

## We must continue to fight the Phillips 66 LA Refinery Dirty Crude Oil Project!



Heavy Canadian Tar Sands Crude Oil

+



Explosive North Dakota Bakken Crude Oil

**The Oil Industry is pushing large volumes of cheap, extremely dirty and dangerous crude oil to the West Coast market, to California Refineries, and to Los Angeles refinery communities!** The Bay Area, Bakersfield, and the Central Coast are also being targeted.

**The Phillips 66 Los Angeles Refinery Carson Plant Crude Oil Storage project is more than a storage tank!**

- **In late December, 2014 the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff approved a project** that would more than double the permitted crude oil “throughput” (the amount of crude oil going through the Phillips 66 Los Angeles Refinery’s tanks annually), without holding even one public hearing on their decision!
- **The project allows the refinery to use up to 100% Canadian Tar Sands crude oil, which would be stored in huge storage tanks, and allowed much higher throughput.** The AQMD acknowledges that the refinery previously used at most 21% Canadian Tar Sands Crude in one year, and less in earlier years, so this project allows a massive change toward extremely dirty tar sands crude oil. This has substantially higher corrosive sulfur content than even the already-high sulfur crudes received, stored and processed in the past at the Phillips Los Angeles Refinery Complex, made up of facilities in Carson and Wilmington.
- **SCAQMD failed to require an Environmental Impact Report for this project, despite abundant evidence regarding the dangers of tar sands and Bakken crudes.** Instead, SCAQMD published a “Negative Declaration,” claiming that the project did not have even the potential for any significant impacts. This is a glaring mistake. Phillips 66’s has made many public statements admitting that the LA Refinery’s storage tanks are intended to bring “advantaged crude oils” to LA, identified elsewhere as cheap sources from Canada & North Dakota. Phillips executives have proudly proclaimed: *“We are adding additional tankage at our Los Angeles Refinery to increase access to advantaged waterborne crudes.”* [Phillips 66 2014 Fact Book](#)
- **Despite Phillips 66’s claims that it intends to increase the presence of these dangerous crudes at its Los Angeles Refinery, SCAQMD apparently believes that the project is only to allow offloading from ships faster into the storage tanks.** Phillips 66 also published a deal it signed to bring Canadian Tar Sands crude oil by rail to Bakersfield to put it into California pipelines: *“. . . we just recently signed a deal with Plains in Bakersfield, California, to put Canadian crude into that pipeline system for delivery to our refining system.”* [Thomas ReutersStreetEvent Phillips 66 Analyst Meeting, Edited Transcript, April 10, 2014, p. 9](#)
- **CBE filed an appeal** to the SCAQMD Governing Board on January 9, 2015, to challenge SCAQMD’s decision to approve a Negative Declaration for the Phillips 66 Carson Storage Capacity Project. The SCAQMD Governing Board denied our appeal on Feb 6, 2015, and denied our request for a hearing (see report on next page). **CBE also filed a lawsuit** on January 28, 2015 based on the requirement that a full EIR be carried out for this Project.

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Update 2/12/2015



**Despite the Governings Board's terrible decision at its Feb. 6, 2015 meeting, the powerful community testimony given before the Board was not in vain!** CBE's lawsuit and other actions will go forward.

- **The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Governing Board took the wrong advice from their legal counsel**, and denied our request for a public hearing on the Negative Declaration, and our request that the Board rescind the unlawful approval of the Phillips 66 project, and the issuance of permits.
- **Great turnout and powerful community member and organizations' testimony** in Spanish and English soundly educated the Board regarding the severe impacts of the Project.
- **Support letters** for the CBE Appeal of the Phillips 66 dirty crude oil project were submitted by the California Nurses Association, Community Health Councils, Coalition For A Safe Environment, End Oil, Mujeres Unidas, Progressive Christians Uniting, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, the Tar Sands Action Southern California, AF3IRM, and individuals. Many community members provided strong support testimony at the Board meeting, including most of the above, CBE members and other residents of Wilmington Carson, Long Beach, and other areas, South Bay 350 Climate Action Group, Food and Water Watch, the American Indian Movement, the UC Irvine Environmental Law Clinic, and more.
- **Community members with family suffering from asthma and other pollution related health issues protested the lack of a public hearing on the Project**, and the project's potential to worsen health and safety in Carson, Wilmington, Long Beach, and other refinery communities that are already overburdened by fossil fuels impacts.
- **Board members made disrespectful remarks** indicating community testimony would not make a difference in their decision, and stating that perhaps the community had nothing better to do than sit in the hearing. Board members asked whether people still wanted to testify; everyone stayed.
- **A powerful, upset reaction by community members** conveyed the strong disappointment with the Board's dismissal, and reminded the Board of its duty to hear about community impacts, after people took time off and traveled the long distance (about 40 miles) to the Diamond Bar hearing.
- **After this intensive hearing, Board members questioned AQMD staff about why they never held a public hearing** to take evidence about the Project, and in response, staff implied that CBE should have notified the public ourselves. Board members asked for followup at the Stationary Source Committee of the Board.
- **The AQMD published its Draft Negative Declaration on the Phillips project in September of 2013 (over a year ago)**, with a comment deadline of October 9, 2013. No further notice on the Negative Declaration was provided until CBE received the final document a few days before Christmas 2014, by U. S. mail. No public hearing was ever held before the staff finalized the Negative Declaration.



1/12/15 Phillips Wilm. Flaring,  
Photo by Sylvia Arredondo

## **The Phillips 66 dirty crude project and other dangerous crude oil projects undermine health & safety, & AB32 – (California's climate protection Act)**

For other CBE fact sheets on many other dirty crude projects, see: [BAD ENERGY to the West Coast](#), and [Tar Sands Impacts: Here at home in California refineries](#)

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