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PLANNING & BUILDING

Mrs. Caren Ray  
Fourth District Supervisor  
County of San Luis Obispo County  
Government Center  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Mr. Murray Wilson  
Environmental Resource Specialist  
County of San Luis Obispo  
Department of Planning and Building  
976 Osos St., Room 300  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Dear Supervisor Ray; Mr. Wilson:

We are writing as a matter of conscience to ask you to deny the Phillips 66 proposal before you. Some decisions have long-term negative impacts on communities, and this surely will be one of them.

The Central Coast of CA is quickly becoming one of the most desirable locations on the west coast, and experiencing the growth promised over 10 years ago. Importantly, this growth is due to the pristine nature of our community and the opportunity to live at peace with nature and neighbors.

SJ-1

The Phillips 66 proposal is not just a "railspur" and would put the quality of our community at grave risk - for a possible financial return to only a minority of those affected. It is a hastily conceived idea that would so drastically alter the landscape that nothing could counteract it.

The plan involves the possible shipment of Bakken crude to the Santa Maria refinery, which is dangerous and unprecedented. Recent reports of train accidents have killed more than 47 people and US regulators are coming out against this seemingly "cheap" form of fuel due not to just the potential for disaster, but the reality of it. In North Dakota, the volume increased by 67 percent, which regulators say, intensifies the likelihood of collisions and spills. Since the Federal Railroad Administration is highly concerned, shouldn't the county be?

SJ-2

Don't let this very short-term, financially motivated proposal put the county's

future at risk. The best of American business is committed to enhancing and not destroying the communities to which they belong. This proposal doesn't share that long-term win-win philosophy.

The sheer number of tracks and the volume proposed is untenable. This is a 500% increase from the one train per week. Nowhere else would this increase in activity be permitted by a community committed to the quality of life of its members. There are issues of air quality, odor, and noise in addition to concerns about explosions and fires. Property values will suffer and not recover, depressing the county.

SJ-3

In a time when we are experiencing a huge growth in alternative forms of energy, this proposal is a step into the past, not an investment in the future. It is not in best interests of our community, our children or our future.

We appreciate your role as advocates for the citizens of SLO County. And we urge you to vote **for your constituency**. Reject this proposal.

Sincerely,



Kathleen and James Sorensen

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