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August 25, 2015

Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu St, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Phillips 66 Rail Spur in Nipomo - OPPOSE

Dear Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

The Community Environmental Council (CEC) strongly encourages you to oppose the proposed Phillips 66 Rail Spur project in Nipomo. CEC recommends that The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors notify The San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission of the County's opposition and urge the Commission to deny this project.

The proposed Phillips 66 Rail project in Nipomo will bring undo and unacceptable risk to the businesses and residents of Santa Barbara County. Increased oil train traffic dramatically increases the probability of a tragic environmental disaster or significant loss of human life. In California, recent increases in oil train traffic have correlated to an increase in oil spills and incidents. According to California's Interagency Rail Safety Working Group, the number of annual petroleum spills from trains has nearly doubled from 98 in 2010 to 182 in 2013.<sup>1</sup>

The blast zone for oil trains extends one mile in either direction from the rail tracks. Within Santa Barbara County, this blast zone includes a hospital, schools, numerous businesses and homes. The proposed Phillips 66 Rail Spur would bring no benefit to Santa Barbara County, only tremendous risk.

CEC strongly opposes this project and encourages Board of Supervisors to do the same.

Sincerely,

Sigrid Wright  
Executive Director/ CEO

<sup>1</sup> State of California Interagency Rail Safety Working Group, "Oil by Rail Safety in California - Preliminary Findings and Recommendations," June 10, 2014, <http://sd27.senate.ca.gov/sites/sd27.senate.ca.gov/files/Oil%20By%20Rail%20Safety%20in%20California.pdf>