), Christian Science Monitor, Daily Mail (UK), USA Today, Railway Age Magazine, Washington Post and about three dozen other local and international papers.

With 3-5, mile long crude oil tanker trains coming through Downtown SLO, and literally bi-selecting the Cal Poly campus, why would you want to invite the risk. (The project is projected to have a 40 year life). P66 laments about jobs(the FEIR said approval of the project is not linked to jobs) why would want to put local businesses and jobs at risk?

Think about what such a disaster could mean in terms of future growth and attracting new business. In a nano-second it would be a national headline.

The happiest city would be forever cast as the scene of twisted steel and blackened burned out hulks of tanker cars.

Sent with two tin cans and a string