



**Accident Summary**

**DCA16FR005**

**Union Pacific Railroad**

**Granger, Wyoming**

**March 14, 2016**

## **Accident Summary**

On Monday, March 14, 2016, about 9:41 p.m., mountain daylight time (MDT), westbound Union Pacific Railroad (UP) train KG1LAC-13 was diverted from main track 1 through a switch at the east end of Granger siding and collided head-on with a standing (stopped) eastbound UP local freight train LCK41. The accident occurred on the UP Evanston Subdivision near Granger, Wyoming.

The locomotives of the standing train were stopped about 1,463 feet west of the east switch. The westbound freight, KG1LAC-13 was operating at 46 mph on the main track before making an unplanned diversion from main track 1 through a switch lined into the Granger siding. The engineer immediately placed the train into emergency braking. Information from a review of the locomotive event recorder indicated the impact speed at about 30 mph.

The method of operation was normally a signalized traffic control system, but the signal system was out of service (suspended) due to installation of positive train control system upgrades. While the signal system was suspended in the area of the incident, train operations continued under flagging authority.

As a result of the collision, the three crewmembers of the eastbound train and two crewmembers of the westbound local train were transported to a medical facility for treatment of minor injuries.

Damage was estimated at \$2 million. Environmental conditions were night, cloudy skies, light winds, and a temperature of 20° F.

Parties to the investigation include the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Union Pacific Railroad (UP), Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET), International Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation Workers (SMART), and Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes (BMWED).