

**FREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL
RESOLUTION No. 024-1415
Regarding Santa Maria Phillips 66 Rail Refinery Project**

WHEREAS, The Fremont Unified School District governing board has an obligation to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for all students. Trustees urge the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to reject the Santa Maria Phillips 66 Rail Refinery Project. As representatives of schools located along the proposed rail route, we would be directly impacted by these oil trains, and do not support the project for reasons outlined below; and

WHEREAS, the Phillips 66 oil train project would bring mile-long oil trains right through many California communities and near several of Fremont Unified schools. School employees are state-mandated disaster workers while on the job, and we are not at all equipped to deal with the dangers posed by this project or to adequately protect the lives and the wellbeing of our students. This project creates unacceptable risks for our students, teachers, and staff; and

WHEREAS, the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) does not adequately assess the risks of an oil train disaster; with several schools located in close proximity to rail lines, we have concerns about the accuracy of the data used to support the proposal; and

WHEREAS, the EIR's worst case scenario estimates a spill of 180,000 gallons, or roughly six tank cars of crude. This is most definitely a miscalculation because crude trains have 100 or more tank cars, carrying millions of gallons. Such a spill would certainly be more than 180,000 gallons. In fact, the oil trains in this project would be carrying almost 3 million gallons each. A spill would devastate our schools, scarce water resources, sensitive ecosystems, homes, and local economies; and

WHEREAS, the toxic air emissions that will accompany this project pose an unacceptable risk to public health. In its latest environmental review, Phillips 66 admits that its proposed oil train facility will create "significant and unavoidable" levels of air pollution along the rail route, with sulfur dioxide and other chemicals leaked that increase risk of cancer, heart disease, respiratory disease and premature death. This is an unacceptable risk to the health of school children and educators close to the tracks; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Fremont Unified School District strongly opposes this project for all of the above stated reasons. We urge the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to reject the Phillips 66 proposed oil train project. We strongly encourage the Commission and Supervisors to act in the interest of the people and to express grave concern about the impact this project would have on our communities and our children.

APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of May 2015 by the Board of Education by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:



Larry Sweeney, Clerk

