

+ People Community Planet

The people of the Willamette Valley deserve to live a life free from danger, and one in which we have a say in what travels through our own backyards.



Oregon's oil train routes



Source: ODOT DAN AGUAYO/THE OREGONIAN

To find out what you can do visit the 350Eugene website:

<http://world.350.org/eugene/>

Some statistics:

Safety

- The number of crude oil shipments has increased 75 times since 2005
- In 2013, 800,000 gallons of crude was spilled in railroad accidents
- In 2014, an average of one oil train derailed every 5 days
- Oregon has had two derailments in 2016

Fossil fuels

The crude oil, when burned, creates powerful greenhouse gases that contribute to climate chaos. When spilled, it is toxic to humans, wildlife and habitat.

The blast zone

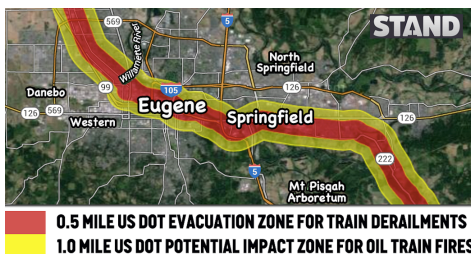
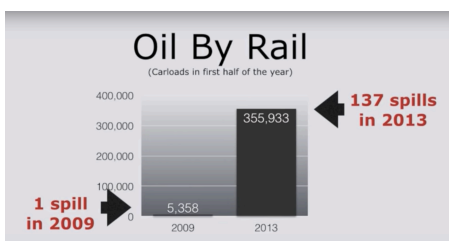
Anyone who lives within a mile of the tracks lives in a blast zone.

No local benefit

75% of the crude is sent to foreign markets.

A subsidized industry

The fossil fuel industry receives about \$4.7 billion per year in permanent tax subsidies.



+ No one knows when bomb trains pass through the area.

Railroads are required to notify local authorities only when they are shipping over 1,000,000 gallons of crude. Otherwise, there is no obligation to report the train to any city or state governments.

A short history of crude by rail:

In the early, 2000's, advances in hydraulic fracturing (fracking) allowed fossil fuel companies to access the crude trapped in the Bakken oil fields. Around the year 2009, more of this shale oil was being extracted from the Bakken oil fields than could be shipped by existing pipelines. The industry began using railroads for what is now called "crude by rail". This went largely unnoticed until 2013 when 47 people died in the Lac Megantic oil train explosion.

On June 3rd in Mosier, Oregon, an oil train derailed spilling 32,000 gallons of oil into the Columbia River. On September 25th, 13 cars derailed in Eugene. Luckily, only one car was carrying hazardous materials. It didn't explode.

Local emergency response teams are not equipped to handle a major oil train explosion in the valley.

The bottom line is that the fossil fuel industry is knowingly shipping an explosive substance in unsafe rail cars endangering the lives of anyone who lives in the blast zone, including many people in Eugene and Springfield.

To find out if you live in a blast zone, input your address at this website:
<http://explosive-crude-by-rail.org/>

Sources: US Department of Transportation, The Federal Railroad Association, The Association of American Railroads, The US Govt. Accountability Office, The Sightline Institute, NPR, The Oregonian