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16 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
17 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
18 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

19 OAKLAND BULK & OVERSIZED
20 TERMINAL, LLC,

21 Plaintiff,

22 v.

23 CITY OF OAKLAND,

24 Defendant,

25 and

26 SIERRA CLUB and SAN FRANCISCO
27 BAYKEEPER,

28 Defendant-Intervenors.

Case No. 16-cv-7014-VC

**SIERRA CLUB AND SAN FRANCISCO
BAYKEEPER'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND
OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION
FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

Hearing: Jan. 10, 2018
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Judge: Hon. Vince Chhabria
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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 OBOT's opposition misapprehends dormant Commerce Clause doctrine and presents no
3 evidence to support its theories. The court should grant Defendant-Intervenors' motion for summary
4 judgment on each part of this claim: the Ordinance is a legitimate exercise of municipal police power
5 that does not regulate conduct outside of Oakland, does not discriminate against out-of-state interests
6 in favor of local ones, and has no effect on railroad operations. Defendant-Intervenors join
7 Defendant City of Oakland's Reply in Support of its Motion for Summary Judgment.

8 **II. ARGUMENT**

9 **A. The Ordinance does not directly regulate interstate commerce.**

10 The Ordinance does not "directly regulate" interstate commerce; rather, it simply regulates
11 in-state conduct—the storage and handling of coal and coke at "Coal and Coke Bulk Material
12 Facilities" in Oakland—in order to protect public health and safety. At most, like virtually every
13 other state law and local ordinance, the Ordinance will have incidental out-of-state effects which do
14 not offend the Commerce Clause. OBOT's argument to the contrary is based on a series of false
15 factual and legal premises.

16 **1. OBOT's factual misconceptions.**

17 OBOT begins by claiming that it is "undisputed" that the Ordinance's "purpose and effect"
18 are to prevent coal and coke exports through the Terminal. Pl.'s Reply Br. ("Reply") at 1. But the
19 Ordinance's express purpose is to prevent dangerous local health and safety conditions caused by the
20 storage and handling of coal and coke, and the City's application (via the Resolution) of the
21 Ordinance to the Terminal was based entirely on preventing those conditions. Myre Decl., Ex. 1
22 [Ordinance] § 8.60.010, and Ex. 50 [Resolution] § 4. The most that can be said, which Defendants
23 have never denied, is that the Ordinance will incidentally prevent exports of coal or coke from the
24 Terminal. As shown in Intervenors' opening brief ("Int. Br.") at 5, 10–11, and below at 5–8, such
25 incidental effects of local health and safety regulation do not offend the dormant Commerce Clause.

26 OBOT utterly fails to support its claim (Reply at 5–6) that the Ordinance regulates
27 transactions across state borders by forcing coal producers in other states to "design their exports
28 around" it, and railroads to "conform their cargo" to it. As explained in Section C, below, the

1 Ordinance does not impose such requirements, and 18 months after being enacted OBOT is unable
2 to provide any evidence to support these claims: the record contains not a single declaration,
3 document, or fact concerning these alleged impacts on any coal producer or railroad. And, even if
4 OBOT had produced *any* such evidence, any effect the Ordinance might have on such third parties
5 would be irrelevant to OBOT's as-applied challenge to the Ordinance, and OBOT would have no
6 standing to assert a Commerce Clause claim based on such injuries.

7 **2. OBOT's legal misconceptions.**

8 OBOT misconstrues the precept that states may not regulate any transaction that "takes place
9 across state lines" to mean that the Commerce Clause overrides any state or local law that has any
10 effect on interstate commerce. Not a single court has ever adopted OBOT's theory.

11 **a. The dormant Commerce Clause does not override state or local
12 governments' police powers that may affect interstate commerce.**

13 OBOT argues that the Ordinance violates the dormant Commerce Clause because it prevents
14 OBOT from receiving coal and coke at the Terminal. But "the commerce clause is not a guaranty of
15 the right to import into a state whatever one may please, absent a prohibition by Congress, regardless
16 of the effects of the importation upon the local community. That is true whether what is brought in
17 consists of diseased cattle or fraudulent or unsound insurance." *Robertson v. California*, 328 U.S.
18 440, 458–59 (1946) (footnote omitted). Relying on "the decisions which have sustained various
19 measures of exclusion in protection of the public health, safety and security not only from physical
20 harm but from various forms of fraud and imposition," *Robertson* rejected a Commerce Clause
21 challenge to California's insurance regulations, concluding, "[e]xclusion there is, but it is exclusion
22 of what the state has the power to keep out, until Congress speaks otherwise." *Id.* at 459.

23 In *Morgan's Steamship Co. v. Louisiana Board of Health*, 118 U.S. 455, 463–64 (1886), the
24 Court upheld Louisiana's ship quarantine system, and affirmed that states may impose stringent
25 restrictions on the movement of goods in interstate commerce to protect public health and safety:

26 Undoubtedly it is, in some sense, a regulation of commerce. It arrests a vessel on a
27 voyage which may have been a long one. It may affect commerce among the States
28 when the vessel is coming from some other State of the Union than Louisiana, and it
may affect commerce with foreign nations when the vessel arrested comes from a
foreign port. This interruption of the voyage may be for days or for weeks. It extends
to the vessel, the cargo, the officers and seamen, and the passengers. In so far as it

1 provides a rule by which this power is exercised, it cannot be denied that it regulates
2 commerce.

3 Despite these significant effects on goods moving in interstate commerce, “quarantine laws belong
4 to that class of State legislation which, whether passed with intent to regulate commerce or not, must
5 be admitted to have that effect, and which are valid until displaced or contravened by some
6 legislation of congress.” *Id.* at 465. The same is true of other health and safety laws.

7 Even the cases upon which OBOT relies support Intervenor’s position. In *Bowman v.*
8 *Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co.*, 125 U.S. 465 (1888), the Court invalidated a state law that
9 prohibited common carriers from transporting liquor across state lines. But the Court acknowledged
10 that states may exercise their police power to “justify the exclusion of property dangerous to the
11 property of citizens of the state; for example, animals having contagious or infectious diseases. All
12 these exertions of power are in immediate connection with the protection of persons and property
13 against noxious acts of other persons, or such a use of property as is injurious to the property of
14 others. They are self-defensive.” *Id.* at 492.

15 More recently, in *Maine v. Taylor*, 477 U.S. 131, 148 n.19 (1986), the Court held that “[e]ven
16 overt discrimination against interstate trade may be justified where, as in this case, out-of-state goods
17 or services are particularly likely for some reason to threaten the health and safety of a State’s
18 citizens or the integrity of its natural resources” In *Maine*, the state banned imports of live
19 baitfish because they might carry parasites damaging to Maine’s wild fish population:

20 [W]e agree with the District Court that Maine has a legitimate interest in guarding
21 against imperfectly understood environmental risks, despite the possibility that they
22 may ultimately prove to be negligible. “[The] constitutional principles underlying the
23 commerce clause cannot be read as requiring the State of Maine to sit idly by and
24 wait until potentially irreversible environmental damage has occurred or until the
25 scientific community agrees on what disease organisms are or are not dangerous
26 before it acts to avoid such consequences.”

27 *Id.* at 148 (alteration in original) (citation omitted).

28 Likewise, the Commerce Clause does not require Oakland “to sit idly by” when handling and
storing large quantities of two combustible and polluting products that threaten its residents. Courts
routinely reject challenges to such state and local laws that affect interstate commerce; since
virtually *any* such law “affects” interstate commerce, courts distinguish between laws that regulate

1 in-state conduct, which do not “directly regulate” interstate commerce even when they have out-of-
2 state effects, and those that regulate conduct wholly outside of the state.

3 **b. A law “directly regulates” commerce only when it controls**
4 **conduct wholly outside the state.**

5 OBOT’s argument that the Ordinance “directly regulates” interstate commerce by compelling
6 coal producers and railroads to conform to it is not only factually unsupported, but also legally
7 infirm. OBOT continues to misconstrue the direct regulation doctrine, grasping at shreds of language
8 in cases while ignoring their facts and holdings.

9 In bold italics (with underlining to boot), OBOT proclaims that the Ninth Circuit said:
10 “Direct regulation occurs when a state law directly affects *transactions that take place across state*
11 *lines or* entirely outside of the state’s borders.” Reply at 3 (quoting *Pharm. Research & Mrfs. of Am.*
12 *v. Alameda Cnty.*, 768 F.3d 1037, 1043 (9th Cir. 2014)). But the decision’s very next sentence
13 explains: “The critical inquiry is whether the practical effect of the regulation is to *control conduct*
14 *beyond the boundaries of the State.*” *Id.* (quoting *Healy v. Beer Inst., Inc.*, 491 U.S. 324, 336 (1989)
15 (emphasis added). Since the Ordinance does not have the effect of controlling conduct beyond
16 Oakland, let alone California, there is no direct regulation here.

17 OBOT does not—and cannot—cite a single case overturning a law based on its interpretation
18 of the “transactions across state lines” language. To the contrary, “courts finding direct regulation of
19 interstate commerce consistently require restraint or control over *wholly* extra-territorial transactions
20 and/or conduct.” *Rosenblatt v. Santa Monica*, No. 2:16-CV-04481-ODW-AGR, 2017 WL 1205997
21 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 30, 2017), *appeal docketed* No. 17-55879 (9th Cir. June 22, 2017) (citing, *inter alia*,
22 *Ass’n des Eleveurs de Canards et d’Oies du Quebec v. Harris*, 729 F.3d 937, 949–50 (9th Cir. 2013)
23 and *Healy*, 491 U.S. at 337). Thus *NCAA v. Miller*, 10 F.3d 633 (1993), on which OBOT principally
24 relies (Reply at 1–3, 6–8), overturned a Nevada law because it would force the NCAA “to regulate
25 the integrity of its product in every state according to Nevada’s procedural rules,” which meant that
26 “the Statute could control the regulation of the integrity of a product in interstate commerce *that*
27 *occurs wholly outside* Nevada’s borders. That sort of extraterritorial effect is forbidden by the
28 Commerce Clause.” 10 F.3d at 639 (emphasis added); *see also Sam Francis Found. v. Christies*,

1 *Inc.*, 784 F.3d 1320, 1323–24 (9th Cir. 2015) (en banc) (law regulating sales taking place outside
2 California violated the dormant Commerce Clause because it “involves regulation of wholly out-of-
3 state conduct”).

4 Indeed, both of the Ninth Circuit cases OBOT cites as using the “transactions that take place
5 across state lines” language (Reply at 3) *rejected* challenges to local legislation that affected out-of-
6 state activities. *See Pharm. Research*, 768 F.3d 1037 (local ordinance requiring out-of-state drug
7 manufacturers to provide for disposal of unneeded drugs regulates only in-state conduct); *S.D.*
8 *Myers, Inc. v. San Francisco*, 253 F.3d 461, 465, 468–49 (9th Cir. 2001) (local ordinance requiring
9 contractors to provide employees working on city contracts, wherever located, with
10 nondiscriminatory benefits does not directly regulate interstate commerce). These cases are fully
11 consistent with the conclusion that “direct regulation” means controlling conduct “*wholly* outside” of
12 the state. In fact, every case in which the challenged law regulated *in-state* conduct has held that the
13 law did not “directly regulate” interstate commerce, no matter how significant any resulting out-of-
14 state effects.

15 *Chinatown Neighborhood Association v. Harris*, 794 F.3d 1136 (9th Cir. 2015), shows that
16 incidental effects on interstate commerce do not violate the Commerce Clause even if they include a
17 ban on particular goods. OBOT attempts to distinguish *Chinatown* on the grounds that the statute
18 “prohibited possession, consumption, and sale of shark fins in California,” but did not prohibit the
19 “interstate transportation of shark fins through California for export.” Reply at 4. That is simply
20 wrong: a law making it illegal to possess shark fins most certainly prohibits transporting shark fins
21 through the state for export. And the *Chinatown* plaintiffs *specifically alleged that the law’s impact*
22 *on exports* violated the dormant Commerce Clause “because it regulates extraterritorially by curbing
23 commerce in shark fins between California and out-of-state destinations, and by preventing the flow
24 of shark fins through California from one out-of-state destination to another.” 794 F.3d at 1145. But,
25 “[e]ven when state law has *significant extraterritorial effects*, it passes Commerce Clause muster
26 when, *as here*, those effects result from the regulation of in-state conduct.” *Id.* (emphasis added).

27 There is simply no distinction between the shark fins in *Chinatown* and the coal and coke at
28 issue here. In fact, the law upheld in *Chinatown* imposed restrictions orders of magnitude greater

1 than those imposed by the Ordinance—prohibiting import, possession and export of shark fins
2 throughout the entire state of California, as opposed to prohibiting export of two products from a
3 single port, as an incident of banning storage and handling at the site.¹

4 Another case dealing with an ordinance that had the incidental effect of banning imports and
5 exports of physical goods is *American Promotional Events, Inc. v. City and County of Honolulu*, 796
6 F. Supp. 2d 1261 (D. Haw. 2011), which included a “direct regulation” challenge to a municipal
7 ordinance that effectively banned the import of fireworks (from both the mainland U.S. and foreign
8 countries), and likewise prevented the export of those fireworks to the other Hawaiian Islands. The
9 Court found that the ordinance did not “directly regulate” because the “purpose of the Fireworks
10 Ordinance is to protect the health and well-being of the City’s residents from the harmful effects of
11 consumer fireworks” and “the City is not attempting to regulate conduct in another state. We are
12 instead faced with a local Fire Code ordinance having only an incidental or indirect effect on
13 commerce.” *Id.* at 1277.

14 As a legal matter, the Ordinance is also indistinguishable from other local laws having such
15 incidental impacts on interstate commerce. In *Wood Marine Service, Inc. v. City of Harahan*, 858
16 F.2d 1061 (5th Cir. 1988), the Court upheld a local zoning ordinance enacted in response to
17 plaintiff’s plans to expand its Mississippi riverfront facilities so as to be able to accept dry bulk
18 cargo. Despite the fact that the ordinance prevented the plaintiff from receiving shipments of crushed
19 limestone and other materials, there was “no evidence of even an incidental burden on interstate
20 commerce.” *Id.* at 1065; *see also Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. v. City of Turlock*, 483 F. Supp. 2d 987 (E.D.
21 Cal. 2006) (zoning ordinance enacted in part to protect local air quality did not violate the
22 Commerce Clause even when it effectively barred out-of-state corporations from the city).

23 OBOT’s attempt to distinguish *Association des Eleveurs de Canards et d’Oies du Quebec*
24 also fails. Reply at 4–5. In that case, the plaintiffs claimed that California’s ban on the sale of foie
25 gras made from force-fed geese “directly regulates” interstate commerce, in part because it banned
26

27 ¹ OBOT’s attempt to distinguish *Chinatown* on the basis that shark fins, unlike coal or coke, were
28 not a “lawful article of commerce” makes no sense, as it was the challenged law that made shark fins
unlawful and, in any event, shark fins legally taken in other states were nevertheless banned from
transiting California for export overseas.

1 the sale of foie gras “unless all [out-of-state] farmers comply with California’s standards.” 729 F.3d
 2 at 949. But the fact that out-of-state farmers would have to change their production methods in order
 3 to sell foie gras in California did not offend the Commerce Clause, because “the dormant Commerce
 4 Clause does not . . . guarantee Plaintiffs their preferred method of operation.” *Id.* (quoting *Nat’l*
 5 *Ass’n of Optometrists v. Harris*, 682 F.3d 1144, 1181 (9th Cir. 2012)). Likewise (and even if there
 6 were any evidence that they had to do so) the dormant Commerce Clause does not guarantee that
 7 out-of-state coal producers will not have to “conform” their shipments to the Ordinance, which
 8 means no more than continuing to ship coal through other ports. Indeed, OBOT admitted that if coal
 9 does not ship through the Terminal, “the product will continue to be shipped as it is today, through
 10 Stockton, CA; Levin Terminal in Richmond, CA; Pier G in Long Beach, CA,” and may be shipped
 11 through Canadian and Mexican ports as well. Myre Decl., Ex. 48 at OAK7485.

12 Finally, OBOT attempts to distinguish *Rocky Mountain Farmers Union v. Corey*, 730 F.3d
 13 1070 (9th Cir. 2013), on the grounds that *Rocky Mountain* dealt with fuels consumed in California,
 14 while this case concerns a “ban” on interstate transport of a commodity for export. Reply at 5 n.2.
 15 That logic manages to misapprehend both the Ordinance (which, like the fuel standards in *Rocky*
 16 *Mountain*, regulates solely conduct within the state) and *Rocky Mountain* (where the plaintiffs
 17 indeed alleged—unsuccessfully—that the regulation at issue was a “barrier” to importing high-
 18 carbon ethanols into California, *id.* at 1105).² See also *Valley Bank of Nev. v. Plus Sys., Inc.*, 914
 19 F.2d 1186 (9th Cir. 1990) (law prohibiting interstate banking networks from restricting Nevada
 20 banks’ ability to charge fees for ATM transactions in Nevada does not directly regulate commerce
 21 even when the card-issuing bank is out of state); *Greater L.A. Agency on Deafness, Inc. v. Cable*
 22 *News Network, Inc.*, 742 F.3d 414, 432–33 (9th Cir. 2014) (law requiring CNN to provide closed
 23 captioning of website’s videos “as they are accessed by California viewers, does not have the
 24 practical effect of directly regulating conduct wholly outside of California”).

25 Because it regulates *only* in-state conduct, by definition the Ordinance does not “directly

26 _____
 27 ² OBOT cites *Rocky Mountain* for the proposition that, under the Commerce Clause, a court must
 28 examine the prospects of other states enacting similar legislation. Reply at 5. But because there is
always the possibility of other jurisdictions enacting similar legislation, the plaintiff must show “that
 conflicting, legitimate legislation is already in place or that the threat of such legislation is both
 actual and imminent,” *S.D. Myers*, 253 F.3d at 469–70, which OBOT fails to do.

1 regulate” interstate commerce. The court should grant Intervenors summary judgment on this claim.

2 **B. The Ordinance does not discriminate against “interstate commerce”.**

3 OBOT responds to Intervenors’ showing (Int. Br. at 5–7) that the Ordinance does not
 4 discriminate under the Commerce Clause (because it does not favor in-state over competing out-of-
 5 state interests) by expressly disavowing any claim based on in-state versus out-of-state interests.
 6 Reply at 8. Instead, OBOT asserts a new and truly novel claim, based on an imaginary distinction
 7 between “discrimination against competing out-of-state interests” and “discrimination against
 8 interstate commerce.” *Id.* While “discrimination against out-of-state interests” requires that those
 9 interests compete with the favored in-state ones, *see Gen. Motors Corp. v. Tracy*, 519 U.S. 278, 300
 10 (1997), the apparent purpose of OBOT’s newly-coined “discrimination against interstate commerce”
 11 claim is to avoid this requirement: OBOT never identifies *who* is being discriminated against beyond
 12 undifferentiated “interstate and foreign commerce.” Reply at 8–9.

13 This claim fails because while, as OBOT notes, both phrases appear in *NCAA v. Miller*, no
 14 court has ever distinguished between the two—including *NCAA* itself, which said not a word more
 15 about this since it was *not* a discrimination case, but rather an extraterritoriality one. There is no such
 16 distinction: a discrimination claim does not exist absent a disfavored out-of-state interest. In fact,
 17 OBOT relies on *Wyoming v. Oklahoma*, 502 U.S. 437, 455 (1992), where the Court *explicitly*
 18 *equated the two terms*, and then proceeded to use them interchangeably to describe an Oklahoma
 19 statute that “expressly reserves a segment of the Oklahoma coal market for Oklahoma-mined coal, to
 20 the exclusion of coal mined in other States”—as clear a case of favoring in-state interests over out-
 21 of-state ones as can be imagined:

22 It is long established that, while a literal reading evinces a grant of power to
 23 Congress, the Commerce Clause also directly limits the power of the States to
 24 *discriminate against interstate commerce*. This ‘negative’ aspect of the Commerce
 25 Clause prohibits *economic protectionism*—that is, regulatory measures designed to
 26 *benefit in-state economic interests by burdening out-of-state competitors*. When a
 27 state statute clearly *discriminates against interstate commerce*, it will be struck down,
 28 unless the discrimination is demonstrably justified by a valid factor unrelated to
economic protectionism.

Id. at 454 (citations and internal quotations omitted, emphasis added).

OBOT’s reliance on *City of Philadelphia v. New Jersey*, 437 U.S. 617 (1992), fares no better.

1 *Philadelphia*, like all such cases, addresses discrimination against out-of-state interests in favor of
 2 in-state ones: “But whatever New Jersey’s ultimate purpose, it may not be accomplished by
 3 discriminating against articles of commerce coming from outside the State unless there is some
 4 reason, apart from their origin, to treat them differently.” *Id.* at 626–27.³

5 That leaves OBOT clinging to *Pittston Warehouse Corp. v. City of Rochester*, 528 F. Supp.
 6 653 (W.D.N.Y. 1981), as the lonely example of dormant Commerce Clause “discrimination against
 7 interstate commerce” where there is no discrimination in favor of in-state versus out-of-state
 8 interests. Reply at 8–9. For the reasons given in Intervenor’s opening brief (Int. Br. at 7), *Pittston* is
 9 an anomaly that this Court should decline to follow.

10 **C. The Ordinance does not unduly burden interstate commerce by interfering with**
 11 **national uniformity in railroad operations.**

12 Intervenor’s have shown that the Ordinance does not apply to railroads, but only to a “Coal or
 13 Coke Bulk Material Facility” instead, and that more than 18 months after enactment, there is not a
 14 shred of evidence that the Ordinance has affected any railroad operation anywhere in the country.
 15 Int. Br. at 8. Indeed, OBOT’s 30(b)(6) witness confirmed that the same coal trains that rolled
 16 through Oakland before the Ordinance have continued to do so. *Id.*

17 OBOT’s response is that the Ordinance violates the need for railroad uniformity because it
 18 does not allow trains to (1) unload coal or coke for loading on to a ship and (2) temporarily store
 19 coal or coke “to switch and unload railroad cars.” Reply at 10. According to OBOT, the Ordinance
 20 thus is “forcing railroads to conform their cargo to the Ordinance at their out-of-state point of origin
 21 or to divert any train carrying coal and petcoke for export to terminals outside of Oakland”
 22 Reply at 12. OBOT presents no evidence to support either of these contentions.

23 **1. Applying the Ordinance to the Terminal does not interfere with railroad**
 24 **uniformity.**

25 Because the “dump pits” at the Terminal would be a Coal or Coke Bulk Material Facility
 26 where coal and coke could not be accepted under the Ordinance, OBOT claims that the Ordinance

27 ³ OBOT seizes upon the phrase “a law that overtly blocks the flow of interstate commerce” from
 28 *Philadelphia*’s recitation of the contours of the discrimination doctrine, but did not include the
 citation—to *Welton v. Missouri*, 91 U.S. 275 (1875)—that followed that phrase. Reply at 8. *Welton*
 was yet another case where a state discriminated against out-of-state goods in favor of goods made
 in-state, by requiring a license to sell the former but not the latter.

1 forces railroads to “divert” trains carrying coal to other ports that can export the coal. Reply at 12.
 2 But it is impossible to understand how such trains could be “diverted” since the City does not
 3 currently serve as a port for coal or coke and so these trains would not have been destined for
 4 Oakland in the first place. Moreover, OBOT presents *no* evidence that applying the Ordinance to the
 5 Terminal has caused *any* railroad to “divert” *any* train, or make *any* change to *any* train operations
 6 (or *would* cause any railroad to do so in the future).⁴

7 Moreover, it is now clear that OBOT has no standing to assert even these alleged injuries,
 8 because OBOT will not own or operate the dump pits or the Terminal. Long Decl., Ex. 39 [Bridges
 9 Tr.] at 66:2–18, 68:7–70:11; Reply at 10 n.6 (“the dump pits at the Terminal are undisputably on
 10 OGRE’s right-of-way”). Even if the Ordinance did injure OGRE or TLS by preventing TLS from
 11 accepting coal or coke, OBOT lacks Article III standing to assert injuries to what is at most an
 12 affiliated entity. *See, e.g., Virginia Sur. Co. v. Northrop Grumman Corp.*, 144 F.3d 1243, 1246 (9th
 13 Cir. 1998) (parent company does not have standing to pursue claim based even on injury to
 14 subsidiary).

15 **2. The Ordinance does not apply to trains temporarily stopping in Oakland.**

16 OBOT also claims that the Ordinance does not allow trains carrying coal or coke to
 17 temporarily stop in Oakland to switch railcars, reaching that conclusion by straining to read the Coal
 18 or Coke Bulk Material Facility definition to include trains temporarily stopping in Oakland. Reply at
 19 10. But despite OBOT’s best efforts, none of the City’s testimony that OBOT quotes says that it
 20 does; instead, the quoted testimony (Reply at 10–11) repeatedly says no more than that the
 21 Ordinance applies to unloading coal or coke at a terminal.

22 OBOT’s strained reading of the Coal or Coke Bulk Material Facility definition also ignores
 23 the Ordinance’s explicit language excluding from its reach any railroad operations:

24 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this chapter, the purposes and
 25 intent of this chapter are **not** to regulate the transportation of Coal or Coke, for
 26 example, by train or marine vessel, including without limitation through the City of
 Oakland or to or from a Coal or Coke Bulk Material Facility; nor does this chapter
 actually regulate such.

27
 28 ⁴ In fact, as noted above, both OBOT and TLS have admitted that coal trains from Utah will continue to go to the same ports as before the Ordinance. Myre Decl., Ex. 48 at OAK7485.

1 Myre Decl., Ex. 1 [Ordinance] § 8.60.010 (emphasis in original). OBOT responds that this section of
2 the Ordinance is nothing more than a “self-serving statement” that is “of no moment.” Reply at 11.
3 That is not, however, how statutory interpretation works, and the Coal or Coke Bulk Material
4 Facility definition must be read in conjunction with this limitation. Moreover, “where an otherwise
5 acceptable construction of a statute would raise serious constitutional problems, the Court will
6 construe the statute to avoid such problems unless such construction is plainly contrary to” the
7 legislative intent. *Edward J. DeBartolo Corp. v. Fla. Gulf Coast Bldg. & Constr. Trades Council*,
8 485 U.S. 568, 575 (1988).

9 Once again, OBOT provides *no* evidence that *any* trains carrying coal or coke—which it
10 admits continue to transit Oakland—*ever* need to stop to switch railcars, or that any railroad has ever
11 had to “conform” its cargo in order to avoid having the Ordinance applied to any train. Nor is there
12 any evidence that any railroad has had to “divert” any train in order to avoid going through Oakland.
13 In fact, given that this (fictional) effect could only injure the railroads that run through the City, it is
14 again clear that OBOT would suffer no injury even if the Ordinance did apply to trains stopping in
15 Oakland, and would not have Article III standing to raise such a claim.⁵

16 **III. CONCLUSION**

17 The Court should grant Defendant-Intervenors’ motion for summary judgment on the
18 dormant Commerce Clause and deny Plaintiff’s motion for summary judgment.

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26 ⁵ If this Court were ever to reach the point of weighing the Ordinance’s benefits and burdens, OBOT
27 mistakenly implies that *Union Pacific Railroad Co. v. California Public Utilities Commission*, 346
28 F.3d 851 (9th Cir. 2003), held that any interference with railroad uniformity violates the Commerce
Clause “no matter the purported local benefits.” Reply at 14. Not so. *Union Pacific* reached its
conclusion only after expressly weighing the benefits and burdens that were at issue. *Id.* at 872.

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Respectfully submitted,

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