

November 23, 2014

Mr. Murry Wilson

Dept of Planning & Building, SLO County

Re: SMR Rail Spur Extension Project

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I have great concern about this project in the following areas:

- **Air Quality effects** due to the great increase in rail traffic consisting of 5 locomotives traversing Cuesta Grade about 10 times per week. Our county is on the verge of non-compliance for particulates and oxides of nitrogen per new lower limits announced by EPA. The combined effects of these contaminants drifting into our area from the central valley and the significant increase caused by this project could result in significant penalties for our area. We therefore should demand commitments from Phillips and Union Pacific that they will only use newly available locomotives that meet EPA Tier 4 emissions levels. SHJ-01

- **Safety Issues** from possible derailments in our county are significant, given the path of the UP through the middle of our largest communities and the CalPoly University campus.
- We therefore should demand that Phillips and the UPRR follow FRA guidelines that prohibit the use of older DOT111 tank cars for hauling potentially volatile crude oil.
- We should also demand that the UPRR implement Positive Train Control in this area as soon as possible. SHJ-02
- We also should require that Phillips and the UPRR fund proper training for all County Emergency Responders, and for any additional equipment deemed necessary.
- Further, we should require that Phillips and/or the UPRR notify the SLO County Office of Emergency Services the schedule and path of each and every shipment of crude by rail into this county.

- **Interference with passenger rail scheduling** is likely due to the very strong demand for commuter rail service extending north to the Bay Area.
- Phillips and the UPRR should be required to fund the necessary rail infrastructure improvements, including longer sidings, automatic switching, modern day signaling equipment to replace the 1940's era equipment now in use, in this county as well as Santa Barbara and Monterey. SHJ-03

Respectfully submitted,

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