

Provisions in Recent THUD Bills to Address Safety of Crude Oil Shipments by Rail

- **FY 2015 Senate THUD Bill**

The FY 2015 Senate THUD report which passed Committee June 5, 2014, would have required DOT to evaluate whether crude oil shipments by rail warrant the development of comprehensive oil spill response plans by rail carriers. As a result, in August 2014, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to seek comments on expanding the applicability of comprehensive oil spill response plans to entire train sets carrying crude oil.

- **FY 2016 Omnibus**

FY 2016 Omnibus, which was enacted on December 18, 2015, required DOT to initiate the rulemaking process to expand the applicability of comprehensive oil spill response plans by March 17, 2016, and to finalize this regulation by December 18, 2016. DOT failed to meet the March 17, 2016 deadline.

- **FY 2017 Senate THUD Bill**

FY 2017 Senate THUD bill which passed the Senate May 19, 2016, would require DOT to initiate the rulemaking process to expand the applicability of comprehensive oil spill response plans by June 30, 2016, and to finalize this regulation by December 18, 2016.