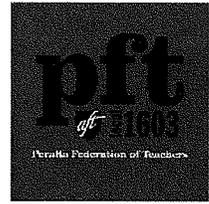


AFT Local 1603, AFL-CIO

# Peralta Federation of Teachers

Democracy in Education, Education for Democracy



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RECEIVED

JUN 12 2015

PLANNING & BUILDING

Mr. Ken Topping, Chair  
County of San Luis Obispo  
Planning Commission  
976 Osos Street, Room 300  
San Luis Obispo, California 93408

RE: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Expansion Project

Dear Chairperson Topping and Members of the Planning Commission,

The Peralta Federation of Teachers is writing to state our opposition to the Phillips 66 oil train offloading facility expansion in San Luis Obispo County. The Peralta Federation of Teachers is particularly concerned with the increase in oil-train traffic generated by this project through many densely populated areas, including Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, Emeryville, Albany and Piedmont, and the risk it poses to schools and colleges along the rail route.

The most significant impact identified in the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (RDEIR) is accidents on the main rail line that could result in oil spills, fires, and explosions near populated areas. Our current rail system is designed to connect residents to their destinations throughout the state, not to move large quantities of hazardous materials like crude oil. Additionally, Laney College and the Peralta District Office in Oakland are within the one-mile US Department of Transportation Potential Impact Zone in the case of an oil train derailment or fire.

The RDEIR also did not evaluate the relative air quality or greenhouse gas emissions for the entire project area, which includes oil transport through northern California to the San Luis Obispo County facility. The diesel emissions from operational activities of trains along the route would generate toxic pollutant emissions that exceed thresholds, increasing the risk of cancer, heart disease, and respiratory disease, especially in the very young. Therefore, this project would directly compromise the health and safety our school communities along the rail route.

On May 15, 2015, the Peralta Federation of Teachers voted to oppose the Phillips 66 Rail Spur Expansion Project and to respectfully request that the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission vote to deny the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Goldstein', written over a horizontal line.

Matthew Goldstein,  
President

Peralta Federation of Teachers  
500 East Eight Street, Suite B  
Oakland, CA 94606



County of San Luis Obispo  
Attn: Ken Topping  
976 Osos Street, Room 300  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

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