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Subject: Philips proposed rail spur project at the Nipomo Refinery

Mr. Murry Wilson, SLO County Planning Department

The Philips Rail Expansion Project at the Nipomo Refinery is NOT needed.
The Philips Nipomo Refinery has a current heavy crude oil throughput of 41,000+ barrels per day NOW. This heavy crude oil is currently pumped from the Battles Pump Station in Santa Maria to the Nipomo Refinery for processing. Philips has applied to the County to expand their Nipomo Refinery conditional use permit capacity throughput to just under 50,000 barrels of heavy crude oil throughput per day. Freeport McMoRan Oil and Gas, the current operator of the Arroyo Grande Oil fields in Price Canyon, has applied to the County of San Luis Obispo to increase production from under 1500 barrels of heavy crude oil per day to 10,000 barrels of heavy crude oil per day in the Arroyo Grande Fields (i.e. Price Canyon).
Freeport McMoRan Oil & Gas states in their application to the County that they intend to truck the increased production of heavy crude oil from the Arroyo Grande Oil Fields to the Battles Pump Station in Santa Maria. The oil would be pumped from the Battles Pump Station to the Philips Nipomo Refinery for processing. This potential increase in heavy crude oil production at the Arroyo Grande Fields would 'round out' the amount of heavy crude oil throughput increase total requested by Philips for the Nipomo Refinery in their present conditional use permit application to the County of San Luis Obispo. (i.e. The Nipomo Refinery processes approximately 41,000 barrels of throughput NOW + 8500 barrels of potential throughput from the Arroyo Grande Fields in Price Canyon = 49,500 barrels per day of heavy crude oil throughput). It appears throughput at the Philips Nipomo Refinery would be very close to the amount of additional throughput requested by Philips in their conditional use permit application to the County (i.e.,under 50,000 barrels of throughput per day). THE PROPOSED PHILIPS RAIL SPUR APPLICATION VIOLATES MURPHY'S LAW (i.e., 'IF IT ISN'T BROKEN; DON'T FIX IT!) The Philips Rail Spur Application request for heavy crude oil delivery to the Nipomo Refinery by train would add 40,000 + barrels of heavy crude oil per day to be processed at the Refinery. It appears Philips does NOT intend to close, and dismantle the Battles Pump Station and pipeline heavy crude oil delivery system to the Nipomo Refinery from Santa Maria...
How many barrels of heavy crude oil does Philips ultimately intend to process per day at the Nipomo Refinery from rail and pipeline heavy crude deliveries to the Refinery....???

FOJ-01

Jim Fox

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	would allow up to five unit trains per week to be delivered to the SMR.