

# PHILLIPS RAIL – OIL TRAINS IN OUR MIDST?

Phillips 66 is proposing to bring heavy crude oil from around the country to the Santa Maria Refinery in Nipomo by rail, increasing the risks of derailments, spills and explosions. EDC represents the Sierra Club, ForestEthics, Center for Biological Diversity and its own members in opposition to this project. This project must be denied because of the unacceptable risks to the environment and public safety, and because it violates San Luis Obispo County's Local Coastal Plan.

#### THE PROPOSAL

- Phillips 66 proposes to modify the existing "spur" extension from the Union Pacific railroad tracks to the company's Santa Maria Refinery in Nipomo
- This extension would allow up to 5 trains per week, 250 trains per year - each carrying 80 cars and more than 2 million gallons of oil - to travel to the Refinery from the north and south



### THE RISKS AND IMPACTS

San Luis Obispo County's Environmental Impact Report identified numerous significant impacts that cannot be avoided, including:

- Impacts to **public health and safety** in the event of a derailment
- <u>Air pollution</u>, including cancer-causing pollutants, diesel particulate matter, toxic air emissions, greenhouse gases, and smog producing pollutants
- Impacts of oil spills on sensitive plants and animals, wetlands, creeks and rivers
- Impacts to agriculture and cultural resources from potential derailments and oil spills
- Increased demand for public services (e.g., <u>fire protection</u> and <u>emergency response</u>)

#### TALKING POINTS: WHY THE PROJECT MUST BE DENIED

- The project will result in <u>numerous impacts to public health and safety and the</u> <u>environment</u> which cannot be avoided or mitigated
- The project <u>violates County Local Coastal Plan policies</u> protecting air quality and public health, environmentally sensitive habitats, agriculture, ground and surface waters, cultural resources, scenic views, and neighboring communities
- The <u>Environmental Impact Report is deficient</u> because it omits critical issues from its analysis, and erroneously understates the project's impacts
- The project <u>violates County policies encouraging energy conservation and</u> <u>alternative energy sources</u>, and discouraging "reliance on environmentally costly energy sources"

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO

#### Attend the County Planning Commission hearing on February 4-5

SLO County Board of Supervisors Chambers, Room #D170,
County Government Center
1055 Monterey Street, SLO
Doors open at 8 a.m.; hearing starts at 9:00 .m.
Rally at noon on February 4 in front of the Government Center

## Write to the Planning Commission

Send your thoughts to the SLO County Planning Commission, http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/staff/PCForm.htm

