From: "Vicki B" <vickib2004@charter.net>
To: <p66-railspur-comments@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 11/16/2014 05:44 PM
Subject: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Project, REIR

Mr. Murry Wilson, SLO County Dept. of Planning and Building San Luis Obispo, CA

Dear Mr. Wilson,
One of my primary concerns about the above project is the toxic air pollution it is going to generate, not just at the Mesa Refinery, but all along the rail route from its origin (Canada or Northern US), across several states, through Northern California, and through San Luis Obispo County to the refinery.

The 3 diesel locomotives per train, 5 times per week, will be emitting particulate matter as well as other noxious gases such as NO2 (Nitrous Oxide) which contributes to ground-level ozone, a highly irritating gas that produces acute effects including coughing, shortness of breath, and reduction in lung function.

Diesel exhaust particles include soot, ash particulates, metallic abrasion particles, sulfates and silicates. Because of their small size, these inhaled particles may easily penetrate deep into the lungs. Health detriments of the fine particle emissions are severe and pervasive. BOV-01
Long-term exposure could lead to chronic more serious health problems such as cardiovascular disease, cardiopulmonary disease and lung cancer.
Our communities should not have to suffer the effects of these hazardous emissions. Especially in the Nipomo Mesa area where the particulate matter is already at unhealthy levels.

Nor should communities along the mainline route have the health of their residents compromised by the same particulate matter and noxious gases that will be emitted from the 5 crude-oil unit-trains, each pulled by 3 diesel-powered locomotives, traveling through their communities every week.
Of course, we would also have the noxious gases emitted from refining the tar-sands crude which also produces more green-house gases than regular crude. It's a nasty business!

I strongly urge you to consider the health of our communities and preserve our air quality by rejecting the Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Project.
Thank you.

Vicki Bookless
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From: "Vicki B" <vickib2004@charter.net>
To: <p66-railspur-comments@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 11/19/2014 08:10 PM
Subject: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Project,REIR

Attn: Mr. Murry Wilson, SLO County Dept. of Planning and Building

Dear Mr. Wilson,

Phillips 66 is proposing to bring tar-sands crude to the Nipomo Mesa Refinery by rail. Each unit-train would consist of 3 diesel-powered locomotives, 80 tank cars (each holding 21,300 gallons of explosive tar-sands crude oil) and 2 buffer cars – a total length of 1 1/2 miles.
They plan to bring at least 5 of these trains to the refinery each week.

The trains would travel through Northern California, through San Luis Obispo County, and over Cuesta Grade. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has identified a number of Local Safety Hazard Sites (LSHS) within California, including Cuesta Grade. BOV-02

Over the last 5 years there have been 58 derailments at, or near, LSHS sites. The Cuesta Grade represents an area where a runaway train could occur, which could result in spills of crude and associated explosions and fires – a disaster!

We don't need to put our communities at this kind of risk. In fact, it would be totally irresponsible to do so. We MUST reject the Phillips 66 oil Spur Extension Project!

Thank you!
Vicki Bookless, San Luis Obispo

From: "Vicki B" <vickib2004@charter.net>
To: <p66-railspur-comments@co.slo.ca.us>
Date: 11/22/2014 02:38 PM
Subject: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Project, REIR

Attn: Mr. Murry Wilson, SLO County Dept. of Planning and Building

Dear Mr. Wilson,

There are two items in the REIR, either one of which would be reason enough to reject this rail-spur extension.

1. 80-car unit trains loaded with explosive tar-sands crude oil will make 10 trips per week (5 inbound, 5 outbound), 520 trips per year. They will traverse the western U.S. then come through California to the NIpomo Mesa Refinery in this proposed project. These trains will each be powered by 3 diesel-powered locomotives, spewing green-house gases and diesel particulate matter, all of which are seriously harmful to human health, along this route.
All of these trips will have to go over Cuesta Grade which the California Public Utilities Commission has designated as one of several Local Safety Hazard Sites (LSHS) within California. Over the last 5 years, there have been 58 derailments at, or near, LSHS sites. The Cuesta Grade represents an area where a runaway train could occur, which could result in spills of crude oil and associated explosions and fires! BOV-03

2. The air pollution emitted from these trains will be especially noxious for the prople living in the region surrounding the Nipomo Mesa Refinery.
They will be subjected to larger than usual amounts of diesel particulates, sulfates and silicates, all responsible for severe health detriments. The refining process of the tar-sands crude will also emit more noxious gases than the crude currently processed at this facility. BOV-04

There is not one single benefit to our county or its communities from this project. Everything about it is a negative for our County and our citizens. Knowingly and willingly compromising the air quality in our communities to this extent is unacceptable.

I strongly urge you to consider the safety and health of our citizens and communities by rejecting the Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Project.

Thank you!
Vicki Bookless
San Luis Obispo