ISLAY POINTE VILLAS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

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July 2, 2015

San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission
976 Osos Street, Room 200
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Islay Pointe Villas Homeowners Association located in the City of San Luis Obispo. The Islay Pointe Board urges you to deny the application of the Phillips 66 Santa Maria Refinery which has proposed a Rail Spur Extension and Crude Oil Unloading Facility at its refinery located in Nipomo. This project would present long term threats to the public safety of our homeowners and neighbors.

Our association is located in the City of San Luis Obispo at the southern end of town. We represent 84 homes in Islay Pointe Villas. Our association is very concerned about the potential for severe property damage. Our association is located next to Union Pacific Railroad.
Construction of the rail spur itself is not the issue. The overriding issue is safety and the safety concerns raised by bringing in additional oil tanker trains. The safety of the rail cars, the volatility and volume of the oil, the integrity of the infrastructure, the location of the rail lines near our homes – all are major concerns.

According to the SLO County EIR (Environmental Impact Report) for the Phillips 66 project, the risk of oil train accidents would be "significant and unavoidable." The amount of oil trains coming through California would increase significantly, thereby increasing the risk of a derailment, fire, or explosion. Furthermore, the EIR states that the project would have "significant and unavoidable" air quality impacts all along the rail route due to diesel fumes. We request the Planning Commission to reject this project and thereby protect the health, safety, and welfare of our homeowners and neighbors. Please consider this letter part of the public record of the hearing at which you consider this matter.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Williams

Rochelle Williams, CCAM
Agent to the Board
Rochelle.williams@managementtrust.com

Cc: San Luis Obispo City Council
San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors

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