



For Immediate Release:
Dated: Saturday, July 6, 2013

Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway (MMA) Derailment in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec

At approximately 1:15 AM EST, an eastbound Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway train with 72 carloads of crude oil and 5 locomotive units derailed at the Rue Frontenac road crossing in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec.

Early reports indicate that the train was stopped and tied down by the locomotive engineer at 11:25 PM on the mainline at Nantes, a station approximately 6.8 miles west of Lac Megantic, for a crew change. Subsequently, the train moved downhill into the town of Lac-Mégantic, where the derailment occurred. The engineer was not on the train, but had proceeded to his resting point at a hotel in Lac-Mégantic. He is safe.

Railway personnel were able to pull 13 carloads intact from the site at the rear of the train. At this time we don't know how many cars are derailed. Further details will be gathered from the event recorder onboard.

We have reports of explosions and buildings in the city on fire, and a number of fatalities and injuries. Emergency response teams are at the site coordinating rescue efforts, but access to the site is limited while they continue to fight the fires.

MMA management and employees are devastated at this news. We extend heartfelt condolences to those residents of Lac-Mégantic who have lost their homes and businesses, and particularly those who have suffered injuries and lost loved ones. We intend to have representatives on site as soon as possible to lend assistance to the community and to deal with individual issues coming out of this disaster.

MMA will cooperate with government safety agencies in determining cause.

We will supplement this information as soon as we can.

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