

John Long

From: K Molloy [kmolloy@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 3:35 PM
To: Peter Forcellese; John Long
Subject: Fwd: My comments regarding the plan to have ethanol trains travel through Somerville

Good afternoon,

I just learned today that I am supposed to forward my emails to the BOA to you.

Best regards,

Karen Molloy
197 Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02143

----- Forwarded message -----

From: K Molloy <kmolloy@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Feb 5, 2013 at 11:38 PM
Subject: My comments regarding the plan to have ethanol trains travel through Somerville
To: TFTAld32@aol.com, aldermanconnolly@gmail.com, william.a.white@verizon.net,
bruceledesmond@yahoo.com, aldermansullivan@aol.com, sean@odolaw.com,
rebekah.gewirtz@gmail.com, aldermanbastardi@comcast.net, mheuston@hotmail.com,
RobertTrane@aol.com, tony@tonylafuente.com

Hello Somerville Board of Aldermen,

I know the Somerville BOA passed a unanimous resolution last year against the route of the new proposed Ethanol Train routes to Revere through Somerville. But that planned routing has not gone away.

MassDOT will hold a public meeting on Wed. Feb. 6th at 6:30 pm at the cafeteria of East Boston High School, 86 White St, East Boston High School on the planned 60-car trains carrying 1.8 million gallons of ethanol to the Global facility in Revere through Chelsea, Somerville, and other communities. No alternatives to sending these trains through Somerville is being studied.

<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/Portals/17/docs/ethanol/MtgAnnouncementEnglish02062013.pdf>

This proposed transport of ethanol thru Somerville is a huge public safety issue (and environmental and homeland security issues as well).

Ethanol is considered to be the largest rail-based hazardous material issue in the US. The trains will run late at night. There have been forty ethanol train derailments in the US in recent years and many have resulted in significant fires, with some leading to dramatic mushroom cloud fireballs. Fortunately most of the fires to date have been in rural areas. (Nevertheless the burdens of regional transportation in urban cores seem to fall largely on environmental justice communities.)

The most direct route for ethanol to the Global facility under consideration would follow the Fitchburg commuter rail line into Somerville and then would follow the Newburyport/Rockport commuter rail route to Revere before backing onto the rail spur that serves the facility. However the freight railroad companies have the right to transport ethanol over any of the

commuter rail lines and that decision could vary based on a number of factors which means other possible routes that could be used along the Worcester commuter rail line/Grand Junction, the Lowell commuter rail line, and the Haverhill commuter rail lines -- all of which would go through Somerville, including right by Brickbottom, East Broadway, and Assembly Square.

This means trains that are mile long would traverse thru the densest city in New England, passing schools and thousands of residents, at grade in some neighborhoods.

I urge you to continue the fight against this huge potential hazard in Somerville. Why are no alternatives being explored? (Why should Somerville shoulder another environmental burden -- and a hugely public safety one?) Why is the ethanol not being shipped to Revere on barges?

Thanks for your consideration,

Karen Molloy
197 Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02143

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Karen Molloy
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