



Community Development

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slocity.org

November 24, 2014

Mr. Murry Wilson
p66-railspur-comments@co.slo.ca.us
San Luis Obispo County Department of Planning and Building
976 Osos St., Rm. 200
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040

**SUBJECT: Comments regarding Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Recirculated
Draft EIR DRC 2012-00095**

This letter serves as the City of San Luis Obispo's comment letter on the Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) prepared for the Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Project. This letter supplements the items that were originally included in the comment letter for the Draft EIR in January 2014.

The City greatly appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DEIR. In an effort to insure the final project is consistent with the regulations, goals, and community values of the City of San Luis Obispo and the County as a whole, our Community Development Department has reviewed various sections the Draft EIR document and formulated a set of key comments. The City asks that the County consider the comments the City is providing as the Final EIR is prepared.

While the City is aware that the expansion project is taking place outside the City limits, the City of San Luis Obispo is built around the Union Pacific Railroad lines that serve the Santa Maria Refinery and this project which accommodates larger train units, as well as the materials carried has potential impacts to the City of San Luis Obispo and its residents. The project includes an increase in rail traffic, in the length of locomotives, and material volatility of content being carried which may produce long-term effects within our City limits.

SLO-01

The City understands that some of the mitigation regarding mainline impacts may be preempted by Federal law. However the City is concerned about significant impacts in the areas of Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Noise and Vibration, and Transportation. Increases in rail traffic will increase risks and will impact the quality of life to residents and occupants of the City due to increased rail traffic and the potential for rail accidents involving the potential release of crude oil. If the proposed mitigation cannot be implemented due to pre-emption, the City of San Luis Obispo finds that the risks associated with the project are unacceptable.

SLO-02



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The City is eager to collaborate with the County to identify and implement mitigation measures that the City believes can address impacts to the City. Any mitigation proposed should include substantial and viable measures that are subject to ongoing monitoring, as CEQA requires.

SLO-03

Please feel free to contact me the Community Development Department with any additional questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Phil Dunsmore

Phil Dunsmore
Senior Planner

CC: San Luis Obispo City Council
Derek Johnson, Community Development Director