



ORCHARD SCHOOL DISTRICT

921 Fox Lane San Jose, CA 95131

DISTRICT 408-944-0397 • SCHOOL 408-944-0388 • FAX 408-944-0394 •

January 22, 2016

Department of Planning and Building
San Luis Obispo County
976 Oso Street, Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Re: Planning 66 Rail Spur Project

Dear Planning Commissioners:

The Orchard School District Board of Education would like to state its concerns regarding the expansion of the Phillips 66 oil trains off-loading facility in the San Luis Obispo County. We are particularly concerned with the increase in oil train traffic and the risk it poses to our neighborhood. The one mile US Department of Transportation Potential Impact Zone in the case of an oil train derailment or fire crosses along the southeastern side of Orchard School District.

The Board has been informed that the most significant impact identified in the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (RDEIR) for this project is an increase in accidents on the main rail line that could result in oil spills, fires, and explosions near populated areas. The current rail system is not designed to move large quantities of hazardous materials such as *crude oil*. Additionally, we are concerned about the increase in diesel emissions near our school. The Board believes this project would compromise the health and safety of our school community.

On January 19, 2016, by a vote of 3 to 1 (with one absent), the Orchard School District Board of Education voted to respectfully request that the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission vote to deny this project.

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Joel Ruiz Herrera
Superintendent

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