

FAQs on the Phillips 66 Oil Train Project

1..What is the Phillips 66 oil train project?

- Phillips 66 wants to bring mile-long dangerous oil trains through SLO County to its refinery on the Nipomo Mesa. Phillips 66 calls it the Rail Spur Extension Project.
- Phillip 66 needs a permit from SLO County to build a rail yard at the refinery.
- If they don't get the permit, the oil trains will not come through.

2. How will the Phillips 66 oil train project impact the health and safety of our communities?

- The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) lists ELEVEN Class I Impacts for the project. A Class I Impact is the most serious possible impact a project can have. Even ONE Class I Impact is very significant.
 - Four Class I Impacts due to possible derailment/explosion/fire
 - Five Class I Impacts due to various types of increased air pollution
 - One Class I Impact due to water pollution from a tank rupture or leak
 - One Class I Impact due to increased demand for fire protection and emergency services

3. How often do oil train derailments/explosions/fires occur?

- The Department of Transportation predicts there will be TEN oil train derailments each year.
- The worst accident so far happened in Quebec two years ago when a train derailment/explosion/fire leveled many blocks of Lac-Megantic's downtown killing 47 people.
- Statistically oil train derailments/explosions/fires happen infrequently, but when they happen they can be very serious.

4. What does the term “blast zone” mean?

- The blast zone is the 2-mile wide corridor along an oil train route corresponding to the Department of Transportation's area of evacuation/concern in case of an oil train derailment/fire.
- If you are a mile or less from the tracks, you are in the blast zone.
- 30% of SLO county residents live in the blast zone.

5. Which K-12 schools are in the blast zone?

- **Atascadero:** San Benito Elementary, Atascadero Junior High, Fine Arts Academy, Del Rio Continuation High and West Mall Alternative School.
- **Lucia Mar:** Fairgrove, Grover Beach, Grover Heights and Oceano Elementary; Mesa and Judkins Middle; Lopex Continuation High
- **Paso Robles:** Bauer/Speck, Georgia Brown, Kermit King and Pat Butler Elementary; George H. Flamson Middle.
- **San Luis Coastal:** Hawthorne, Los Ranchos, Sinsheimer and Teach Elementary; San Luis Obispo High
- **San Miguel:** Lillian Larsen Elementary, Almond Acres Charter Academy
- **Templeton:** Templeton Elementary, Templeton Middle and Templeton High.

6. Which colleges are in the blast zone?

- The entire Cal Poly campus, stadium and housing.
- Also the Paso Robles campus of Cuesta.

7. Which hospitals are in the blast zone?

- Sierra Vista and French Hospitals. Sierra Vista is the area's trauma center.

8. Who is in favor of the Phillips 66 oil train project?

- Besides Phillips 66 staff, suppliers and Union Pacific Railroad, very few people or organizations.
- The only ones we are aware of are the Cuesta College superintendent and the Chambers of Commerce of Nipomo and Arroyo Grande/Grover Beach.

9. Who opposes the Phillips 66 oil train project?

- Nurses. Teachers. Firefighters.
- More than thirty city councils, counties and school boards along the rail corridor.
- Environmental groups.
- Many other community organizations and individuals.

10. Will the refinery close if the oil train project is turned down? Very unlikely.

- This is a highly profitable refinery for Phillips 66, even if they continue to receive their crude only by pipeline as they do now. Phillips 66 just applied for and received a permit to increase production.
- The local Phillips 66 refinery is only half of a refinery, the other half is in the Bay Area. If Phillips 66 closed the Nipomo half, they'd need to close the Bay Area half, or build a replacement for the Nipomo half, both of which are extremely unlikely.

11. What about the San Ardo oil trains?

- Trains carrying crude oil from San Ardo have been going through the county two or three times a week for more than a decade. Luckily so far there has not been an oil train derailment/fire/explosion.
- Adding the five Phillips 66 oil trains each week will TRIPLE the risk of oil train derailment/explosion/fire to our communities.
- There have been many train derailments in California, just not an oil train derailment—yet.

Get involved. Help us inform our neighbors about the dangerous oil trains. Arrange a speaker for your organization. Help us hand out educational materials and gather petition signatures.

For more info, email stopoiltrains@gmail.com, call (805) 316-0033. Website: ProtectSLO.org

We are residents of San Luis Obispo County who want to stop the Phillips 66 oil trains from endangering our health, safety and property. Also involved are California Nurses Association, Sierra Club, Surfrider Foundation, Empower Poly Coalition (Cal Poly Student Coalition), ForestEthics, Center for Biological Diversity and many other organizations.

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