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Invasive Species



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Oil and Water: Tar Sands Crude Shipping Meets the Great Lakes?




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Regional Wake-Up Call

- Enbridge Pipeline Spill in Kalamazoo
- Increased focus on the Great Lakes as a pathway to move tar sands crude to refineries
- Superior, Wisconsin Terminal Proposal



Critical Choice: 'If' not 'When'

- Regionally & Globally Significant Resource
- Complicated Mix of Jurisdictions – Who's putting together the pieces?
- Complicated Substance, Very Little or No Expertise/Equipment

Just because we *can* put it on a ship, doesn't mean that we *should* put it on a ship

Policy Recommendations

- **U.S.-Canada:** Notify one another of plans to allow increased tar sands crude shipments on the lakes and ensure adequate oversight, in keeping with terms of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.
- **Congress:** Increase funding for prevention, preparedness and response programs in four priority spill categories: vessel-based, facility-based, cold-weather and pipeline spills.

Policy Recommendations

- **U.S.:** Improve coordination among federal agencies involved in large-scale spill prevention and response, with special emphasis on tar sands crude and other “submerged” oil spills.
 - Follow-up from 2007 SONS / Plan for another GL SONS
 - Worst-Case Discharge Scenario Update
 - Transparency
- **Great Lakes States:** Expand and enhance state laws to prevent and better protect their shorelines from oil shipping spills.
 - Updating state regulations
 - Pursue aggressive liability requirements
- **Industry/Tar Sands Crude Shippers:** Improve safety and maintain spill-prevention and response equipment, and provide financial support to efforts aimed at making spill-prevention and response information publicly available

