

Resolution expressing concerns regarding crude oil. Approved 9/15/14.

WHEREAS, Nationwide volume of crude oils, especially Bakken and other heavy crude oils, transported by rail has increased more than 40 times between 2008-13 and crude oil train derailments in the United States and Canada that have led to loss of life and property, and significant economic and environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, As many as 30 crude oil trains pass through Cornwall-on-Hudson weekly, along the Hudson River - which is designated as a Significant Coastal Fish & Wildlife Habitat - within 150 feet of people's homes, next to the village's Municipal Services Complex and through our riverfront park; and

WHEREAS, Bakken crude oil has been proven to be more explosive and more corrosive than typical crude oils; and other heavy crude oils have been found to be thicker than typical crude oils, making the protection of public safety and environmental health, as well as spill response and remediation, more difficult and dangerous; and

WHEREAS, Crude oil is mainly transported in class DOT-111 rail tank cars designed for general purpose liquid transport, not for hazardous cargos, even though these railcars lack basic safety measures and despite repeated recommendations from the National Transportation Safety Board over the past 30 years that they not be used for crude oil transport; and

WHEREAS, Class DOT-111 railcars are unacceptably dangerous, particularly in light of the state of railroad enforcement, inspection, oversight and safety, highlighted by the testimony of the Chair of the Surface Transportation Board who testified in April, 2014, that "no community is prepared for a worst-case scenario" for crude oil-by-rail disasters; and

WHEREAS, CSX Corporation was fined \$10,000 for failing to timely report its two February 2014 oil train derailments in Ulster and Selkirk, New York, and a crude oil train on the CSX line blocked access to about 60 homes in the Town of Saugerties on March 31, 2014, for approximately 90 minutes without notifying local emergency responders; and

WHEREAS, Crude oil trains put our first responders needlessly in more danger; and

WHEREAS, Joint state-federal "inspection blitzes" have identified dozens of train and rail car safety defects, highlighting the risks facing our communities and environment, but no such inspections have been performed in Cornwall-on-Hudson.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cornwall-on-Hudson Village Board recognizes that the transport of crude oil, especially Bakken and heavy crude oils, by rail through the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson presents a significant risk for our residents, economy and environment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson calls upon the United States Department of Transportation, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the New York State Departments of Transportation and Environmental Conservation to immediately order a full environmental impact study of the potential impacts of increased crude oil transport by train through the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson, and to enact stringent rules and regulations for the transportation of crude oil; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson urges federal and state agencies to explore and develop alternative means for the distribution and transportation of crude oil.