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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

March 7, 2017

San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors 1055 Monterey Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

RE: Oppose Phillips 66 Company Santa Maria Refinery Rail Spur Extension Project

Dear Supervisors:

At the March 7, 2017 Board Meeting, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors voted to oppose the Phillips 66 Rail Spur Extension Project at the Santa Maria Refinery.

The Rail Spur Extension project is of great concern due to increased risks the project would create along the proposed route through both highly populated and ecologically sensitive areas of Santa Barbara County. An accident such as an oil train derailment or fire would have catastrophic consequences for our constituents, for the sensitive environments of the Central Coast, and for the economy of our County.

Approval of this project poses significant local risks as the proposed project would result in up to three additional oil trains travelling the Santa Barbara County coastal rail line per week. Transportation of crude oil via rail presents many known risks, including explosion, derailment, air pollution, toxic emissions, fire, and spill. Not only would the proposed oil train route pass through several, well-populated Santa Barbara County communities, the route would also pass through some of the most ecologically sensitive areas on our coast including Jalama, Gaviota, Naples, Guadalupe Dunes and the Carpinteria Salt marsh. The route also would pass through and increase risk of accidents near highly productive farm and ranch lands.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to oppose the Rail Spur Extension project and uphold the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission's decision to deny the project.

Sincerely,

Joan Hartmann

Chair, Board of Supervisors