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Subject: Phillips 66 Rail Terminal Project

I am a new resident of San Luis Obispo County. We moved to Nipomo because of the Trilogy community here and because of the climate and beautiful landscape that San Luis Obispo County offers. I understand that the Board of Supervisors will be considering a proposal by Phillips 66 Rail Terminal Project designed to increase the transport of crude oil by rail. It seems to me that this represents a new business model for Phillips 66 and is one that would have a significant and potentially dangerous impact to the residents of San Luis Obispo County. I am not confident that the crude could be transported safely given the nature of the terrain and the age of some of the structures. Additionally, if an accident were to occur, even a minor one, it would be difficult to ensure everyone's safety. Rail accidents are not uncommon. In Casselton, North Dakota, 18 tank cars exploded and toxic fumes were released. Approximately 400,000 gallons of crude oil spilled. That's not an insignificant amount. All 2300 residents and those within a 5 mile radius had to be evacuated to an evacuation center where they had to wait until it was considered "safe" to return home. While this may have been a manageable process for a small, rural community like Casselton, it pales in comparison to what would have to happen here in San Luis Obispo County to protect our citizens. Both the Cal Poly campus and downtown San Luis Obispo could conceivably be within a 5 mile evacuation zone. The combination of Cal Poly students and residents of the city of San Luis Obispo alone is approximately 63,000, far beyond the 2300 of Casselton, North Dakota. In many cases, local Offices of Emergency Services are underfunded and would not have the capability to respond adequately to such an accident should one occur here in the County.

FRJ-01

Prior to 2009, The Association of American Railroads noted that 99% of all it's rail cars carrying a variety of hazardous materials, including oil, arrived safely without any hazards or toxic spills. However, since 2009, there has been an increase in the way in which oil is transported. Through November 2013, crude oil releases were reported from 137 different rail cars. This tells me that the possibility of a railway accident here in San Luis Obispo County is not an unreasonable assumption.

FRJ-02

I am hopeful that you will consider the concerns of numerous citizens and not approve the Phillips 66 Rail Terminal Project. I think it would have an adverse effect on both the citizens of Nipomo as well as San Luis Obispo County.

Thank you.

Judy Freeman
Nipomo, CA