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Dr. Lora Chamberlain - Comment

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

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

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Comment

Dear PHMSA Rule-making Division,
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 am deeply concerned that PHMSA does not have safe enough standards for transport of crude oil by rail. Improving standards of railcars is not going to help the problem because the latest and greatest railcars have also crashed such as the recent crash in Galena, IL.

You should seriously consider a ban on transport of oil by rail because it is too costly to nearby people, wildlife, soil, and waterways if it ever derailed.

If we absolutely have to move oil by rail, then we must mandate that crude oil is degasified to prepare it for safe transport. Texas oil producers do this already, there is readily available technology - all we need is the political will to mandate that the Bakken oil producers do the safest thing - Degasify!

We also must mandate that the railroads have adequate insurance to cover any potential accident (around \$11 billion would be a good place to start), that there are more safety inspections of the railroads, and 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.

Americans are waking up to this danger in their backyards we ask that you act in the publics best interest.

We cannot continue to ignore the people, wildlife, and waterways that are going to be permanently affected by this dangerous transport.

Thank you for considering the health and safety of our residents first when looking at this issue. The profits of the railroads or the oil companies are NOT your responsibility - Health and Safety First!

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