

Transportation Safety Board investigating Gogama derailment

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Safety board says as many as 40 rail cars derailed

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada has deployed a team of investigators to the site of a CN crude oil train derailment near Gogama Saturday morning.

The site of the derailment was only 37 kilometres from the site of a previous accident, that also involved a CN crude oil train, on Feb. 14, 2015.

John Cottreau, a spokesperson with the Transportation Safety Board of Canada, said 30 to 40 cars derailed in the March 7 incident.

No one was injured in the derailment.

In a press release earlier in the day, the OPP said only around 10 cars had derailed.

The City of Greater Sudbury said in a press release it is filling several rail cars with water to assist with the rail derailment, which caused a fire that created large black plumes of smoke.

The city is using hydrants in Capreol to fill the rail cars, which means some residents in the area might experience discoloured water from their taps.

“Discoloured water poses no health risks, but residents should run the water to clear any sediment,” the city said.

The Sudbury and District Health Unit has warned that if people near Gogama smell smoke they should seek shelter.

The health unit recommends people near the derailment site close all exterior doors and windows. They could also close vents, fireplace dampers, and as many interior doors as possible to compartmentalize their homes.

“By sealing your house, you can keep airborne contaminants out,” the health unit said in a press release. “If the situation were to worsen and an evacuation were needed, instructions will be broadcast over the radio or police or fire crews will give instructions at your door.”