

'Ohio Chernobyl': East Palestine Town Hall Scrapped After Residents Report Health Problems

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by [Tyler Durden](#), [ZeroHedge](#)

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Nearly two weeks after a Norfolk Southern Railway freight train with 150 cars (20 of which were carrying hazardous materials) [derailed in the small town of East Palestine, Ohio](#), resulting in a chemical disaster, the extent of the damage to the town and surrounding communities remains unclear.

On Tuesday, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine held a press conference for the Feb. 3 derailment. He said Norfolk Southern did not classify the train as a "high hazardous material train" despite multiple cars containing toxic chemical vinyl chloride.

"This is absurd ... Congress needs to take a look at how these things are handled," DeWine said.



There's already an effort by lawmakers on Capitol Hill and federal agencies to investigate the derailment. [Epoch Times](#) noted:

Key committees in the Republican-controlled House are holding their peace as investigations of the derailment and its environmental impact proceed.

A spokesperson for the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, led by Chairman Sam Graves (R-Mo.), said the committee was talking with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), the Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration, and the railroad involved, Norfolk Southern.

"We will continue to monitor the situation and NTSB's ongoing investigation," the spokesperson told The Epoch Times in a Feb. 14 email.

Investigators have uncovered security camera footage 20 miles before East Palestine of the suspected railcar that caused the derailment. Footage shows one of the cars was on fire well before the small town.

“NTSB investigators have identified and examined the rail car that initiated the derailment. Surveillance video from a residence showed what appears to be a wheel bearing in the final stage of overheat failure moments before the derailment,” NTSB wrote on its website.

OHIO – Security camera footage captured the Norfolk Southern train passing by Salem, OH with flames and sparks under at least one of the cars. [#ohiotrainderailment pic.twitter.com/bh1WgiPpSr](https://twitter.com/bh1WgiPpSr)

– Emmanuelle Saliba (@_esaliba) [February 15, 2023](#)

Michael Graham, a member of the NTSB, told reporters one day after the derailment:

“We’re also looking at a lot of different footage that has been provided to the investigators out there to determine if there’s some data on footage that we have from videos and cameras that might tell us something more than what might have happened to cause this accident.”

At a follow-on briefing on Feb. 5, Graham said investigators were analyzing locomotive footage. He said the focus was one of the rail car’s axles.

“We have obtained two videos which show preliminary indications of mechanical issues on one of the rail car axles,” Graham said.

Graham added engineers on the train were alerted by a “wayside

defect detector shortly before the derailment, indicating a mechanical issue.”

“Then an emergency brake application initiated,” he continued, adding that a preliminary investigative report was expected within several weeks, though a full probe could take as long as 24 months.

As investigators pinpoint the likely cause of the derailment, the environmental impact of the controlled burn of 20 railcars that contained toxic chemicals, including vinyl chloride, ethylhexyl acrylate, and isobutylene, has released what some described as a ‘chemical nuclear bomb’ that has contaminated the town and other surrounding communities.

Following the burn, there have been numerous reports of wildlife dying, including fish and frogs in nearby streams.

While East Palestine residents are being told by Norfolk Southern and Ohio officials that everything is safe after the toxic “controlled release” – I’m here and witnessing creeks filled with dead frogs and fish. [pic.twitter.com/UBh3zes59j](https://twitter.com/UBh3zes59j)

– Jeremy Loffredo (@loffredojeremy) [February 14, 2023](#)

https://twitter.com/2_Acre_Living/status/1625610406994518032

People have reported that their chickens, dogs, and horses were either sick or died.

People in East Palestine and surrounding communities have reported various symptoms they can’t explain since the burn, according to [News 5 Cleveland](#).

Therese Vigliotti said she hasn’t felt right since the controlled release and burn after train cars derailed more than a week ago.

She sent us a picture of her tongue.

"I noticed my lips were numb, the soft palate of my mouth was numb, my tongue was burning and my throat was burning," Vigliotti said.

We asked what her biggest concern was.

"That I'm going to get cancer and die," Vigliotti said.

Vigliotti doesn't live in East Palestine but rather 15 miles north of the derailment site in Poland, Ohio.

Jim does call the village home.

You can hear train horns from his front porch.

"It used to not bother me hearing, now it does," Jim said.

He too is worried about what he is experiencing.

"I've had a migraine. I've been dizzy, all my mucus membranes irritated. I haven't felt very well since then," Jim said.

And on a long enough timeline. People exposed to vinyl chloride might have an increased risk of developing a rare form of liver cancer (hepatic angiosarcoma), liver cancer (hepatocellular carcinoma), brain and lung cancers, lymphoma, and leukemia.

I GOT A DISTRIBUTION MAP pic.twitter.com/X7jzUI0mrB

– UAE Exotic Falconry & Finance (@FalconryFinance) [February 15, 2023](#)

<https://twitter.com/WaverlyWakeUp/status/1625938204263125011>

Protesters standing on a street corner in downtown East Palestine. Town hall meeting for residents at 7pm. [@WTOV9](#)

pic.twitter.com/uXExImoIBP

– Chloë Mesogitis (@ChloeWT0V9) [February 15, 2023](#)

"There are a lot of people who are very, very scared," said East Palestine resident Lynn Guy to Breitbart News' Alana Mastrangelo, who is on the ground in Ohio.
pic.twitter.com/ZjQH6vuyF5

– Breitbart News (@BreitbartNews) [February 15, 2023](#)

"That's all they are really concerned about. It's not us, it's moving the money".

Family protesting how the toxic train derailment was handled in East Palestine, Ohio.

□ [@lincolnmjay](#) & [@realmonsanto](#)
<https://t.co/bq2xTFq0nVpic.twitter.com/TEiPD9KdRx>

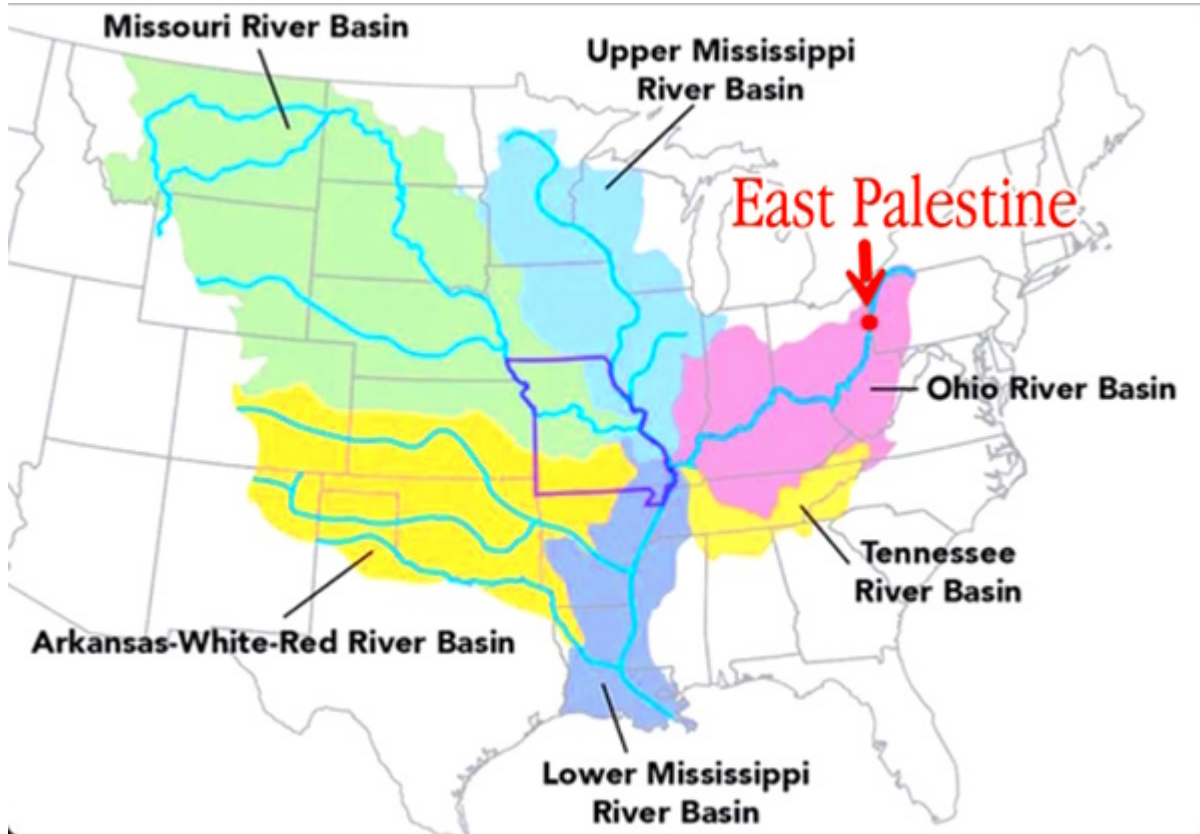
– Rebel News USA (@RebelNews_USA) [February 15, 2023](#)

Citizen reporter on the ground in East Palestine, Ohio:

"It stinks out here... It smells really weird over here, for sure... These are nice people, they don't deserve to be nuked with toxic chemicals." <https://t.co/Ib23XI91b3>

– Citizen Free Press (@CitizenFreePres) [February 15, 2023](#)

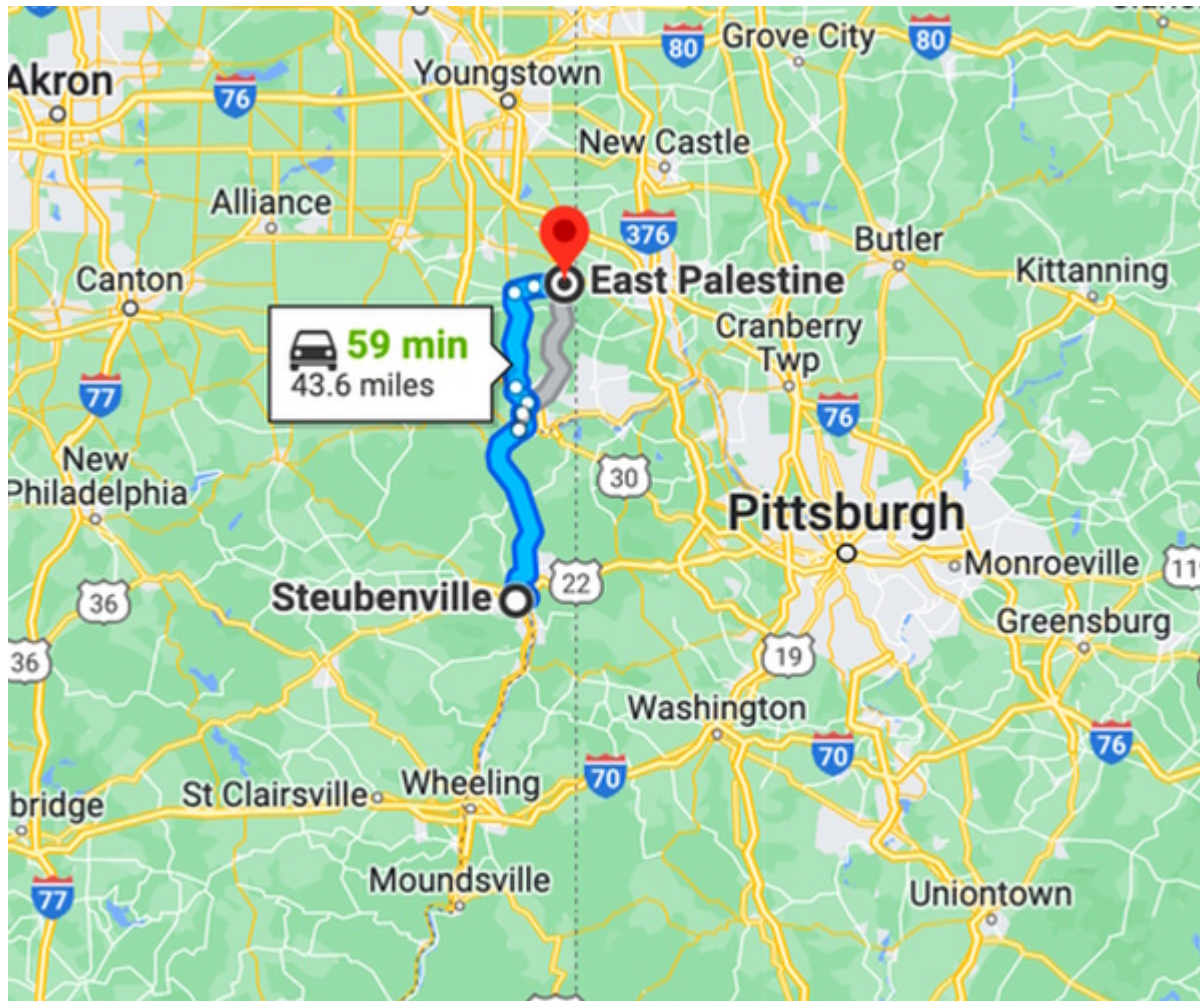
And these toxic chemicals have also been identified in the Ohio river, which supplies more than 5 million people with drinking water, according to local news station WLWT.



Must watch ! More on East Palestine, Ohio, toxic chemical burn may be the largest environmental disaster in U.S. history. pic.twitter.com/jcrBMdbp6y

– VeBee (@VeBo1991) [February 13, 2023](#)

About 60 miles south, the city of Steubenville detected butyl acrylate in their water intake, the same toxic chemical found in East Palestine, according to [local news WTRF](#).

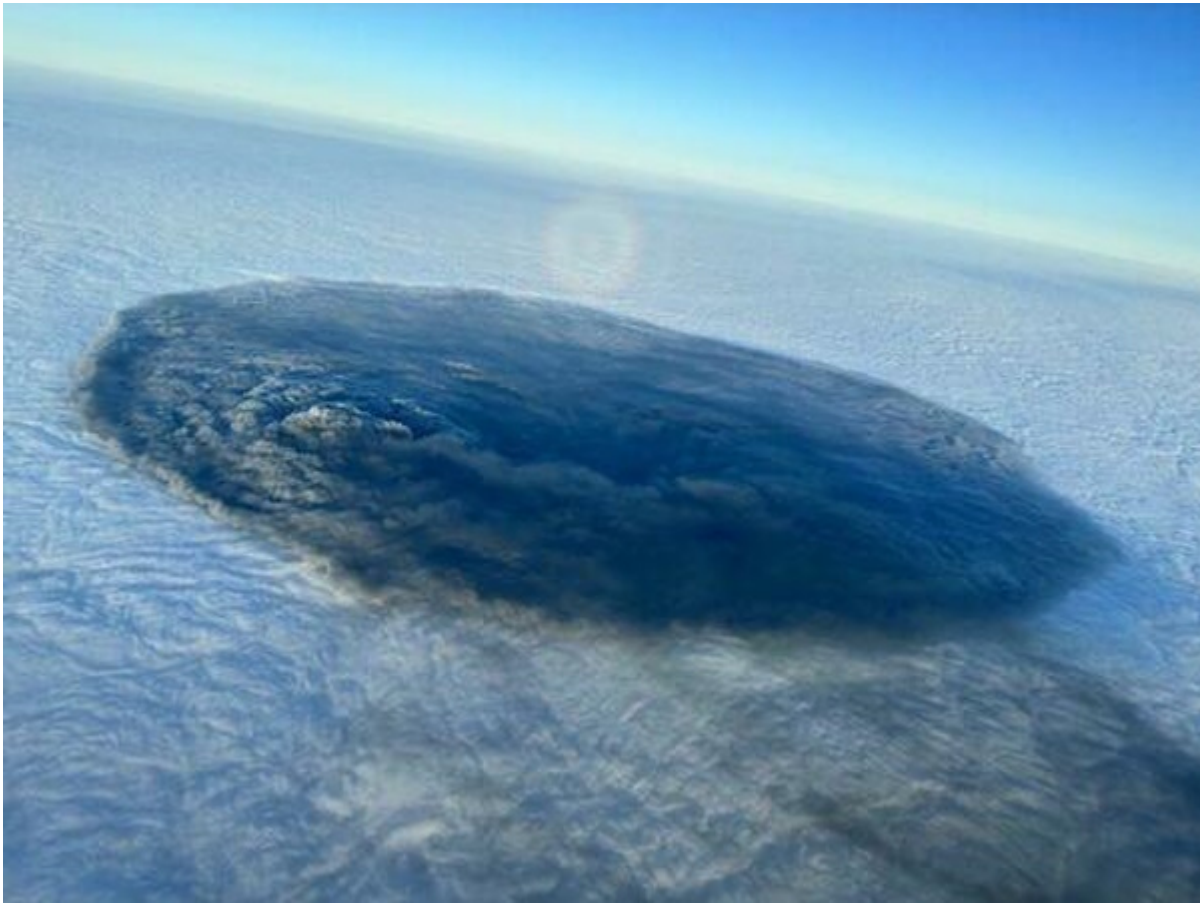


Recall the Biden administration and other federal officials were silent about the derailment for more than a week. This week, Transportation Secretary Pete [Buttigieg finally spoke about the incident](#).

And on Feb. 8 press conference in East Palestine, a NewsNation reporter covering DeWine was arrested. DeWine said this week that the reporter should “never have occurred in the first place.” The reporter was merely just trying to report the news.

There’s been a massive lack of transparency since the derailment happened by the government and mainstream media. And we wonder why?

Look at an alleged aerial picture (posted [on Reddit](#)) ovetop East Palestine during the controlled burn. Maybe this is why?



Meanwhile, environmentalist advocate Erin Brockovich called out the Biden administration to do more for residents of East Palestine:

"The Biden Administration needs to get more involved in this train derailment now. We are counting on you to break the chain of administration after administration to turn a blind eye."

As for Norfolk Southern, they're expected to rack up tens of millions of dollars in costs associated with cleanup and lawsuits.

"I've had discussions with some people who live right near ground zero who are hesitant to come back."

"There are people with young children, and they don't know what effects it's going to have," James Wise, a local attorney who filed a class-action lawsuit against the

railroad on behalf of some residents, told Bloomberg.

And you would never guess who is one of the largest shareholders of Norfolk Southern... It's ESG-pusher BlackRock.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN CORP CUSIP 65584410

Current Historical Matrix Ownership Summary Insider Transactions Options Issuer Debt

Search Name Default - No Search Selected 20 Save Search 22 Delete Search 23 Refine Search

Text Search Holder Group All Holders Investment Manager View

24 Color Legend Shrs Out 227.8M % Out 78.71 Float/Shrs Out 99.88 SI % Out 1.00 Edit Columns

Holder Name	Portfolio Name	Source	Opt	Position	% Out	Latest Chg	File Dt
1. Vanguard Group Inc/The		ULT-AGG		18,533,329	8.14	0	12/31/22
2. BlackRock Inc		13G		15,733,548	6.91	15,733,548	12/31/22
3. Capital Group Cos Inc/The	Multiple Portfolios	13F		14,164,614	6.22	603,436	12/31/22
4. JPMorgan Chase & Co		ULT-AGG		11,555,509	5.07	-1,585	12/31/22
5. State Street Corp		ULT-AGG		10,160,703	4.46	-42,677	12/31/22
6. Lazard Ltd		ULT-AGG		7,658,124	3.36	1,137,065	12/30/22
7. Wells Fargo & Co		ULT-AGG		4,120,731	1.81	17,190	12/31/22
8. Geode Capital Management LLC	GEODE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT ...	13F		4,099,195	1.80	25,997	12/31/22
9. Northern Trust Corp	NORTHERN TRUST CORPORATI...	13F		3,352,141	1.47	74,327	12/31/22
10. Bank of America Corp	BANK OF AMERICA CORP	13F	Y	3,033,717	1.33	12,607	12/31/22

Things that make you go, hmm...



And by the way, East Palestine scrapped a town hall for tonight as the toxic chemicals are causing illness among residents, according to the [Independent](#).

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