



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Fwd: Folsom Train Group and Shingle Springs

1 message

The BOSFOUR <bosfour@edcgov.us>

Mon, Aug 25, 2014 at 9:57 AM

To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

RE: Item #8

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Carolynne Smith** <caspixel@yahoo.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 24, 2014 at 6:02 PM

Subject: Folsom Train Group and Shingle Springs

To: "bosone@edcgov.us" <bosone@edcgov.us>, "bostwo@edcgov.us" <bostwo@edcgov.us>, "bosthree@edcgov.us" <bosthree@edcgov.us>, "bosfour@edcgov.us" <bosfour@edcgov.us>, "bosfive@edcgov.us" <bosfive@edcgov.us>, "

"vickie.sanders@edcgov.us" <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>, "kimberly.kerr@edcgov.us" <kimberly.kerr@edcgov.us>

Hello,

I am a homeowner in Shingle Springs whose property is adjacent to the rail corridor. I, and others in my community, continue to be very concerned at the persistence of the PSVRR train group operating out of Folsom to run excursion trains on the corridor south of Shingle Springs, and through several well-established subdivisions. I know the members of my community have enjoyed peace and quiet along the corridor for nearly two decades and are very much opposed to having a smoke-spewing diesel train, or any other excursion train for that matter, running through our community. We are concerned with the smoke, the noise, the fire hazard, and the intrusion into our privacy. I would ask that all who make the decisions on the use of the corridor please take into consideration the serious concerns county residents who own property along the train tracks. Attached is some information that explains the health hazards associated with the type of engine this group hopes to run along the corridor.

Many thanks for your time and consideration.

Best,

Carolynne Smith



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2 attachments



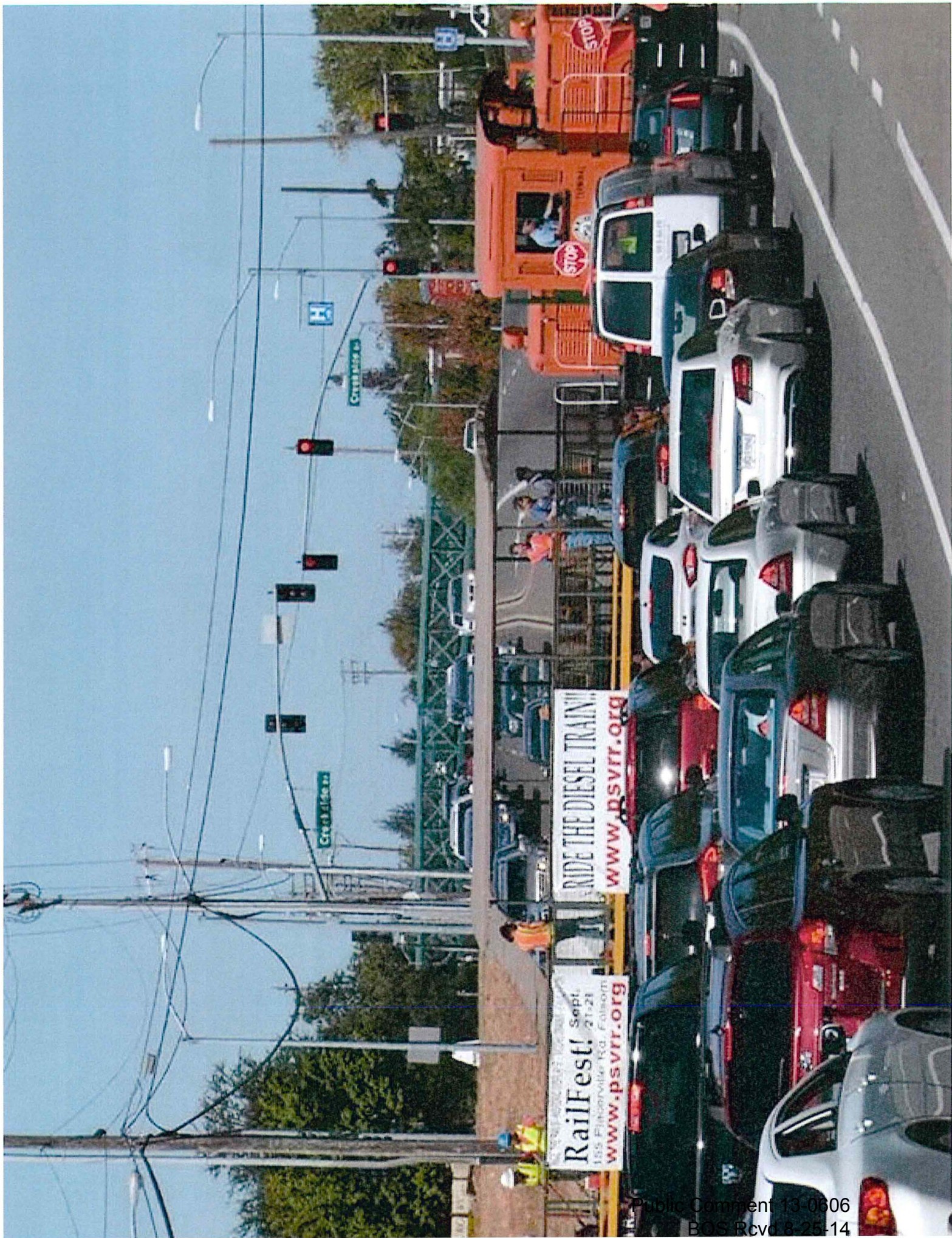
IMG_38529632841600.jpeg

131K



diesel information.docx

280K





This is the 1940's vintage dirty diesel engine the Folsom train hobbyist group would like to run in El Dorado County. Turns out the EPA laws have a loop-hole for excursion trains and this train is legal in California, as originally built, with no retrofitting required to meet current pollution standards! Notice the diesel exhaust plume discharged into the air.

What are the health effects of diesel exhaust?

Diesel exhaust and many individual substances contained in it (including arsenic, benzene, formaldehyde and nickel) have the potential to contribute to mutations in cells that can lead to cancer. In fact, long-term exposure to diesel exhaust particles poses the highest cancer risk of any toxic air contaminant evaluated by OEHHA. ARB estimates that about 70 percent of the cancer risk that the average Californian faces from breathing toxic air pollutants stems from diesel exhaust particles

The purchase of the SPTC Corridor was partly funded with money from the CMAQ program "Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality" grants. Is this train going to help the air quality in EDC? Can we really allow Folsom to run this train in El Dorado County?

Our SPTC master plan suggests excursion train run on Saturdays and Sundays, one run in the morning and one in the evening, every weekend with no limitations. Imagine this train and its diesel plume running in EDC and Shingle Springs 8 passes a weekend for the rest of our lives! What does this mean to our backyards, our community and our exposure to diesel soot?

Check out the articles below.

http://oehha.ca.gov/public_info/facts/dieselfacts.html

Health Effects of Diesel Exhaust

A fact sheet by Cal/EPA's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the American Lung Association

How are people exposed to diesel exhaust?

Diesel exhaust particles and gases are suspended in the air, so exposure to this pollutant occurs whenever a person breathes air that contains these substances. The prevalence of diesel-powered engines makes it almost impossible to avoid exposure to diesel exhaust or its byproducts, regardless of whether you live in a rural or urban setting. However, people living and working in urban and industrial areas are more likely to be exposed to this pollutant. Those spending time on or near roads and freeways, truck loading and unloading operations, operating diesel-powered machinery or working near diesel equipment face exposure to higher levels of diesel exhaust and face higher health risks.

What are the health effects of diesel exhaust?

As we breathe, the toxic gases and small particles of diesel exhaust are drawn into the lungs. The microscopic particles in diesel exhaust are less than one-fifth the thickness of a human hair and are small enough to penetrate deep into the lungs, where they contribute to a range of health problems.

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CATF Special Report 2007-1

A Multi-City Investigation of Exposure to Diesel Exhaust in Multiple Commuting Modes Columbus OH, Austin TX, Boston MA, New York City, NY

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TRAINS: • Diesel exhaust pollutes passenger trains. Mean net PM_{2.5} exposures averaged across all runs were 1-5 times the concentrations in the outdoor air (locomotive being in rear or front, respectively) and mean peak concentrations ranged from 28-46 times outdoor air. Mean UFP exposures across all runs range from 3-20 times the concentrations found in the outdoor air; factors of 6-17 times outdoor air for black carbon; 2-15 times for particulate PAH. • The exhaust plume from the locomotive penetrates the cabins of commuter coaches particularly when the locomotive is located in front (pulling the train / "engine out") • Diesel exhaust pollutes the coach when the doors open on a platform

polluted by the engine exhaust if downwind of locomotive or where the platform is partly enclosed. • Underground rail stations serviced by diesel locomotives exhibit dangerously high air pollution where diesel fumes are trapped underground. Opening of cabin doors results in the influx of these pollutants into the passenger car.

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Particles Cause > 45,000 premature Deaths a Year in the U.S., 21,000 from Diesel.

Diesel exhaust is unhealthy to breathe; the adverse health effects of breathing diesel pollution have been known by the scientific community for decades. Diesel exhaust is a toxic combination of carbon, sulfur and nitrogen particulate matter compounds and related gases created from combustion of diesel fuel, burning lubricating oil commonly containing minute metallic engine particles.

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's most recent National Air Toxics Assessment estimated that the average concentration of diesel particles in the air in the U.S. is about 1.2 ug/m³.⁷ This translates to about 363 lung cancers per million, well above EPA's acceptable level of 1 cancer per million. Moreover, the cancer risk from diesel exhaust in the U.S. exceeds the combined total of all the other 132 air toxics tracked by EPA. However, in many areas, diesel particles may be even more concentrated in 'hot spots' such as areas of concentrated traffic, heavy machinery use or construction

Clean Air Task Force

http://www.catf.us/methane/black_carbon/diesel/

Diesel exhaust is one of the nation's most pervasive sources of toxic air pollution. America's 11 million diesels—buses, trucks, trains, ships, and construction equipment—emit pollutants that lead to 21,000 premature deaths each year and create a cancer risk that is seven times greater than the combined risk of all 181 other air toxics tracked by the EPA. Scientific studies link pollutants in diesel exhaust to a myriad of public health effects, including asthma attacks, heart attacks, stroke, cancer, and premature death. Exposure to diesel emissions is nearly inescapable, whether you are exposed during your commute, while you are at work, or in your neighborhood. Diesel pollution is also an Environmental Justice issue. Low-income people and people of color are two to three times more likely to be exposed to particulate pollution. Children and seniors are most vulnerable to the health effects of diesel pollution. Children can be exposed to high levels of diesel particles inside of buses, at bus stops, and outside of schools.

