

From: [Paula Rogovin](#)
To: [comments, EMP](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] comments about the Energy master Plan
Date: Sunday, September 08, 2019 8:38:53 PM

6 years ago a train carrying volatile Bakken crude oil derailed and exploded like a bomb in Lac Megantic, Quebec, killing 47 people. There have been a series of derailments and explosions of trains carrying Bakken crude oil around the US and Canada, even with the so-called improved DOT 117 tank cars which now come through NJ. We call them bomb trains. These trains carry volatile Bakken crude oil through our communities, across the Oradell Reservoir, which provides drinking water for 800,000 of us here in Bergen and Hudson Counties, they go through towns and cities and across waterways in New Jersey putting us in great danger. Bakken crude oil is fracked in North Dakota.

Now, NJ is looking at a proposal for long unit trains to transport dangerous Liquified Natural Gas for export from Gibbstown. The Trump administration has rolled back train regulations and is pushing hard to speed up the use of long unit trains to transport LNG, disregarding safety concerns.

The EMP does not address the crude oil and LNG by rail through NJ, but it must.

It does not address the need for the State to step up to protect against the trump rollbacks in freight train safety, but it must.

This is no time for 6 months of additional study as the EMP suggests. We *already* know how the fracking of Bakken crude and natural gas pollutes the land, air, and

water where it is forced from the earth - where it harms the health of the residents and wildlife. We *already* know the dangers of transporting Bakken crude and LNG. We *already* know the dangers from pollution from refineries that process the crude oil and LNG. We *already* know the dangers of using the products refined from crude oil in the transportation and industry sectors.

Instead of putting a halt to the transport by rail of these deadly hazardous fossil fuels - the EMP is silent. The DEP knows that 2 proposed fracked gas power plants in North Bergen and in Kearny, in the Meadowlands, an area which floods easily and destabilizes trains, would have these dangerous bomb trains running within yards of the power plants. What kind of EMP would ignore our basic health, safety and security? Common sense would have these power plants rejected immediately for this alone. Even considering issuing permits is negligence!

NJ has some 15 proposals for additional fossil fuel infrastructure projects.

Governor Murphy must have the courage to issue a Moratorium on new Fossil fuel projects, to strengthen the EMP so that it will enable the DEP to reject new fossil fuel projects and then begin a step by step process of with a timetable for transitioning fossil fuel transportation and industry to renewable sources. Justin Mikulka of DeSmog Blog, reported that "Washington State Governor Jay Inslee is a vocal advocate for improving rail safety and put the final nail in the coffin of what would have been the nation's [largest oil-by-rail terminal](#),

proposed for Vancouver, Washington.”

In addition, the Governor claims to be worried that he doesn't have the legal basis to call for a Moratorium on Fossil fuel infrastructure projects. He can issue a Moratorium. Then the EMP must set standards for various emissions. It must be set very low so that NONE of the proposed Fossil Fuel Projects can be approved. Also, it would lay the groundwork so that existing transportation, power plants, and industry and set goals and timetables for transition to renewable energy sources.

There's a Climate Emergency. Really, a Climate Emergency. The EMP must step it up and reflect this crisis.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10