



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item 10.4

Meeting Date: September 17, 2015

Subject: Approval of Board Letter to San Luis Obispo County Stating Oil Train Traffic Concerns

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
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_____ : The San Luis Obispo Planning Commission will soon hear a permit request for a project that, if approved, would result in an increase in train transport of crude oil to San Luis Obispo County. This project, the Phillips 66 rail spur extension and crude unloading project, would allow the transport of crude oil by rail, involving as many as five trains per week with up to 80 tank cars, each carrying 26,000-28,000 gallons of crude oil (2.2 million gallons total). The trains would travel on the Union Pacific rail line, which passes directly through the heart of Sacramento. A rail accident involving oil spills, fire, or explosion could have disastrous life safety, health, environmental and economic consequences for Sacramento. School sites are not prepared for the scale of disaster represented by a major oil-train derailment, and current oil-by-rail safety standards have not kept pace with increased oil-train traffic. The San Luis Obispo County EIR concludes that the rail spur extension project would cause a significant and unavoidable rail accident hazard risk. Additionally, mitigation by use of safest tank cars and positive train control is likely preempted by federal law. Approval of the letter would align SCUSD with San Jose, Fremont, Hayward, Oakland, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, and Berkeley Unified School Districts, Peralta Community College, and the LA City Council, who have written letters of concern, or resolutions regarding the danger of the trains in regards to the safety of school children. SCUSD is a district that undertakes proactive action for the health and safety of our students. This board letter supports this approach.

The EIR may be found here:

www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/environmental/EnvironmentalNotices/Phillips_66_Company_Rail_Spur_Extension_Project.htm

Financial Considerations : None

LCAP Goal(s): Safe, Clean and Healthy Schools

Documents Attached:

1. Executive Summary
2. Letter to San Luis Obispo County

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 Minutes Submitted by: Ellen Cochrane, Board Trustee, Area 2 Approved by : Darrel Woo, Board President

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Concerns
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José L. Banda, Superintendent