

HUASNA VALLEY ASSOCIATION
WORKING TO PRESERVE THE RURAL / AGRICULTURAL
SETTING OF THE HUASNA VALLEY
www.HuasnaValley.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Scoping Meeting for Huasna Valley Oil Production EIR
Monday, March 29 at 6:00 P.M.
South County Regional Center, 800 W. Branch St., Arroyo Grande

Huasna Valley, CA - March 23, 2010: A Public Scoping Meeting will be held on Monday, March 29 at 6:00 P.M. at the South County Regional Center at 800 W. Branch St. in Arroyo Grande. After almost three years of community input the County is requiring an Environmental Impact Report for an industrial-scale oil production facility, proposed by Excelaron, LLC, in the Huasna Valley. This public scoping meeting is designed to allow local residents the opportunity to share knowledge and concerns that will help to determine the "scope" of the Environmental Impact Report. Anyone is invited to speak for up to three minutes.

Some of the significant negative impacts of the proposed project include:

Residents of the greater Huasna Area may be impacted through contamination of drinking water; air quality degradation from emissions, dust, and odors; increased traffic, road wear and noise; and degradation of aesthetics and viability of local agriculture.

South County residents may be impacted if the shallow, fragile drinking aquifer in Huasna is compromised by oil production, either through pollution or depletion, and water must be imported from a neighboring community.

Arroyo Grande City fire protection services may be impacted due to a lack of adequate fire protection for the Huasna Area and impacts of wildfires to South County resulting from oil production, with its associated risks of fire and explosion, occurring in a "very high fire hazard" area.

Residents of Arroyo Grande and Nipomo may be impacted from alternative transportation of oil truck traffic and employee and service vehicle traffic along Huasna Road, Lopez Drive, Branch St., Branch Mill Rd. and Cherry Lane and on a variety of routes to Conoco Phillips Refinery on the Mesa.

All county residents may be impacted by the general aesthetic and environmental degradation of a scenic, agricultural valley, which houses a large number of important species and is utilized for recreational purposes by thousands of cyclists each year.

**To learn more about this project and its potential impacts and to view public comments made at a previous scoping meeting in February, please visit the Huasna Valley Association website:
www.huasnavalley.org**