



**National Transportation Safety Board**  
Washington, D.C. 20594

Office of Railroad, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Investigations

**Interview Regarding Investigation PLD20LR001**  
**Enbridge Inc. Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture and Fire in Hillsboro, KY on May 4, 2020**

Name: Dustin Bailey  
Department: Enbridge Texas Eastern  
Title: Pipeliner Level II  
Date of Interview: May 4, 2020

I have reviewed my transcript(s) from the above referenced accident and:

I have no comments to make.

My comments are submitted herewith.

My comments are marked on the attached copy.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

\* \* \* \* \*

Investigation of: \*

\*

ENBRIDGE INC. NATURAL GAS \*

PIPELINE RUPTURE AND FIRE \* Accident No.: PLD20LR001

IN HILLSBORO, KENTUCKY, \*

ON MAY 4, 2020 \*

\*

\* \* \* \* \*

Interview of: DUSTIN BAILEY, Pipeliner  
Enbridge, Inc.

Via teleconference

Monday,  
May 11, 2020

APPEARANCES:

ALEXANDRIA COLLETTI, Investigator in Charge  
National Transportation Safety Board

ALVARO RODRIGUEZ, Accident Investigator  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

THOMAS WOODEN, Vice President  
Engineering and Asset Management  
Enbridge, Inc.

DANE JAQUES, Attorney  
Steptoe and Johnson, LLP

I N D E X

ITEM

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By Ms. Colletti

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By Mr. Rodriguez

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I N T E R V I E W

(2:52 p.m.)

1  
2  
3 MS. COLLETTI: We're on the record for the Dustin Bailey  
4 interview. Good afternoon. Today is May 11, 2020. It is now  
5 2:52 p.m. Eastern Time. My name is Alex Colletti. I'm the  
6 investigator in charge for this accident for the National  
7 Transportation Safety Board in Washington, D.C.

8 We're holding this interview remotely via audio conference  
9 call. This interview is being conducted as part of the  
10 investigation into the Texas Eastern Transmission natural gas  
11 release and fire that occurred on May 4th, 2020, in Fleming  
12 County, Kentucky. The NTSB case number for this accident is  
13 PLD20LR001.

14 This interview is being recorded and may be transcribed at a  
15 later date. A copy of the transcript will be provided to the  
16 interviewee for review prior to being entered into the public  
17 docket. This is your opportunity to correct things that the  
18 transcriber may have incorrectly transcribed; it's not your  
19 opportunity to add and elaborate on things. So if you have  
20 something that's factual that you'd like to add, during the  
21 interview is the best time.

22 You're permitted to have one other person present during the  
23 interview. This person is of your choice. It can be an attorney,  
24 a spouse, a supervisor, friend, family member, or no one at all.

25 Dustin, for the record, please state the spelling of your

1 full name, your job title, and who you've selected to be present  
2 during the interview.

3 MR. BAILEY: Dustin Bailey, pipeliner level one, Dane Jaques.

4 MS. COLLETTI: And can you spell your name for the  
5 transcriber?

6 MR. BAILEY: Dustin, D-u-s-t-i-n, Bailey, B-a-i-l-e-y.

7 MS. COLLETTI: Great. Now we're going to go around the call  
8 and everyone's going to do the same thing that you just did.  
9 We'll start with Alvaro from PHMSA and then we'll go to Enbridge  
10 and then to Dane.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hello. This is Alvaro Rodriguez. Alvaro,  
12 A-l-v-a-r-o, Rodriguez, R-o-d-r-i-g-u-e-z. I am a pipeline  
13 accident investigator with the Accident Investigation Division  
14 with PHMSA in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

15 MR. WOODEN: Thomas Wooden, T-h-o-m-a-s, W-o-o-d-e-n, Vice  
16 President of Engineering and Asset Management for Enbridge and  
17 also party coordinator for the incident. Thank you.

18 MR. JAQUES: My name is Dane Jaques, spelled D-a-n-e,  
19 J-a-q-u-e-s. I am a partner with the law firm of Steptoe and  
20 Johnson.

21 MS. COLLETTI: Okay, great.

22 Well, Dustin, thank you so much for agreeing to interview  
23 with us today. I really appreciate your time. It's an important  
24 task we have to collect the information we can from your memory of  
25 that day. I'm going to ask you to provide a lot of details for

1 us, as much as you can remember. Please don't speculate; just  
2 provide what you can remember.

3 If I or someone else asks you a question to which you don't  
4 know the answer or you don't remember, it's fine to say, I don't  
5 know. However, the more detail you can give us, the better.

6 INTERVIEW OF DUSTIN BAILEY

7 BY MS. COLLETTI:

8 Q. Before we get started on the date of the accident, can you  
9 talk to me about your background in the pipeline industry? You  
10 know, did you work for another company before Texas Eastern? How  
11 long have you been with Enbridge and, and so forth. What's your  
12 qualifications?

13 A. Okay. This is the first time I've worked with pipelines.  
14 I've worked for Enbridge for approximately 15 months. I'm  
15 relatively new, a newcomer to the pipeline industry.  
16 Qualification-wise, I have a bachelor's degree from Morehead State  
17 University. I guess that's about it, I guess.

18 Q. That's great. That's what I'm looking for.

19 A. I've been to several Enbridge trainings.

20 q. Okay, great.

21 A. Other than that, that's about it.

22 Q. Okay, great. Great, that's what I was, that's what I was  
23 looking for, so that's perfect. I'll go into -- later, I'll go  
24 into your specific training for, for your job here, but for right  
25 now, let's talk about the day of the accident.

1           So I'd like you to start from really when you were first  
2 notified. Who called you, where you were, how long it took you to  
3 get to where you were going, what you did when you got there, how  
4 you knew what to do, really what your thought process was with any  
5 decisions you made, anything like that, up through when you were  
6 relieved at the end of the day. And just take your time and walk  
7 me through it. This is the long stretch of talking, so --

8       A.    Okay. I really didn't do a lot that day. I'm a new  
9 pipeliner. I was at home and I had (indiscernible) four miles  
10 from the station, and I seen the smoke from the east bend (ph.)  
11 and automatically, I thought this might be a pipeline rupture, so  
12 I attempted to call my supervisor, Bart Johnson, and he was  
13 already (indiscernible) at the time, so he was on the phone to the  
14 older, you know, employees who have been here longer.

15           So (indiscernible) Billy Grimes at 4:56. He confirmed there  
16 was a rupture, so I left home and arrived at the station at  
17 5 o'clock p.m. Billy Grimes was already here ahead of me, and he  
18 had already shut in lines 10 and 25 and closed those valves. I  
19 offered my assistance to Billy and he asked me to help him, and he  
20 had me close lines 10 and 15 on the discharge side, the south  
21 side.

22           And, once that was done, I received a call from Bryson Price  
23 at 5:50 and (indiscernible) the side-by-side or ATV to meet near  
24 Martin Mill (ph.) where the incident happened at. And at 5:53,  
25 Scott Trusty called me to certify that I was bringing the



1 side-by-side to Martin Mill.

2 I arrived at the scene at 6:00 p.m. and stood guard on the  
3 right-of-way at the direction of Bart Johnson, do not allow anyone  
4 within 1,000 foot of the site where it happened at. And upon  
5 that, I stayed there until 8:48. Then Mr. Johnson told me -- he  
6 had informed me that me and Bryson Price would be standing on  
7 guard of the site for security-wise to ensure no one was on the  
8 right-of-way or close to the scene.

9 And I left there at 7:45 the next morning, I believe. I  
10 think that's the extent of my day.

11 Q. Okay, thank you very much for walking us through that. I  
12 appreciate it. I'm going to step you back to a couple of things,  
13 and then I'm going to ask more general questions for you.

14 When you got to Owensville Station, you were sent there --  
15 you knew to go there because Bart told you to; is that correct?

16 A. No, no. I seen it myself, and I was not told to go to the  
17 station. I (indiscernible) responded by which, you know, I seen  
18 what I thought was going on, so I came to the station on my own.

19 Q. Okay, okay, thank you for correcting me. That's, that's why  
20 I ask these questions. Okay. And when you got to the station,  
21 Billy essentially had, had you help him in shutting in a couple of  
22 valves. Is that correct?

23 A. He done had the flow shut in, the important -- line 10 and 15  
24 on the suction side. He had those shut in already, and I just  
25 assisted him in shutting the discharge 10 and 15 -- or 10 and 25,

1 I'm sorry; 15 was already locked.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. Ten and 25.

4 Q. Okay. What all is involved in that process?

5 A. In shutting 10 and 25?

6 Q. Um-hum, yeah. What's shutting those block valves in look  
7 like?

8 A. They're shaker (ph.) valves. You open the gate and turn on  
9 the power gauge supply and make sure it's activated, and you  
10 proceed to pull a lever to shut the valve off, close the gas flow.  
11 More or less it'll serve as a double block, make sure no  
12 (indiscernible) to come back through that valve. It's the safest  
13 bet.

14 Q. Okay. So it's a pretty quick process?

15 A. It's a pretty quick process, yes, ma'am.

16 Q. Okay. Is that something that you regularly do in your job,  
17 operate valves?

18 A. Yeah. Yes. I'm OQ'd to operate valves.

19 Q. Okay. Do you ever participate in like the annual inspection  
20 of the valves at the station, for example?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. No, I don't.

24 Q. Okay. Well, I'm going to ask you a couple more bigger  
25 picture, general questions now. Since you are newer there, you

1 have a little bit -- it's more fresh in your mind than it is in  
2 some of the other guys on the team, so I think you can give me a  
3 better feel for it.

4 Can you talk to me about the training that they provide you  
5 in terms of bringing you up to speed as a new pipeliner? What  
6 portion of it is on-the-job versus in the classroom versus, you  
7 know, how are they bringing you up to speed and getting you  
8 educated in --

9 A. Well, it was --

10 Q. -- the ways that you need to be?

11 A. With Enbridge, when we start, we automatically go to a, kind  
12 of like an intro pipeliner one boot camp. And there they teach us  
13 to locate lines, leak (indiscernible), operate valves. And I  
14 think that's pipeliner one. And then there's also pipeliner two  
15 where you do tightening bolts, you'll do -- learning pigging  
16 procedures, more in-depth coverage on the valves.

17 And with Enbridge, it's one of the largest -- you know, I've  
18 not been here very long, but they want you to know your job before  
19 they send you out to do it. So it takes -- it's a slow process.  
20 They're not going to OQ me until I know what I'm doing, and that's  
21 one thing I like about them. They don't just throw me into the  
22 fire and say here it is, go do it. They want you to know.

23 So your on-the-job training is very intense. You have people  
24 with you when they train you, different people, to make sure that  
25 you've done everything correctly, you know what you're doing when

1 you go to do the job. So more or less, it is a lot of on-the-job  
2 training, on-hands training, because every station, every valve  
3 has got its own differences and different type of valves. But  
4 it's -- more or less, it's a lot of in-class training, safety  
5 training. We go through procedure training, emergency response  
6 training, and then we'll actually have on-hands emergency response  
7 training.

8 Q. Have you -- has there been a tabletop simulation of an  
9 emergency response since you've been with the company?

10 A. There has. We have had that twice since I've been here.

11 Q. Okay, that's good. How did that compare to -- how did that  
12 prepare you, I guess, so to speak, for last week?

13 A. I feel like it prepared me pretty well actually. Being my  
14 first experience with an incident like this, I felt like I had a  
15 pretty good grasp on what I needed to do, what my roles and duties  
16 was.

17 Q. Do you spend a fair amount of time with the more senior guys  
18 on your team out in the field?

19 A. Yes, I do. That's where I gained a lot of my knowledge is  
20 from my senior -- the senior employees.

21 Q. Do they -- have you, kind of, an assigned mentor or shadow or  
22 anything like that? Or is it more informal?

23 A. No, ma'am. It's more random, you know, all the different  
24 employees we have. I try to learn from all of those guys --

25 Q. Got you. So --

1 A. -- that have more experience.

2 Q. -- somebody's out doing something this day; hey, Dustin, go  
3 tag along.

4 A. Yeah, that's right.

5 Q. Yeah, okay. I know the drill. That's how I was taught,  
6 so -- back when I worked for a pipeline company. But okay.

7 MS. COLLETTI: Well, I think that's it for me for this first  
8 round. I appreciate it. Thank you very much for walking me  
9 through that. It's nice because -- it's good to talk to people of  
10 different experience levels with the company, because it's such a  
11 different perspective, especially in an emergency situation. It's  
12 just a very, very different perspective, so thank you very much.

13 Alvaro, do you have some questions?

14 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ:

15 Q. Yeah, I do have questions. Again, this is Alvaro Rodriguez,  
16 Accident Investigation Division with PHMSA. Thank you for  
17 providing that detailed timeline of the event. And one of the  
18 questions that I have is about when you were at the scene. Had  
19 you been there before or that was the very first time?

20 A. I had been there before. Not -- we've been through the  
21 right-of-way before. We had -- I'm kind of still learning the  
22 roadways there, to be honest with you. So I've been, I've been to  
23 the right-of-way. I'd seen the site before, yes, sir.

24 Q. Okay. And had you noticed anything before the incident that  
25 maybe it was a sign that you should probably talk to a supervisor?

1 Or did you notice anything that maybe it was a sign to be  
2 notified?

3 A. No, I really can't say. I hadn't been there for a while.  
4 You know, I just started (indiscernible).

5 Q. Okay, no problem. Thank you. And how was the experience of  
6 being -- you were there for a very long time guarding and staying  
7 on the site, and how -- yeah, how was the procedure? Like did you  
8 take any breaks? Did you have people helping you? And did you  
9 see anyone trying to approach or be close to the scene?

10 A. No. We was there, and I wasn't even close to the scene. I  
11 was probably about 2,000 foot, 1,500 foot from the scene itself;  
12 never actually was on the scene. There was no one that approached  
13 even trying to get on the right-of-way or close to the scene.  
14 Really quiet night. Was no activity whatsoever.

15 Q. Okay, perfect. And now the question that I have, is there  
16 anything that you could have done differently?

17 A. No. There's nothing I could have done differently being a  
18 new pipeliner.

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Well, thank you very much for your  
20 time and answers. I don't have any other questions for now.

21 MR. BAILEY: Thank you.

22 MR. WOODEN: Hi, Dustin, this is Tom. I don't have any  
23 questions for you at this time, but I do recognize your initiative  
24 as a new employee. I mean, as a 15-month employee, to see the  
25 smoke from this incident and on your own go to the station to try

1 and help. So just wanted to acknowledge that, the work you've  
2 done, and have no questions at this time for you, Dustin.

3 So, Alex Colletti, you have some, go ahead.

4 MS. COLLETTI: I don't. I was going to say kind of the same,  
5 kind of echo the same thing as Tom. I think that's a good  
6 instinct, Dustin, and I would nurture it, if I were you. So it  
7 sounds like you're headed on the right track. So thank you for  
8 your time today.

9 Alvaro, do you have any more questions?

10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I don't have anything else, thank you.

11 MS. COLLETTI: And, Tom, are you good?

12 MR. WOODEN: No additional questions here, thank you.

13 MS. COLLETTI: Okay. Well, Dustin, thank you very much for  
14 your time today. I really appreciate it. It really is great to  
15 get the perspective of everyone on the team. And I know you said  
16 that you didn't do much, but it takes everyone's hands in an event  
17 like this. So what you did was a lot, so thank you very much.

18 I'm going to be sending you a transcript in about a month.

19 MR. BAILEY: Okay.

20 MS. COLLETTI: It'll come with a little legalese letter in  
21 front of it. If there's nothing wrong with it, you can -- or no  
22 errors in the transcript, you can check the box in front that says  
23 I have no errata to submit. If there's something wrong, you know,  
24 if they spell someone's name wrong, or Owingsville they write as  
25 Owensville, for example --

1 MR. BAILEY: Okay.

2 MS. COLLETTI: -- you know, which happens all the time,  
3 things like that, then just you can either mark it up on the  
4 document itself, or you can send an email that says the page and  
5 line numbers and all of that.

6 So, again, I just want to thank you for your time. Is there  
7 anything that we haven't asked you about that we should have?

8 MR. BAILEY: I don't believe so.

9 MS. COLLETTI: Okay. Well, if something comes to you later  
10 that you haven't thought of, Bart Johnson is going to have my  
11 contact information, so feel free to call me or email me anytime.  
12 Memory is not linear by any stretch of the imagination, and stuff  
13 comes to people at weird times.

14 So, if not, then I'm just going to thank you for your time.  
15 And, with that, I will conclude the interview at 3:12 p.m. Thank  
16 you.

17 (Whereupon, at 3:12 p.m., the interview was concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: ENBRIDGE INC. NATURAL GAS  
PIPELINE RUPTURE AND FIRE  
IN HILLSBORO, KENTUCKY,  
ON MAY 4, 2020  
Interview of Dustin Bailey

ACCIDENT NO.: PLD20LR001

PLACE: Via teleconference

DATE: May 11, 2020

was held according to the record, and that this is the original,  
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed  
to the best of my skill and ability.



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Teresa Holevas  
Transcriber