

CRUDE OIL TRANSPORT ALONG THE HUDSON

"Virtual Pipeline" – Real Risks

Oil's Track Record

More oil shipped means more oil spilled. In 2013 alone, over 1 million gallons of oil was spilled while transporting it via railroads. That's more oil spilled in 2013 alone than in the previous 37 years.

Here are some notable disasters of oil shipments derailing:

- **West Nyack, Rockland County, NY, Dec. 2013:** a train carrying empty oil tanker cars collides with a truck at an at-grade crossing.
- **Cheektowaga, Erie County, NY, Dec. 2013:** A train carrying crude oil derails.
- **Kingston, NY, Feb. 2014:** A train with 97 empty oil cars derailed just north of Kingston, NY, near populated areas, a business district, and not far from the Esopus Creek.



Photo: John Wathen, Hurricane Creekkeeper

November 2013 – Train Derailment and Spill of Bakken Crude Oil

What's at Stake

River Life: The Hudson River is a vital habitat for fish throughout the Atlantic Ocean, with numerous endangered and threatened fish, birds and mammals relying on the cleanliness of the Hudson. The dangerous shipment of crude oil on or near the Hudson River threatens the ecosystem.

Public Health: Train derailment could lead to devastating explosions and fires. Beyond the direct physical dangers associated with an oil train derailment, an oil spill could contaminate the drinking water for citizens of Dutchess, Ulster, Rockland and Orange counties, and Northern New Jersey.

Economy: The ramifications of an oil spill would have massive negative effects on local tourism, coastal access and recreational activities that in the end would cost the taxpayers millions of dollars to restore.



Proposed New Windsor Area's School Proximity

New Windsor Expansion

Global Partners has applied to expand its oil terminals and install boilers to allow for the transfer of up to 1.8 billion gallons per year of heavy crude oil from train to river vessels.

With 7 schools lying within a mile radius of the proposed terminal site in New Windsor, contaminated soil remediation, storage tanks for VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds), and the DOT-111 rail cars all pose a serious threat to neighboring children, families, and ecosystems.

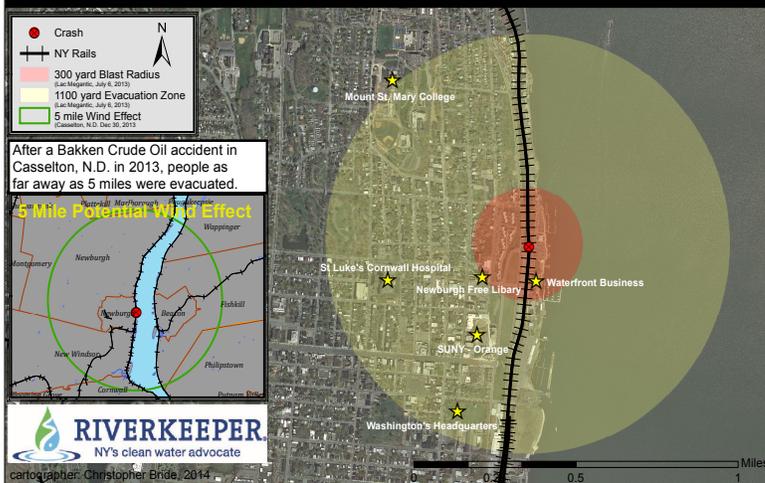
What is Crude Oil?

Petroleum products, such as gasoline, jet fuel, lubricants, asphalt, etc. are produced from the processing of crude oil at petroleum refineries. Once these products have been processed from crude oil, they are in a more easily and safely transported

Bakken Crude, a light and highly explosive type of crude oil, accounts for the majority of current shipments in New York. Even after a series of accidents, derailments and explosions throughout North America, oil companies are still shipping billions of gallons of Bakken crude throughout the Hudson Valley without properly

Newburgh: What if it Happened Here?

A train carrying Bakken crude oil derailed in Lac Megantic, Quebec last July, exploding and killing 47 people in a fire that spread 300 yards, and prompted a 1,100 yard evacuation zone. Trains carrying millions of gallons of the same explosive crude travel through Newburgh twice each day. Riverkeeper.org/crude #NotOnMyWatch



How is it transported?

Prior to 2012, little to no crude oil was sent through the Hudson Valley, but a recent spike in domestic crude oil production has resulted in the activation of trains, barges and tankers for the transportation of oil along the east coast. Crude oil is transported through the State of New York in two different ways: rail & river.

Rail: Every day, two unit trains carrying 100 or more tanker cars (each with the capacity to carry 30,000 gallons) transport oil along the "virtual pipeline." Of this fleet, 75 percent of the rail cars are class DOT-111 rail cars that lack basic protective features such as pressurized tanks and puncture-proof hulls. These DOT-111 cars are ill equipped to carry explosive materials, such as oil, safely along the New York railways and should be addressed immediately.

River: Once a day, a barge carrying 4 million gallons of crude oil departs from the Port of Albany down the Hudson, and once a week, the tanker Afrodite departs carrying 8 million gallons. Because of the accelerated demand for barge shipments of ship crude oil, spill response plans have not been updated accordingly, which could result in a "worst case" scenario spill.

What Can You Do?

Federal and state governments and private industry have taken some steps to reduce risks from crude oil shipments, but significant risks remain. The most critical steps we must take now include:

- The U.S. Department of Transportation must enact an emergency ban on the use of DOT-111 rail cars for transporting crude oil.
- The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation must order full environmental impact reviews of pending permits for oil terminal expansions in Albany and New Windsor.
- The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation can rescind permits and order full environmental impact reviews of oil terminal expansions in the Port of Albany.

Visit Riverkeeper.org/crude to learn more and take action



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