

National Transportation Safety Board

DCA16MR004

AMTRAK Derailment

Cimarron, Kansas

March 14, 2016

Summary of Interview- Feed Truck Operator-Arturo Carrillo

Interview took place on March 14, 2016 Time 1300 at the interviewee residence in Cimarron, KS.

Interview conducted by NTSB Investigators.

Mr. Carrillo stated that on March 13, 2016 he reported to work at 6:00 am. Made three or four loads on feed track and distributed the feed to the cattle. At approximately 10:00 am a coworker that was operating the loading bays asked him for his assistance to get something unstuck in one of the pipes. Mr. Carrillo stated that he drove out of the chemical bay, parked the feed truck and got out to assist his co-worker. Sometime during the process as he was assisting his co-worker the unattended feed truck started rolling down the hill. The feed truck made an uncontrolled movement down the hill, crossed highway 50 and then struck the tracks. He got on his personal vehicle and drove down the hill, parked his vehicle on the south side of the tracks. He then got out of his vehicle walked across the tracks and got on the runaway feed truck, backed out onto highway 50 and drove it back up the hill to the feed plant. Upon arriving at feed plant, he reported incident to plant supervisor Maynard. No action was taken by supervisor Maynard other than he did not want to hear about it. Mr. Carrillo stated that at the end of tour of duty at 5:00 pm he picked up his personal vehicle that he had earlier left on south side of the railroad tracks.

Mr. Carrillo stated that on Saturday March 12, 2016, he had experienced problems with this same feed truck; he said that when he started the truck he got a low pressure warning light. He said that he reported low pressured warning to supervisor Maynard, and according to Mr. Carrillo his complaint was dismissed by Mr. Maynard.

Mr. Carrillo stated that on Sunday March 13, 2016 the day of the accident before he stepped out of the feed truck to assist his coworker he applied that parking brake. He then heard the air exhaust (gushing sound) when he applied the parking brake indicating that it had been activated and applied.

Mr. Carrillo said he works 13 days straight, and has every other weekend off. He reports daily to work at 6:00 am and gets off at about 5:00 pm. He works 10 to 12 hours a day.

Mr. Carrillo stated that he was suspended for 3 days without pay and that he was supposed to return to work on Thursday March 17, 2016.