



Pleasant Valley School District

Office of the Superintendent

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RaeAnne Michael, Superintendent

February 11, 2015

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

Dear Planning Commissioners:

The Pleasant Valley School District Board of Trustees would like to state our concerns regarding the Phillips 66 oil train offloading facility expansion in San Luis Obispo County. Our District is located in Ventura County in the city of Camarillo. The Board is particularly concerned with the increase in oil-train traffic generated by this project through the many densely populated areas of our city.

We believe there is risk to the schools along the rail route. The train tracks in Camarillo literally divide our City with four of our schools being on one side of the tracks and the remainder on the other. Eight of our District facilities housing children are within one mile of the train tracks. Also, many of our District families reside very close to the tracks.

The Board has been informed the most significant impact identified in the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (RDEIR) is accidents on the main rail line that could result in oil spills, fires, and explosions near populated areas. It is believed our current rail system is not designed to move large quantities of hazardous materials like crude oil. Additionally, the RDEIR did not evaluate the air quality or greenhouse gas emissions for the entire project area which include oil transport through our city. The diesel emissions from operational activities of trains along the route would generate toxic pollutant emissions that exceed thresholds, increasing the risk of cancer, heart disease, and respiratory disease, especially in the very young. There is already a high incidence of childhood asthma and allergies in Ventura County, and the Board believes this project would directly compromise the health and safety of our school communities along the rail route.

It is the Pleasant Valley Board of Trustees intention to put forth a resolution to request the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission vote to deny this project.

Sincerely,

RaeAnne Michael
Superintendent