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## **Sunny Acres Resident Comments in Opposition to Proposed Love's Truck Stop on Sunny Acres Lane/Highway 191**

My wife and I have lived at 4463 Sunny Acres Lane, Moab since 1992, for 32 years. We respectfully urge San Juan County to reject the truck stop proposed by Love's in a residential area so close to homes.

The proposed giant truck stop would be, without a doubt, a major health threat to local residents, an enormous traffic hazard, and would destroy the quality of life that residents enjoy in our beautiful neighborhood due to massive air pollution, noise, traffic, bright lights, and destruction of the character of our neighborhood and community.

I suffer from "moderate to severe" asthma, as diagnosed by my physician. If Love's giant truck stop project is approved, I would have no choice but to sell my home that I love in order to protect my health.

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality and their air quality program have important information about the health impacts of exposure to diesel emissions.

DEQ's website has a document entitled "Health Effects: Be Idle Free – What You See...and Can't See...Can Hurt You." This document states "While children, the elderly, and people with respiratory ailments are most vulnerable to the pollutants from vehicle exhaust, these emissions affect everybody. Pollutants released during idling have been linked to the increased incidence of asthma, allergies, lung and heart disease, and cancer."

I have included the full text of the Utah Department of Environmental Quality document below, with a citation so you can read it on their website for yourself.

San Juan County and SITLA should protect the health of residents, not the bank account of a giant out of state corporate polluter based in Oklahoma.

Please protect our health, and the health and well being of our neighbors and community.

Finally, please forward these comments to the Planning and Zoning Commissioners.

Thank you,

Bradley Angel

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[Health Effects: Be Idle Free - Utah Department of Environmental Quality](#)

# Health Effects: Be Idle Free

## What You See ... and Can't See ... Can Hurt You

Idling can be bad for your health. While children, the elderly, and people with respiratory ailments are most vulnerable to the pollutants from vehicle exhaust, these emissions affect everybody. Pollutants released during idling have been linked to the increased incidence of asthma, allergies, lung and heart disease, and cancer.

Idling emissions include nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>2</sub>), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), carbon monoxide (CO) and fine particulates (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). All of these pollutants carry health risks. Carbon monoxide interferes with the blood's ability to carry oxygen to the brain, heart, and other tissues, causing headaches and fatigue. Ozone, created by chemical reactions between oxygen and nitrogen oxides, can cause inflammation in the lungs, decrease lung capacity, and irritate bronchial passages. VOCs, which along with NO<sub>2</sub> contribute to the formation of ozone, have the potential to cause cancer. PM<sub>2.5</sub> fine particulates lodge deeply in the lungs, causing respiratory problems and providing an entry point for toxic pollutants into the lungs.

Children are at particular risk because they breathe more rapidly than adults and inhale more air per pound of body weight. Children also spend a considerable amount of time outdoors during the summer and fall, when ozone levels are typically higher. Exposure to these pollutants is associated with increased frequency of childhood illnesses and can contribute to the development of asthma and other respiratory ailments.

Many people do not realize that engines release more harmful emissions when idling than driving. Modern engines are designed to run most efficiently at higher temperatures. Because engines run at a lower temperature when idling, they do not fully combust fuel injected into the combustion chamber. This incomplete combustion releases a chemically complex toxic brew into the air.

Diesel exhaust is especially harmful. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regards these emissions as a major health risk to the public. Scientists have yet to identify a safe level of exposure to diesel exhaust. People who live in urban areas or near major roads and highways suffer a greater incidence of respiratory problems due to the higher concentrations of exhaust in these areas. Diesel emissions from idling school buses pose a danger to children and have been at the heart of idle reduction efforts throughout the country.

Surprisingly, exposure to most auto pollutants, including VOCs and CO, is much higher inside vehicles than outside. Drivers caught in traffic jams on highways, idling outside a school or sitting at drive-through inhale more toxic pollutants than people standing outside the car.

Reducing unnecessary idling reduces exposure to these toxic pollutants and improves the respiratory health not only of sensitive populations but also healthy individuals.

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