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Mary Shesgreen - Comment

This is a Comment on the **Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration** (PHMSA) Proposed Rule: <u>Hazardous Materials;</u> <u>Amendments</u>

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### Comment

Dear PHMSA Rule-making Division,

This is my Public Comment regarding the recent PHMSA NPRM 80 FR 3787 (PHMSA-2013-0225). This NPRM is supposed to address the concern of promoting safer transportation practices. I don't believe that PHMSA has safe enough standards for transport of crude oil by rail. The new, supposedly safer railcars were the very ones that burned up in the recent derailment in Galena, IL.We need an absolute ban on transport of oil by rail because it is too costly to people, wildlife, soil, and waterways if it ever derailed.

If an absolute ban is impossible, then you must mandate that crude oil is degasified to prepare it for safe transport. Railroads must have adequate insurance to cover any potential accident (around \$11 billion would be a good place to start). In addition, the railways, the tracks, etc. must be upgraded and inspected frequently, and must be re-routed to avoid highly populated areas and areas with rivers and lakes nearby (within 1-2 miles). Otherwise the damages and devastation caused by a possible derailment would be too costly for the people, citizens, and residents of the United States of America. The threat of rail car explosions is as dangerous as the threat of a terrorist attack. It is absolutely unacceptable to the people.

Thank you for considering my comment,

Comment Period Closed Mar 24 2015, at 11:59 PM ET

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