

**Accident #:** DCA17FR004

**Location:** Edgemont, SD

**Date:** January 17, 2017

**Time:** 10:09 a.m. MST

**Involved Party:** BNSF Railway

**Property Damage:** None

**Fatalities:** 2

**Accident Type:** Employee Fatalities

On Tuesday, January 17, 2017, about 10:09 a.m. MST, BNSF Railway westbound train E-DOLEBM0-01E struck and killed two maintenance of way employees at milepost 477, on the Black Hills Subdivision, in Edgemont, South Dakota. Train E-DOLEBM0-01E was about 7463 feet long and consisted of 4 locomotives and 135 cars. The two maintenance of way employees, with an uninjured third, were clearing ice and snow from the track switch on main track 1. The crew of the striking train gave audible warning and applied emergency braking after they observed the employees. The train was unable to stop before reaching the work location. Prior to the emergency brake application, the train was traveling at approximately 35 mph. The weather at the time of the accident was clear, with calm wind, and reported temperatures ranging from 13° to 18°.

Parties to the investigation include the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), BNSF Railway, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET), International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation Workers – Transportation Division (SMART), and the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division (BMWED).