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Commissioner Don Campbell  
SLO County Planning and Building Department  
976 Osos Street, Room 200  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

February 19, 2015

Dear Commissioner Campbell,

As San Jose residents we are opposed to the Phillips 66 expansion of the Mesa oil refinery. This would result in oil-trains running through downtown and other parts of San Jose. These one-mile long, 100-car trains carrying flammable oil tar-sands would spew carcinogens in their wake. In the event of a derailment or fire, our San Jose Fire Chief has said that even the one hazmat team in San Jose couldn't extinguish such a fire. They would just put up a perimeter and let the fire burn itself out.

In the case of derailment or fire (nationally, there have been 31 in the last 24 months), the number of people that would need to evacuate in downtown alone is staggering. The SJPD and SJFD are unprepared to address a hazardous accident of this magnitude. The following are just a few examples of those located in the downtown "blast zone":

- SJPD Office
- San Jose Main Jail
- 39,000 downtown residents
- hundreds of businesses/restaurants/theaters
- dozen hotels/motels
- seven churches
- dozen elementary, middle and high schools
- San Jose Unified School District Offices
- San Jose Chamber of Commerce
- San Jose State University
- Santa Clara University
- Center for the Performing Arts
- SAP Center
- McEnery Convention Center
- Diridon Railway Station

Our Mayor, Sam Liccardo, and our City Council have formally opposed this expansion. However, city and state governments have no authority. As a member of The San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission, you are responsible for the health and safety consequences for the people of San Jose and the other 5.5 million people along the train route if the refinery expansion is approved.

Recent horrific events in West Virginia and North Dakota should be evidence enough to solicit a NO vote on expansion. San Jose is the largest city along the route and would be most impacted by your decision. We urge you to vote NO on the refinery expansion to ensure the safety and health of our citizens.

Sincerely,

  
Jill Sardegna

  
Jack Sardegna



