

CITY OF MUKILTEO
MUKILTEO, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION 2014-12

A RESOLUTION RELATED TO PETROLEUM TRANSPORT BY RAIL THROUGH MUKILTEO AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON; URGING ADOPTION OF STATE LEGISLATION AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS; STATE ASSESSMENT OF RISKS; RAILROAD COMPANY RESTRICTION OF PETROLEUM TRANSPORT; AND UPDATE OF CITY INCIDENT RESPONSE PLANS TO ADDRESS THE POTENTIAL SAFETY, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF PETROLEUM TRANSPORT BY RAIL.

WHEREAS, new technologies have resulted in the development of unprecedented amounts of both domestic and foreign oil, natural gas, tar sands, bitumen, and other petroleum products and derivatives, which will significantly increase the volume of petroleum and petroleum products moving by rail through Washington from the first dedicated train in 2012 to a possible volume of nearly 800,000 barrels per day, if all proposed projects are built; and

WHEREAS, the volume of petroleum-by-rail moving through our region is expected to triple to over one million barrels per week; and

WHEREAS, the primary source of the petroleum anticipated to be transported by rail through our region is from the Bakken formation, which the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has determined may be more flammable than traditional heavy crude oil; and

WHEREAS, the rail lines that will carry this petroleum run through and by Mukilteo's neighborhoods, parks, business areas, ferry terminal, and along our waterfront, and other natural areas; and

WHEREAS, the rail lines that will carry this petroleum run through and by culturally and historically significant sites, including the site of the signing of the Point Elliot Treaty, and other sites which are sacred and meaningful to Washington's tribes; and

WHEREAS, recent derailments, spills, and fires, such as the recent derailment and explosion in Casselton, North Dakota, illustrate the potential catastrophic impacts which could occur to our community and environment from the transport of petroleum by rail; and

WHEREAS, recent federal rules requiring some disclosure of the volume of petroleum transports are a welcomed first step, but will be inadequate to provide the detailed information that first responders in Mukilteo and neighboring communities will require to effectively plan for and mitigate potential derailments.

WHEREAS, the transport of large volumes of fossil fuels such as petroleum is not compatible with the City of Mukilteo's commitment to addressing climate change; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mukilteo is deeply concerned about the threat to life, safety and the environment of potential spills and fires from the transport of petroleum by rail;

NOW THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUKILTEO, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The City of Mukilteo strongly urges the Washington State Legislature to approve legislation requiring disclosure of the volumes, types of petroleum, petroleum products, and petroleum derivatives; transportation routes; and the frequency and duration of transfers of petroleum, so that the state and local communities can be fully informed of and plan for the risks posed by the transport of petroleum by rail.

Section 2: The City of Mukilteo strongly urges the U.S. Congress and U.S. Department of Transportation to strengthen federal tank car design and operation laws and regulations for petroleum product shipments and aggressively phase out older-model tank cars used to move flammable liquids that are not retrofitted to meet new federal requirements.

Section 3: The City of Mukilteo strongly urges the Washington Department of Ecology and the Military Department Emergency Management Division, in collaboration with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Coast Guard and local government emergency response entities, to assess the impact to public safety, the environment, the economy, and traffic of petroleum transport by rail through the region and the State of Washington.

Section 4: The City of Mukilteo requests that the Governor of Washington, the Washington Department of Ecology, the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, and any other relevant state agencies refrain from permitting projects that would expand the capacity for petroleum export out of the state or otherwise increase the number of trains carrying petroleum through Washington communities until the cumulative environmental and safety impacts of these projects are studied and addressed.

Section 5: The City of Mukilteo requests that any railroad company that operates rail lines adjacent to Lighthouse Park, the Mukilteo ferry terminal, and the Mukilteo waterfront consider restrictions on the shipment of petroleum products along those routes until adequate study by relevant state, local, and federal government agencies have determined

that the transport of petroleum by rail meets established public safety and environmental protection standards.

Section 6: The City Council requests that the Mukilteo Fire Department and the Emergency Services Coordination Agency (ESCA) review and, if needed, update the incident response plans for the increasing risk imposed by the transport of petroleum by rail.

Section 7: The City Clerk is directed to transmit this resolution to the relevant federal, state and local elected officials and agencies aforementioned.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this XX day of XXX, 2014.

APPROVED:

MAYOR, JENNIFER GREGERSON

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

CITY CLERK, CHRISTINA J. BOUGHMAN

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:
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