



# COUNTY OF ERIE

## OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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**Kathy Dahlkemper**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Department of Public Safety Announces Summit to Discuss Bakken Crude Oil Trains traveling through Erie County**

Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper is pleased to announce that the Erie County Department of Public Safety will sponsor a summit at the Perry Hi-Way Hose Company, 8281 Oliver Road, Summit Township, on Thursday, May 14, 2015 from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

The summit is for public safety personnel, including local emergency management coordinators and local government officials. The discussion will focus on awareness, preparedness and response, in the event an incident would occur involving any hazardous material transported by rail.

“The rail in Erie County travels through heavy populated areas, such as the City of Erie and other local municipalities – the emphasis on safety is our top priority,” stated County Executive Dahlkemper.

Representatives from CSX and Norfolk-Southern Railroads have established outreach programs for first responders. They have agreed to be an integral part of this discussion.

On a weekly basis, there are approximately 35 or more trains traveling through Erie County, carrying 1 – 3 million gallons of crude oil from North Dakota to Philadelphia and New Jersey. An article published by the Erie Times News in March 2015, cited 19% or 53,000 members of the population would be directly affected if a train derailment involving crude oil occurred in Erie County.

“We are taking this potential threat to our community very seriously and want to ensure our first responders and our local government officials are prepared,” noted John Grappy, Director of Public Safety.

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