



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Investigative Hearing

Norfolk Southern Railway general merchandise freight train 32N
derailment with subsequent hazardous material release and fires,
in East Palestine, Ohio, on February 3, 2023

GROUP	M
EXHIBIT	
2	

Agency / Organization

NTSB

Title

Locomotive image recorder evidence collection
timeline

Date / Time	Event
2/3/2023	
8:54 PM	Accident
2/4/2023	
7:30 AM	Rail Duty Officer contacts NS and notifies NTSB is launching. Standard speech to hold and preserve all evidence
1:30 PM	IIC arrived Incident Command Post On-scene briefing with Incident Commander/NS Spokesperson & NS Counsel Determined location of non-derailed equipment Lead Locomotive at Conway Yard (PA), and cars 1-22 located just east of the derailment site Rear cut, cars 73-149 at Canton, OH Put hold on locomotives, cars, requested full data download of event recorder and image recorders Discussed with NS - memory modules would not be removed and shipped to HQ if good uncorrupted data download was obtained
7:00 PM	Organizational Meeting IIC discussion on preservation and collection of event recorder and image recorder data and possible on-scene audition of forward-facing image recorder
2/5/2023	
6:00 AM	Operations group submitted request to NS for inward & outward facing video footage and event recorder data Operations group conducted an on-scene preliminary review of event recorder data and forward-facing video from the lead locomotive NS 4178 Mechanical group traveled to Conway to inspect lead locomotive During locomotive examination, image recorders memory modules were found removed from lead locomotive, sitting on control console IIC & Mechanical discussion regarding locomotive hold until event recorder and image recorder data was provided to NTSB
6:00 PM	Operations informed event recorder and image recorder data was uploaded to Kiteworks Progress Meeting - approx. 10 minutes of forward facing image recorder data was auditioned for parties and NTSB investigators (NS media player used for audition) IIC / Mechanical & Party Spokepersons discussed the release of locomotives back to NS after verifying with Operations on status of event recorder and image recorder data.
2/7/2023	
	Operations group completed on scene work & departed East Palestine
2/13/2023	
	Operations contacted NS regarding image recorder data that wasn't uploaded in Kiteworks NS advised that they had uploaded the image recorder data files to Kiteworks about a week prior

NS uploaded the image recorder data to Kiteworks again and Operations verified receiving data NS
added the following conditions to their email response: As discussed in Youngstown, we are providing this data based upon our understanding that data is being requested as part of the on-going investigation. As such, we understand that only individuals officially involved in the investigation on behalf of the NTSB, or other government officials with duly authorized oversight responsibilities, will have access to the data. We also ask that NTSB maintains the confidentiality of the data in accordance with all laws and regulations related to same. Norfolk Southern herein designates the data from the DVR as confidential and proprietary information. Accordingly, it is Norfolk Southern's position that the data obtained will be protected from further disclosure in accordance with the provisions of 5 USC 552(b)(4). In order to view the data, you will need to obtain the viewer software from ProVision.

2/14/2023

Operations submits event recorder & image recorder data to RE for Director's audition

2/15/2023

3:00 PM

RE & RPH Directors audition inward & outward image recorder data
Directors request additional image recorder data
IIC (NTSB Ben Allen copied): email request to NS Counsel for additional image recorder data to at least cover train 32N as it traversed the last 4 defect detectors
RE provided preliminary plots of event recorder data (NS had uploaded 30 minutes of event recorder data)

2/16/2023

NS Counsel advises he will handle and doesn't expect it should be an issue
NS Counsel texted IIC stating no further data was available. Locomotives were returned to service and data only available going back to 2/10
IIC call to NS Party Spokesperson to inquire if NS performed a full data download of the image recorders. A few
hours later, NS Spokesperson confirmed that no additional image recorder data was available.

2/20/2023

10:40 AM

IIC requests at least 24 hours of event recorder data from locomotives

12:00 PM

NS uploads 24 hours of event recorder data in Kiteworks

3/28/2023

Image recorder group meets in HQ to construct transcript from image recorders
Image recorder group determines conductor & conductor trainee were using NS-provided electronic devices (cell phone) while the train was in operation
