



Norfolk Southern Corporation
650 West Peachtree Street NW, Box 13
Atlanta, GA 30308

Helen M. Hart
Assistant Vice President
Safety & Environmental
Helen.hart@nscorp.com

February 16, 2023

Roy Morrison, Director of Safety
Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way
Employees Division/IBT
Via email: Rmorrison@bmwe.org

Jonathan Long, General Chairperson
American Rail System Federation
Via email: jlongbmwe@gmail.com

Re: East Palestine derailment site

Messrs: Morrison and Long:

We are in receipt of your letters of February 13 and 15 requesting that NS Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division (BMWED) working the derailment in the East Palestine, OH, and their immediate families be afforded ongoing medical monitoring by a qualified physician of their choice, and seeking other listed information. As stated in our February 7 response, we share your concern for the health and well-being of our employees and appreciate your inquiry.

In addition to the continuous air monitoring the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) has been conducting since it came onsite soon after the incident, NS initiated air monitoring operations in the early morning hours of February 4, 2023. Those monitoring activities have continued in support of safe work practices to ensure the health and safety of all NS employees, emergency response personnel, response contractors, regulators, and others working derailment operations. Additional extensive and continuous air monitoring has also been conducted within the community. Further, at the direction of and in conjunction with the US EPA, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), and other involved county, state, and federal environmental and health agencies, NS has been continuously conducting extensive monitoring and testing of water and soil in the derailment area and beyond since the incident occurred. Information about and results of the agencies' testing, as well as commodities involved in the derailment, are publicly available on [US EPA's](#) and [Ohio EPA's](#) websites. We continue working with these health and environmental agencies, as well as with multiple environmental experts, in all aspects of the emergency response for this incident. NS has been collaborative and transparent with the chemicals involved, corresponding manufacturer Safety Data Sheets (SDSs), and results obtained. We have confirmed safe breathing zone levels relative to all chemicals and potential decomposition products associated with the derailment and no person has been allowed to enter any areas prior to the agencies' concurrence that the area was safe to be in.

Based on the extensive comprehensive monitoring and results obtained in support of onsite operations and activities in East Palestine, OH, including those activities performed by NS Engineering Department personnel, we are confident no exposure exceedances above regulatory or recognized limits were incurred. Personal protective equipment provided to and used by NS personnel during onsite activities has been and will continue to be consistent with the ongoing monitoring. Therefore, based on extensive testing confirming employee exposures below respective limits, medical monitoring of personnel is neither required nor warranted. However, if employees wish to seek medical consultation with their providers, they are certainly free to do so.

NS and the involved agencies are continuing to monitor air, water, and soil during site activities and will continue to do so throughout the recovery operations. As you likely are aware, the NTSB is leading the investigation into the incident and we must honor the process for that investigation.

Your members are a critical part of our team and we value the work they do here and every day. NS is committed to ensuring their health and safety. If any of your members has any questions or concerns on site, we again urge you to encourage them to contact their supervisor or to one of our environmental representatives on site.

If you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,



Helen M. Hart
AVP Safety & Environmental