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To Whom It May Concern:

*People die tragically every day, and really, who cares? Permitting trains to carry crude oil through civilian cities near schools, hospitals and fire stations of SLO county is a great idea. It will profit a wealthy oil company; the human lives put at risk by explosive, corrosive, toxic material are of no concern to me. Public safety second, environmentalism third . . . Does anyone think this way?*

I recently learned about the proposal to build a rail spur in SLO county, increasing the number of trains per week from 1-2 to 6-7, *TRIPLING* the risk of oil train derailment/explosion/fire to our communities. The Canadian tar sands that the trains will be carrying is one of the dirtiest and most extreme fuel sources on the planet—much more volatile than the San Ardo oil that currently passes through SLO. Only Phillips 66 needs this proposed terminal. Nobody who doesn't profit wants it, or would want it--if they were even given the chance to be aware of its proposal. Nobody on the planet needs this extreme oil, at any risk. Clean energy technology has existed since the 1970s, and yet we do not use it. We have let production of fossil fuels endanger on our planet and its inhabitant and allowed the interests of big businessmen and politicians make decisions that nobody else would make for themselves, for their fellow man, for their home planet, or for their future. Why, how, could a person possibly make the decision to endanger and demoralize those whose best interest they are entrusted to represent? Especially when they could use their power instead to advance our evolution as a civilized world?

I just think to myself--you must not know how serious this issue is for the people along the railway. Maybe you haven't heard that the drafted Environmental Impact Report lists *ELEVEN* Class I Impacts (deemed "significant and *unavoidable*") for the Phillips 66 Oil Train Project. The impacts include: explosion, fire, increased air pollution, water pollution, increased demand for fire protection and emergency services. You probably don't realize that there is a one mile radius of a blast zone on either side of an oil train route, and that 30% of SLO county residents live in the blast zone: Santa Margarita 100%, Oceano 88%, Grover Beach 76%, San Luis Obispo 72%, Templeton 63%, Atascadero 52%, Paso Robles 45%, Pismo Beach 37%. You might oppose the

project today if you knew that 26 SLO County schools are in the blast zone, as well as the entire Cal Poly campus and the Paso Robles campus of Cuesta. Sierra Vista (the area's trauma center) French Hospital and Arroyo Grande Community Hospital are also in the blast zone. Millions of other people in our nation live along the rail path of oil trains who could potentially be positively impacted by SLO's decision to turn down Phillips 66. You could not possibly know all of this and allow it to still happen.

The Department of Transportation predicts there will be TEN oil derailments in the U.S. each year. I heard the mayor of Mosier, Oregon speak about how a train derailment had catastrophic effect on her community, and she never believed they were in danger. Trains slow to 35 miles per hour through her town, but the railways we use for oil trains were never designed to carry them. A derailment caused 19 rail cars to be spread through Mosier's city limits, four of which exploded. "If the wind had been blowing that day, we all would have died," she said. Crude oil is now in this town's water supply and ground soil along with the foam used to put out widespread fires. Ten million gallons of water were also used to fight fires, endangering the town's reservoir. Property in Mosier is now considerably devalued. Much like SLO, Mosier has one main access highway like our 101. Because of the derailment, the main access for first responders was in gridlock. Life for people of this derailment town will never be the same again. Before clean up was complete, oil trains were scheduled to run again. One derailment of volatile crude oil is too many. This story could easily become our own. It is much easier to stop this from happening now than to reverse the effect of it in the future.

You *must* know that Phillips 66 has nobody's best interest in mind—only their profits and production. You *must* know that we are counting on you to have a greater interest in our community, our lives, our children, our safety, our state, our nation, our planet, and our voices than in Phillips 66's agendas, and we are counting on you to reject their proposal for a rail spur in SLO in acknowledgement of all of the above.

Respectfully,

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