

Animals Falling Sick, Dying Near Highly Toxic Ohio Train Derailment Site. Is There a Cover Up?

written by GEG | February 12, 2023



Palestine, Ohio: About 50 cars from a Norfolk Southern Railroad train derailed and started a fire; 10 of the derailed cars were reportedly transporting hazardous materials including vinyl chloride, a carcinogenic gas. Three days after the accident, a 'controlled burn' was used to prevent an explosion by burning the toxic gases. Five days after people were evacuated, officials gave the all-clear for residents to return to the area. However, animals are dying and fish in a local creek have also died. The Norfolk Southern Railroad is performing water tests for residents. A reporter was arrested during a press conference leading some critics to believe there is a cover up..

Summary by JW Williams

On February 3, about 50 cars from a Norfolk Southern Railroad train traveling from Illinois to Pennsylvania derailed in East Palestine; 10 of the derailed cars were reportedly transporting hazardous materials including vinyl chloride, a carcinogenic gas used for commercial purposes. There was a massive fire after the train was derailed. Three days later, a 'controlled burn' was used to prevent an explosion and to burn the toxic gases that can be deadly when inhaled. People within a mile of the derailment were notified of an evacuation. Residents outside of this radius were urged to shelter in

place.

More than a week later, there are reports of animals in the area dying. Despite health issues animals are exhibiting, officials gave the all-clear for residents to return to the area five days later. Chickens have been found dead about 10 miles away. Journalist Jim Stone wrote that "if chickens are dying 10 miles away in one direction, and other wildlife is dying 10 miles away in the opposite direction, over 280 square miles are toast." He added, "Near the site of the derailment, safe limits were exceeded by 8,000X."

A task force from rail line operator Norfolk Southern is performing private well water testing for residents, leaving some locals skeptical. Fish in the local creek were found to have died after the fire and controlled burn.

A reporter for news outlet NewsNation made headlines after he was arrested at a press conference Wednesday trying to get answers from the state's governor Mike DeWine on the train derailment.

According to videos from a young man, Nick Drom, who says he went to school for engineering and has studied industrial accidents, the only information we are getting is from the responsible party. He read from a document that said, "Areas of contaminated soil and free liquids were observed were intentionally breached; the vinyl chloride was covered and/or filled during reconstruction of the rail line including portions of the trench/burn pit that was used for the open burn off of vinyl chloride." There is no information on how much of the chemicals were spilled, nor how much was burned. Why was the track rebuilt over buried contaminants?

On February 10, the EPA sent a letter to the Norfolk Southern Railway Company informing them that "Cars containing vinyl chloride, butyl acrylate, ethylhexyl acrylate, and ethylene glycol monobutyl ether are known to have been and continue to be released to the air, surface soils, and surface waters," and that the company may be investigated and held liable. The site may become a Superfund clean up site. The letter stated that the EPA observed Norfolk Southern Railway Company intentionally breaching five rail car tankers of vinyl chloride and diverted the gas into an excavated trench and then burned it off. In addition, areas of contaminated soil and free liquids were observed and potentially covered.

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