

RESOLUTION – TRANSPORT OF CRUDE OIL

WHEREAS, Nationwide volume of crude oils, especially Bakken and other heavy crude oils, transported by rail, barge and ship has increased more than 40 times between 2008-13 and accidents involving crude oil shipments in the United States and Canada that have led to loss of life and property, and significant economic and environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, Bakken crude oil has been proven to be more explosive and more corrosive than typical crude oils; and other heavy crude oils have been found to be thicker than typical crude oils, making the protection of public safety and environmental health, as well as spill response and remediation, more difficult and dangerous; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Association of Towns, Villages and Cities recognizes that the transport of crude oil, especially Bakken and heavy crude oils, by rail through the Town and City of Newburgh, the Town of New Windsor, the Town of Cornwall, the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson and West Point Military Academy presents a significant safety risk for our residents, and a train derailment or oil spill would have a devastating effect on the Hudson River and the surrounding environment as well as the economy of the entire County of Orange.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange County Association of Towns, Villages and Cities calls upon the United States Department of Transportation, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the New York State Departments of Transportation and Environmental Conservation to immediately order a full environmental impact study of the potential impacts of increased crude oil transport by train through the Town and City of Newburgh, the Town of New Windsor, the Town of Cornwall, the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson, the Town of Highlands and the West Point Military Academy, and to enact stringent rules and regulations for the transportation of crude oil; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Orange County Association of Towns, Villages and Cities urges federal and state agencies to explore and develop alternative means for the distribution and transportation of crude oil.

This resolution was put forth by Michael Newhard, Mayor, Village of Warwick, seconded by Randy Clark, Supervisor, Town of Cornwall and adopted by a vote of “All in Favor – None opposed”, at a regularly scheduled meeting held on the 28th day of October, 2014.