

No injuries reported after derailed train catches fire in Northern Ontario

Emily Chan, CTVNews.ca

Last Updated Saturday, March 7, 2015 11:07AM EST

Police say there have been no reported injuries after a CN train derailed Saturday and several cars caught fire in Northern Ontario.

Ten cars went off the tracks when a freight train carrying crude oil derailed at about 2:45 a.m. Saturday morning, an Ontario Provincial Police spokesperson said.

The train was travelling eastbound, in an area about 100 kilometres north of Sudbury, at the time of the accident.

Multiple cars caught fire and others fell into the Mattagami River, police said. Exact numbers are still unclear.

Residents in nearby Gogoma, Ont., have been told to stay indoors, and people at the Mattagami First Nation have been told to avoid drinking water from the "community source," the OPP's Michelle Tonner said.

The Gogoma Fire Department released a statement saying the smoke itself is not toxic, but particles in the smoke may be dangerous. The department recommended anybody with breathing disorders stay inside until further notice.

The derailment also closed a section of Highway 144, between Highway 560 and Mattagami Reserve Road. The road is a major route connecting Timmins with southern Ontario. It is expected to remain closed for 24 to 36 hours, the OPP said.

"Emergency crews are conducting a full site assessment and activating the emergency response plan with local officials," CN spokesperson Emily Hamer told the Canadian Press.

This is the third time in the past month that a CN train has gone off the tracks in northern Ontario.

On Feb. 14, [29 train cars derailed south of Timmins](#). In that incident, seven cars caught on fire, and Via Rail passenger trains were forced to cancel trips along the route from Winnipeg to Toronto.

Another CN freight train carrying crude oil or gasoline derailed Thursday about 100 kilometres east of Hornepayne, Ont., but there was no spillage in that incident.