

From: "Kat Gates" <bounce@list.engagementlab.org>
To: p66-railspur-comments@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 11/24/2014 04:04 PM
Subject: Vote NO on the Keystone XL pipeline!

Dear Mr. Wilson,

I urge the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to reject the Phillips 66 proposed oil by rail project at the Santa Maria refinery. This project creates significant, unavoidable, and unnecessary risks for our kids, communities and climate. The final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must disclose the full climate impacts of the proposed rail project, including the likelihood that it will increase the transport and burning of toxic tar sands oil. Tar sands oil means more carbon pollution. At every stage of the mining, transportation, and refining process, Canadian tar sands are more carbon intensive than any other source of oil. Bringing tar sands to California will undermine the state's efforts to be a global leader addressing climate disruption. The toxic air emissions resulting from this proposed project pose an unacceptable risk to public health. Volatile toxic chemicals leak out of tank cars into the air poisoning communities along rail routes. Phillips 66 admits that its proposed oil train facility will create "significant and unavoidable" levels of air pollution, including toxic sulfur dioxide and cancer-causing chemicals. The EIR must fully analyze the potential worst-case scenario of a spill near each of the many watersheds crossed en route to the Santa Maria refinery. The proposed rail route brings oil trains through the San Francisco Bay-Delta watershed and along California's central coast. Each oil train carries more than three million gallons of explosive, toxic crude oil. A derailment near a river, stream, reservoir, or above a groundwater aquifer could contaminate drinking water for millions of Californians. During a time of extreme drought, San Luis Obispo County must not approve this project and create contamination risk for the rest of our state. Please protect California families and children by rejecting Phillips 66's toxic oil train plan. Thank you for consideration of these comments.

GAK-01

Sincerely,

Kat Gates
Fair Oaks, CA