



# County of Santa Cruz

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **SUPERVISORS TO TESTIFY AGAINST SLO REFINERY PROJECT**

Santa Cruz County Board Chairman John Leopold will travel to San Luis Obispo on Monday to testify against a proposed rail project at the Phillips 66 Santa Maria Refinery in Arroyo Grande, which could lead to rail cars carrying crude oil passing through the Watsonville Junction railyard in Pajaro.

Supervisor Zach Friend is also expected to testify on behalf of the Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7.

Several California communities have raised concerns about the proposal, including Santa Cruz County. On Tuesday, the Board voted to affirm its opposition to the expansion of crude oil transports that could potentially impact Santa Cruz County, the Pajaro River and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

On Monday, the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors will begin taking testimony about the proposal. Supervisor Leopold is also scheduled to speak at a rally outside the hearing.

A copy of Supervisor Leopold's letter opposing the project is available as part of the March 7, 2017 Board meeting agenda at [www.santacruzcounty.us](http://www.santacruzcounty.us).