CFROG

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<u>County sets dangerous new precedent –
over appeals from residents and watchdog organization</u>

In a public hearing on Tuesday, June 21 at 1:30 the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, in a three to two vote, overturned a decades long precedent and declared it safe for oil tanker trucks to use an intersection where the trucks have to cross into oncoming traffic.

"The board majority wants to legalize an unsafe and illegal oil tanker turn across double yellow lines. The residents and those who drive Highway 150 would face a deadly risk for another 25 years," said John Brooks, President of CFROG. "We may have to go to court to get the safety study that would confirm or deny the danger."

Supervisors Steve Bennett (Dist. 1) and Linda Parks (Dist 2.) voted in favor of the appeal putting public health and safety above the needs of a for-profit business.

Since the early 80's Ventura County has prohibited oil tanker trucks from using the intersection of Koenigstein Road and Highway 150 in Upper Ojai because the trucks must cross the yellow lines when they turn – an illegal and unsafe maneuver.

Citizens For Responsible Oil and Gas (CFROG) appealed approvals issued by the Planning Director and Planning Commission, asking the Board to send the project back to planning staff for a full traffic study providing support for the County's finding the intersection is safe for oil tanker trucks.

In addition to the truck traffic, CFROG's appeal pointed out violations of the Ojai Valley Area plan and the California Environmental Quality Act. See CFROG's appeal hearing report HERE.

Videos showing an oil tanker truck turning through the intersection can be viewed HERE.

*CFROG is a 501c3 environmental watchdog organization working to ensure
all oil and gas activity in Ventura County complies with the law.*