

Planning Commission September 29, 2015

Valero Crude by Rail Project Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (RDEIR)

Presentation Outline:

- Overview of RDEIR Process
- Overview of RDEIR
- Next Steps

Overview of RDEIR Process

Overview of RDEIR Process:

- Draft EIR
- RDEIR August 31 – October 30, 2015
 - Release date August 31, 2015
 - 15-day extension request granted
- September 29, 30, October 1, 8
- Comments on RDEIR
- Final EIR

Overview of RDEIR

Summary of
Environmental Impacts –
Revised Draft EIR

Cory Barringhaus, ESA

Valero Benicia Refinery Boundary and Crude by Rail Project Site



2015 Revised DEIR

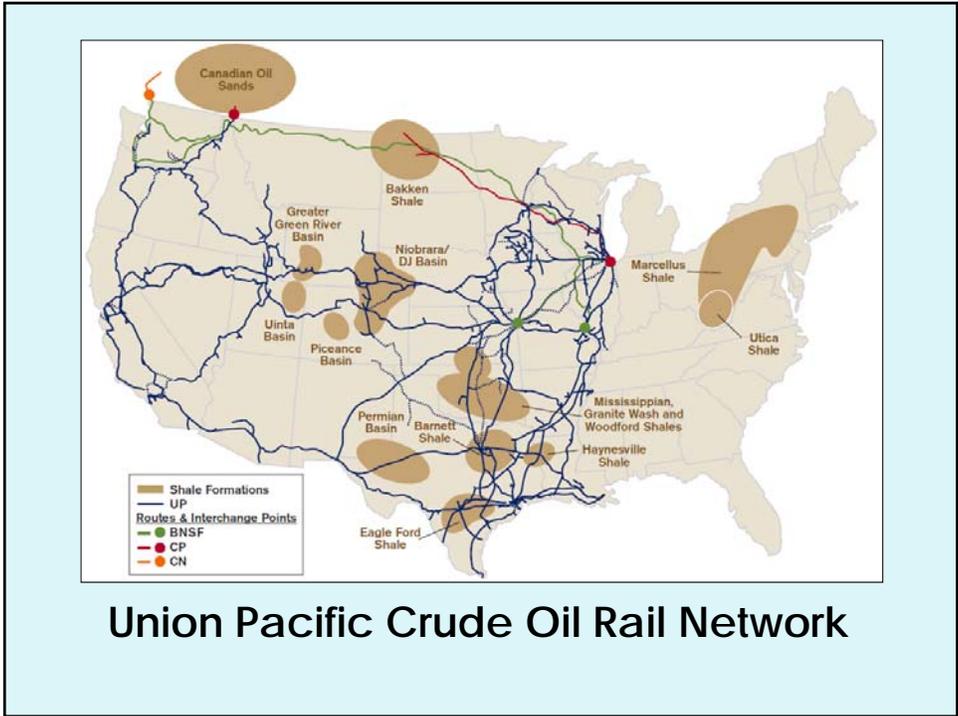
- In response to requests made in comments on the Draft EIR, the City revised portions of the document and published a Revised Draft EIR that:
 - Considers potential impacts uprail of Roseville
 - Quantifies potential risks (including potential health risks)
 - Supplements evaluation of potential consequences of an upset or accident
 - Updates the health risk assessment using new modeling guidelines issued by Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment in March 2015

Uprail Routes



California Class I Rail System





2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions

- Revised Draft EIR concluded that implementation of the project would result in significant and unavoidable impacts to:
 - **Air Quality**
 - **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
 - **Biological Resources**
 - **Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions *Air Quality*

- Indirect air emissions from locomotives transporting tank cars between Roseville and State line would exceed thresholds of air districts located along Project routes
- Cumulatively considerable impacts and conflicts with air quality plans of these air districts

2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions ***Greenhouse Gas Emissions***

- Emissions of greenhouse gases would exceed threshold - primarily due to locomotive emissions between State line and Roseville
- Exceedance of threshold indicates Project would not be consistent with GHG reduction goals set by State

2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions ***Biological Resources***

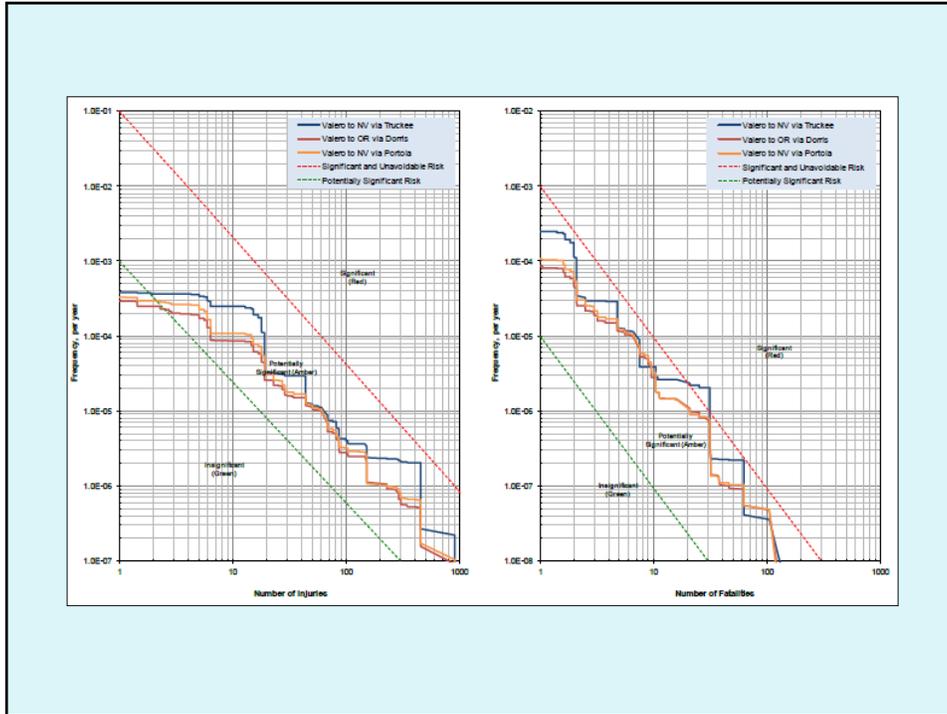
- Increased frequency of trains along possible routes would result in an increase in potential for wildlife collisions, especially in sensitive habitats such as riparian corridors, wetlands, and marshes where higher number of wildlife species are supported

2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*

- In order to evaluate potential Project-related risks to the public, a quantitative risk assessment was prepared
- Assessment used to determine the significance of an accident associated with crude oil transportation along each of the three routes Project trains could take to reach the Refinery, as well as at the Refinery itself

2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*

- **Probability** - Frequency of a derailment and associated crude oil spill from Project trains
- **Consequences** - Scenarios of crude oil spills were modeled to evaluate worst-case consequences associated with a crude oil fire



2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*

- Impact would be significant for Valero's proposed tank cars as well as for new tank cars required by U.S. Department of Transportation regulations published in May 2015
- Cumulatively significant for Valero's tank cars and new tank car designs

2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*

- Significant unavoidable secondary effects from accidents would occur to Biological and Cultural Resources, Geology, and Hydrology
- Potential wildland fire impacts also determined to be significant and unavoidable

2015 Revised DEIR Conclusions *Summary*

- New significant impacts to Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Biological Resources and Hazards uprail of Roseville
- However, potential mitigation measures to reduce these new impacts would be preempted by federal law
- No feasible mitigation is available; impacts would remain significant and unavoidable

Next Steps

Final EIR and Response to Comments

The EIR consultant will prepare written responses to testimony received at the Planning Commission's public meeting and to all written comments received in the public comment period.

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider whether the EIR adequately describes all significant potential environmental impacts and identifies potential mitigations for such impacts.

Project Decision on Use Permit

The Planning Commission will also consider the Use Permit for the proposed project and decide whether to approve, deny, or approve the project with conditions.

All project documents including the application, environmental documents, and public comments can be reviewed at:

1. Community Development Department, City Hall
2. Benicia Public Library
3. City's website at www.ci.benicia.ca.us

**Public comments on RDEIR can made at
the Planning Commission hearing, or can
be submitted until 5 PM October 30, 2015:**

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