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To: [P66-railspur-comments@CO.SLO.CA.US](mailto:P66-railspur-comments@CO.SLO.CA.US)  
Date: 01/22/2014 03:55 PM  
Subject: Union Pacific Spur to Santa Maria Refinery

Dear Murry Wilson,

We have read the county Planning Commission's EIR Executive Summary on the rail spur extension to the Santa Maria Refinery and have grave concerns about the potential for serious accidents that could effect any of the cities oil cars would pass by en route to the refinery. It does not appear that there is any plan for responding to and cleaning up after any accident that resulted in an oil spill or explosion.

Given that there has not been an upgrade in oil tank car safety standards and the volume of such tankers on the rails has increased forty times over the last five years, we strongly urge that the Planning and Building Department not approve this rail extension.

We would echo the concerns raised by Martin Akel and others in their Viewpoint essay in The Tribune on Wednesday, January 22, that this rail project would be unsafe and bring dangerous oil shipments through our communities. Our home is only a block from the Union Pacific rail line that passes through San Luis Obispo and we have noted that oil cars have been parked on this line in our neighborhood at various times and even overnight. While a disaster may be remote, shipment of hundreds of tankers of oil each week increases the chance of a horrible accident that could affect us all.

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