

**Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole**

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**From:** Brian Trautwein [btraut@edcnet.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 06, 2010 4:35 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Farr, Doreen; Wolf, Janet; Centeno, Joseph; SupervisorCarbajal; Gray, Joni  
**Subject:** Trucks on Highway 154



**environmental**  
DEFENSE CENTER

Honorable Chairwoman Wolf and Supervisors,

The Environmental Defense Center (EDC) supports the recommendations for a ban on the transportation of hazardous material on Highway 154 as an important public safety and environmental health measure. The use of Highway 154 to transport hazardous materials has greatly increased in the past 10 years, making travel on Highway 154 increasingly dangerous. In addition to the risks to human life, Highway 154 passes next to Lake Cachuma and the Santa Ynez River, which are important water supplies. These supplies are increasingly threatened by truck traffic and hazardous spills. Highway 154 remains considerably more dangerous than Highway 101. Human life, water supplies, and important environmental resources in the creeks and habitat along Highway 154 can be better protected by expanding the existing ban on transporting hazardous waste materials.

We also support the recommendations to request concurrence from surrounding jurisdictions, and to pursue legislation to further restrict the size of trucks on State Route 154 by size and/or weight. The narrow lanes, lack of shoulders and safety ramps, and steep grades of the roadway support this request, as tragically demonstrated this year. Highway 101 offers a much safer alternative route for large trucks.

EDC supports the recommendations because they advance the public's interest and wellbeing.

Thank you for considering EDC's comments regarding this important issue.

Sincerely,

**Brian Trautwein**  
Environmental Analyst  
Environmental Defense Center  
906 Garden Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 963-1622 X 108

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