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Nipomo
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

October 29th, 2014

Murry Wilson, Environmental Resource Specialist
County of San Luis Obispo Department of Planning and Building
976 Osos Street, Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040

Re: Phillips 66 Santa Maria Refinery Rail Project

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I write to you on behalf of the 200+ members in good standing of the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce to relay to you our firm support for the planned Phillips 66 Rail Spur.

The Nipomo Chamber of Commerce is intimately familiar with the Refinery and its continued safe operation on the Nipomo Mesa for over 50 years, and has the utmost confidence in the refinery's ability to continue to operate safely and effectively. The EIR, DEIR and the responses to those documents by Phillips 66 have demonstrated to us that they are very concerned and willing to accommodate any real or perceived impacts that the project may have in our area.

Employment of over 200 personnel with approximately 50% living in San Luis Obispo County is an obvious asset to our local economy. In Calendar Year 2013, the Phillips 66 Santa Maria Refinery's, taxes paid, payroll and vendor purchases exceeded $29 million, providing sorely needed income to the County and its residents. Phillips 66 employees are very active supporters of many of the non profits in unincorporated Nipomo and can be relied upon to answer the call to assist with many of the unfunded projects in our area. NCC-01

The Santa Maria Refinery has taken a very proactive and responsible approach to address the dwindling flow of crude oil being delivered to the sole pipeline here on the Central Coast. They have created a plan that ensures continued refining capacity in a safe, productive and environmentally conscientious manner and should be commended for it. We urge approval of the Refinery Rail Spur Project so that we all may benefit now and in to the future.

Respectfully,

Richard Malvarose
Chamber President

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