The U.S. Department of Transportation's (U.S. DOT) is proposing to change federal regulations to allow transportation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) by rail.

Before it authorizes transportation of a hazardous material, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) must undergo a careful evaluation of the risks, alternatives, and safety conditions. The PHMSA then publishes these findings so that the public can adequately challenge or comment on its conclusions. The deadline for public comments on the proposed regulation change is December 23, 2019.

I request authorization for County staff to provide comments to the U.S. DOT asking that they undertake extensive safety analysis of the LNG tanker cars to ensure the safety of our community is part of the rulemaking risk evaluation.