

**DOREEN FARR**  
*Third District Supervisor*



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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

January 26, 2015

San Luis Obispo Planning Commission  
976 Osos Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Re: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Project

Dear Chair Topping and Commissioners:

I write to you today in strong opposition to the Phillips 66 (Phillips) Santa Maria Refinery Rail Spur Extension Project (Project), as transportation of crude presents grave health and safety risks to my constituents, and the environment. As Third District Supervisor, the potential train routes coming and going from the Santa Maria Refinery (Refinery) would travel through the heart of my district, which includes Guadalupe, Goleta and the Gaviota Coast.

The proposed project is of great concern, due in part to the volatility of Canadian tar sands, and the proximity of the proposed route to highly populated areas. An accident would have catastrophic consequences for my constituents, as well as the sensitive environment of the Central Coast.

As reflected in Santa Barbara County Planning and Development Department comments regarding the Project, the Revised Draft EIR fails to analyze alternative, safer and less environmentally damaging methods transportation, such as pipeline. Further, importation of crude to the Refinery would likely result in displacement of local production to other areas for refining. Displacement of approximately 61,000 barrels per day (onshore and offshore production volume) would have significant air quality and traffic impacts in Santa Barbara County.

Approval of this project may result in hauling of anywhere from 1.8 to 2.1 million gallons of crude annually here on the Central Coast. Transportation of crude presents many known risks, including explosion, derailment, air, odor, noise and visual pollution, as well as many unknown risks, as approval of this project would extend the operational life of the Refinery for 20-30 years.

I strongly urge you to reject the Phillips' proposal and appreciate your consideration of this important issue to our local community.

Sincerely,

**Doreen Farr**  
Third District Supervisor, County of Santa Barbara

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