

Evacuation restrictions reduced near derailment fire

Written by gallupsun
Sunday, 28 April 2024 08:08

As of 7 am on April 28, conditions at the site of the train derailment near the Arizona border continue to improve.

Constant air quality tests are being performed around the site and reportedly do not indicate any concern for the quality of air.

The evacuation area has now been reduced to a one-mile radius from the incident site.

Heavy machinery is being utilized to remove debris, while firefighters and hazmat personnel protect the area from the release of any hazardous materials and control fire growth and development.

BNSF operations is working alongside fire responder teams to safely extinguish the fire.

The New Mexico Department of Transportation its' bridge inspector is expected to be on site soon to conduct a thorough and complete examination of the two overpasses located directly to the northeast of the incident.

Until fire conditions improve, Interstate 40 will remain shut down to public traffic at mile marker 333 eastbound in Arizona, and the mile marker 19 westbound in Gallup.

Upon completion of the Unified Command briefing at 8 am, additional information will be provided on the McKinley County Fire & Rescue Facebook page.

A hotline has been established at (866) 243-4784 for those affected as a result of this derailment.

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